

WOMEN'S RIGHTS
IN THE CONTEXT OF PHILOSOPHICAL UNDERSTANDING

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Throughout the world women have been discriminated, denied their rights. Women's rights are fundamental human rights and entitlements for women and girls all over world. Women's movement has to do with seeking equal rights and opportunities for women in their economic activities, their personal lives, and politics. It is also known as feminist movement.

Feminism is the theory of political, social and economic equality of the sexes. The first feminist was Wollstonecraft, she was the one who defended the rights of women, she advocated the social and moral equality of sexes. Some other feminist are: Simone de Beauvoir, Eleanor Roosevelt, Marlene Dietrich, Rosie the Riveter, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, etc.

The problems associated with feminism are:

- Women were not allowed to vote
- Women had to submit to laws when they had no voice in their formation
- Married women had no property rights
- Husbands had legal power over and responsibility for their wives to the extent that they could imprison or beat them with impunity

- Divorce and child custody laws favored men, giving no rights to women
- Women had to pay property taxes although they had no representation in the levying of these taxes
- Most occupations were closed to women and when women did work they were paid only a fraction of what men earned
- Women were not allowed to enter professions such as medicine or law
- Women had no means to gain an education since no college or university would accept women students
- Women were robbed of their self-confidence and self-respect, and were made totally dependent on men.

Studying about feminism helps women to know their rights and it helps them to have knowledge of the past and to fight for their rights. The fact that some women do not know what women before them went through due to inequality of rights. As a result, women are caught in a cycle of repetition. They go through life experiences that others have had and theorized about without being able to build upon those theories, that is why feminism is important. It also helps women to know their worth and role in the society or wherever they find themselves.

The aim of my work is to enlighten people (especially men) about the worth of women in the society and everywhere.

The **objectives** are:

- For people to know the responsibility of women and respect them.
- For the society and government to learn to treat women and men equally.

There are some societies that believe girls do not need education, they believe girls are good as wife, so they marry them off and they become housewives depending on their husbands for their welfare.

Some people believe that if the girls school far away from home, they can misuse a little bit of freedom they have and some of them might get pregnant or drop out of school. Also the risk of girls being subjected to gender based violence in schools, including sexual harassment, bullying, assault by male students.

Holding a public office: women should be given the same right as men to rule and to have the right to make decisions in the country, women can also make a difference.

Conclusion: Feminism is more than just a group of beliefs. It is now also a political movement or social identity as well as set of institutions. A feminist (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie) believes that we should all be feminist both men and women. Feminism represents a body of knowledge that stops the cycle of repetition and helps to live our lives based upon knowledge rather than ignorance.