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Ird 318

Gender In International Relations

Assignment

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

Answer

Firstly, gender is a state of being male or female. Gender relations can also be known as gender roles or sex role. It is a social role encompassing a range of behaviors and attitudes that are generally considered acceptable, appropriate, or desirable for people based on their biological or perceived sex. They are usually centered on conceptions of masculinity and femininity although, there are exceptions and variations. It can also be seen as the relations between men and women that are socially determined by culture, religion or socially acceptable ways of thinking or being.

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. Feminist movement gained momentum in the 1960s and 70s 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 beliefs, traditional marginalization.

Gender roles in communities changed lately whereby women now play equal role as men in owning 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. The 21st century demonstrates equal participation of both genders in different activities as compared to early centuries that kept women behind. Gender has remained a critical and major focus of society dispute equal rights.

Gender relations is actually changing in the 21st century and it had driven so many factors for example marriage proposals. In other centuries, men propose to women to be their wives and which is a traditional role but in this 21st century women are stepping up their game by proposing to men boldly. This has left some traditional cultures thinking of women proposing as prostitutes desperate for marriage. It has also driven at work which they do because, traditionally both genders have

different roles and responsibilities whereby men are considered responsible for taking care of their family financially and the women are to take care of the children and household. But now , both genders take care of the family together and financially.

It also changes in the dress code. The dress has the most direct contact with the human body and is therefore considered as an integral part of one self. Dress code differ from culture to culture, tradition to tradition, religion to religion. For example, the easiest dress code to identify a man is shirt and a trouser and the woman is the skirt and blouse but now, the trouser is both worn by both genders and some men also wear female clothes though this is associated with gay proactive men.

Men and women are both establishing their roles within the 21st century society.