FADEYI ABIMBOLA JOY

17/SMS09/040

300 LEVEL

QUESTION

Is Gender relation changing in the 21st century? What are the areas of change and the factors driving the change?

In these 21st century we wake up to different issues going on around, am not sure the gender relation have changed but what I can say in the voice of the women that has changed. Gender is a state of being a male or female. In most cases, it’s typically defined with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological differences, Gender is often misunderstood as being the promotion of women. Gender was understood differently according to different cultures and societies by specific roles and responsibilities which are often conditioned by household structures through access to resources and control, traditional believes and norms. Society in many occasions have set standard for women that limit them from other roles and responsibilities. It has been said that men have been the dominant sex in roles and responsibilities at all levels, social, political, economic and religious. The dominance doesn’t mean that women have no influence or didn’t play an important role and responsibility in history. In this 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. Gender roles in communities has 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 organizations, 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. Young ones 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, Marriage proposal in early centuries, men typically propose to women which was traditionally their role but in the 21st Century, women are stepping up by proposing to men as they get down on their knees. They have boldly come out elaborating men initiative proposals that can’t wait any longer for men to propose. Work is another, traditionally, both genders have different roles and responsibilities whereby men were considered responsible for taking care of the family financially; guiding the family while listening to their spouse though they make final decisions while women are to take care of children and household duties. Traditional gender roles have changed overtime in that female no longer restricted to what was once considered traditional such as house chores and care-giving but it is seen as a duty which women are meant to oblige to. This is due to advancement in education on the part of women. Women are now becoming bosses and hold influential position in society which didn’t exist before. In addition we see now that men who were once considered the bread winner, they are taking up their roles as care-giver in their families as they are becoming comfortable in the understanding that these tasks do not necessarily need a gender restriction. Traditions are made to be followed and also broken. It can’t really be said the areas in which gender relations have changed, because thus minute we are progressing next minute we are back. It’s the voice of the women that can be solid and fight for more progress. Change is the only constant of humanity.