

# **Gender in Global Politics**

**DR. SANJEDA WARSI**  
**DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR**

---

# FEMINIST DEFINITION OF GENDER

Gender is a set of Socially and culturally constructed characteristics assigned to individuals on the basis of their biological sex. It creates a structure that signifies unequal power relationships between women and men and between men women and others.

## Gender identity (optional)

Female

Male

Other

## Masculine character of state

Masculinity	State
Machoism	Powerful
Rational	Rational
Independent	Sovereign
Autonomous	Autonomous

# Feminist theories

**Liberal Feminists** look for women in the institutions and political practices of global politics and analyse how their presence affect and is affected by international policy making. Same legal rights and opportunities can help in achieving equality.

**Criticism;** Gender inequalities continue to exist in societies that have long achieved formal legal equality.

**Marxist and Socialist Feminists** look for explanations of women's subordination in the capitalist economy. Women do unpaid work and when they work they are doubly burden.

**Criticism;** role of ideational structures is not taken into account.

**Feminists critical theory** explores both the ideational and material manifestations of gendered identities and gendered power in global politics. Changes in the meaning of gender had differing effects on international institutions.

**Post structural feminists** focus on meaning as it is codified in language. Those who construct meaning and create knowledge gain a great deal of power by doing so.

**Postcolonial Feminists** focus on colonial relations of domination and subordination. They suggests that women's subordination must be differentially understood in terms of their own cultural context.

# Gendering war

Association between war and masculinity, men as protectors but in today's wars, men and children are being killed in large numbers. Militarised masculinity is popular when states are pre occupied with national security threats, women voices are not considered legitimate in security matters.

## Feminists definition of Security

National security can be in tension with individual security  
They define security as the diminution of all form of violence, including physical , economic and froecological.  
They think about secudown, srity from bottom up insted of m the top ecurity of individual or community rather than state or international system.

## Gender in the Global Economy

Women are relatively in a disadvantageous position to men in terms of material well being due to the gendered division of labour

Capitalist economy is responsible for the same

Women are disproportionately clustered in low paying jobs in garment industries, services , home based work or in subsistent agriculture

Since waged work can be empowering for women, even they are paid less than the men, we must not over generalise about the negative effects of the gendered division of labour.