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COURSE: IRD 318- Gender Studies in International Relations

DEPARTMENT: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

ASSIGNMENT: Is Gender Relations Changing in the 21st Century? What are the areas of Change and the Factors Driving the Change?

Gender relations refer to relations between men and women that are socially determined by culture, religion, or socially acceptable ways of thinking or being. These relationships between men and women, as they exist in most societies, are characterised by the marginalisation of women in decision making and other forms of power sharing in the home and places of authority.

In the current generation of 21st Century, gender is often misunderstood as promotion of women who have taken more active role in different sectors and careers despite some traditions still hold women inferior in their society like numerous cases reported in Indian cultures women still come from traditional strict households, they have accepted their roles and feel comfortable in their decisions or lack thereof. Feminist movement gained momentum in the 1960's and 70's in the United States together with other Human Right groups that advocated for equal rights among all genders in recent centuries after observing women gender being domesticated by cultural norms, religious believes, traditional marginalisation yet for the few women who were out speaking role models showed great hope.

Gender roles in communities changed lately whereby women now play equal role as men in owning lead large companies, very active in their families and communities, own personal businesses, manage big organisations, head political groups, earn higher academic degrees from all sectors equal to men, to mention but few as compared to early centuries. Both genders actively attend sporting events; go to bars and all other outdoor activities that were dominated by men alone.

The 21st century demonstrates equal participation of both genders in different activities as compared to early centuries that kept women behind by being responsible for domestic chores. Gender being a central organising principle of society in social construction which governs the process of production, reproduction where consumption and distribution are elements in that setting, gender has remained a critical and major focus of society despite equal rights. Young genders both males and females are groomed up with knowledge of man being head of family.

Religions across all denominations still hold believe of man being a superior being from woman gender. This naturally has left a gap between the two genders where by man still carries weight of being the head of the household though women headed families also perform equal roles but the family still remains incomplete without a man due to title, security, and other duties that women can't perform.

There are ways and factors in which gender relations has been changing in the 21st century. Although not completely but a lot compared to the past century.

There is a growing amount of research on equality policy, including on its gendered implications, but most of it is focused on the process of adoption, with analysis frequently stopping at the point at which a policy is formally made.

Changing Institutions. For many decades, regional as well as international organizations like the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) were important institutional reference points for feminist mobilization.

Women and Radical Right Politics. Traditionally, women representation is seen as coming from and 'being active' more within parties with left or social-democratic political orientation. Recent research however has challenged this view and has shown that women not only take part in politics of the right, but they even occupy leadership posts in parties with extreme right views.

Feminism and the Women's Movement. The women's movement currently operates within a hostile context and yet feminist organisation continues to thrive.

As time goes by, gender relations would improve as the worl is changing and people are evolving with it.

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