

Introduction to the Psychology of Women

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

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

Key Concepts

Social Biases

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

Key Concepts

Social Biases

- **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

- 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

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

- 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

- ❑ 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

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

- 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

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

Psychological Approaches Difference Perspective

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