

# Introduction to the Psychology of Women

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## Key Concepts

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- ❑ **Sex:** biological characteristics based on genetic make-up, anatomy and reproductive function.
- ❑ **Gender:** psychological and social and cultural characteristics.
- ❑ **Androcentric:** Male centered

# Key Concepts

## Social Biases

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- ❑ Sexism: bias against people based on gender
- ❑ Racism: bias based on race and or ethnicity

# Key Concepts

## Social Biases

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- Classism: bias based on social class, income, education and social class
- Heterosexism: bias against lesbians, gay males and bisexuals

# Key Concepts

## Social Biases

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- **Patriarchy: peytree arkee** A form of social organization where the male is the head of the family and title is traced through the male line.

# Feminism

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- A belief system in which women's experiences are valued.
- Feminist believe women and men should be socially, economically and legally equal.

# Feminism

## **Liberal Feminism**

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Believe women and men should have the same political, legal, economic and educational rights and opportunities.

- Advocate reform, new laws.
- Stress similarities of women and men.

# Feminism

## Cultural Feminism

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- Believe women and men are different and that more respect should be given to women's special qualities like nurturance, concern about others and cooperativeness.



# Feminism

## Radical Feminisms

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- ❑ Believe gender inequality is based on male oppression of women.
- ❑ View women's oppression as deep rooted requiring massive change.
- ❑ Emphasizes male control and domination of women throughout history.

# Feminism

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## **Women of Color Feminism**

- ❑ Believe that racism, classism must be recognized along with sexism.
- ❑ Womanist do not see men of color as their oppressors.
- ❑ Emphasizes positive values of minority communities.

# Feminism Global

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- ❑ Emphasis on how women across cultures are discriminated against.
- ❑ Recognize that western don't have all the answers.
- ❑ Areas of concern:
  - Sweatshop labor
  - Genital mutilation
  - Sex Trafficking

# Psychological Approaches Similarities Perspective

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- Assumes men and women are basically the **same** intellectually and socially.
- Differences are due to socialization not biology.

# Psychological Approaches Difference Perspective

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- ❑ Assumes men and women are basically **different** intellectually and socially.
- ❑ Differences are based in biology, known as essentialism.