

## **SOC 904E: Gender and Society**

### **Objective**

This paper intends to expose roots and structures of inequality that lead to marginalization, invisibility and exclusion of women from the scope, approaches and conceptual frame work of most intellectual enquiry and social action. It aims to sensitize and appreciate women's contribution to the social process and to understand women's perception of their own lives, the broader social reality, their struggles and aspirations. Hence this paper introduces the significant contributions on the feminist theories as well as the practice of feminism in India. In this paper students are required to write internal test and assignments and seminar presentation. During the semester films related to contemporary women issues will be screened to develop gender sensitization.

### **Group-A**

#### **UNIT-I**

##### **Concepts, Theory and Methods in Feminist Theory**

- Concepts- Sex, Gender, Gender-Identity and Gender-roles
- Gender Socialization and Gender Stereotyping- In Family, Religion, Marriage, Media and Education
- Emergence of Feminist Thought- Liberal, Radical, Socialist-Marxist and Post-Modernist Feminisms
- Feminist Research Methodology
- Sexuality, Masculinity and Representations of Gender

#### **UNIT-II**

##### **Emergence & Growth of Women's Movement in India**

- The Nineteenth Century Social Reform Movement
- Social Reconstructions & Women's Movement, After Independence.
- Contemporary Feminist Movements in India- Campaign Against Dowry, Rape, Domestic Violence, Sexual Harassment

### **Group-B**

#### **UNIT-III**

##### **Gender and Society in India**

- Gender and work: Sexual division of labour.
- Polity: Reservations for women.
- Gender Violence and Legal Implications: Domestic Violence
- Gender & Tribe : Customary Law and Tribal women
- Gender & Health: Reproductive health of women

#### **UNIT-IV**

##### **Women and Development in India**

- Perspectives on Gender and Development- Welfarist, Developmentalist, Empowerment
- Special Schemes and Strategies for Women's Development
- Women in Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies: 73rd and 74<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendments.

- Globalisation and its Effect on Women's Development

### Essential Readings:

Kamla Bhasin, *Understanding Gender* (Kali Primaries), Kali for Women: New Delhi 2000.

Patricia Uberoi, .The Family in India. in Veena Das ed. *Handbook of Indian Sociology*, New Delhi, Oxford University Press pp. 235-307.

Dorothy E. Smith, .Women's Perspective as a Radical Critique of Sociology. From Sandra Harding Ed. *Feminism and Methodology*.

Dorothy E. Smith, *The Everyday World As Problematic*, Northwestern University Press: Boston, 1987

Chandra Talpade Mohanty, : .Cartographies of Struggle: Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism. in *Third World Women and the Politics of Feminism* Chandra Talpade Mohanty, et al. eds. (Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press, 1991.

Flavia Agnes, .Women, Marriage and the Subordination of Rights. in *Community, Gender and Violence: Subaltern Studies XI*, Permanent Black, New Delhi 2000.

Harding Sandra, Is there a Feminist Methodology? From Harding ed. *Feminism and Methodology* pp.1-14.

Kumar Radha, *History of Doing*, Kali, New Delhi 1991 Selected chapters from Menon, Nivedita (2000), .Embodying the Self: Feminism, Sexual Violence and the Law. in Partha Chatterjee and Pradeep Jeganathan (ed)- *Subaltern Studies XI: Community, Gender and Violence*, Permanent Black and Ravi Dayal.

Nivedita Menon, .Elusive .Woman.: Feminism and Women's Reservation Bill. In *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol XXXV Nos 43-44 pp. WS 35-44.

Menon Nivedita ed. *Gender and Politics in India*, New Delhi OUP. Selected chapters From Chipko to Sati.

Reinharz ,Shulamit ed. *Feminist Research Methods*, Oxford, 1991. Selected Chapters

Rege, Sharmila , Dalit Women Talk Differently. A critique of Difference towards a Dalit Feminist Standpoint. in *Economic and Political Weekly* October 1998.

Mary John, .Globalisation, Sexuality and the Visual Field: Issues and non-issues for cultural Critique. in Mary John and Janaki Nair eds. *A question of Silence: the sexual Economies of Modern India*, Kali 1998.

Rajeswari Sunder Rajan, .The Story of Draupadi.s Disrobing: Meanings for our Times. in Rajeswari Sunder Rajan ed. *Signposts: Gender Issues in Post-Independence India*, Kali 1999.

Radhika Chopra . 2003, From violence to supportive Practice: Family, Gender and Masculinities, *Economic and Political Weekly*, April 26, pp. 1650-57

Naila Kabeer, Empowerment from Below: learning from the Grassroots. Pp223-265 in Naila Kabeer *Reversed Realities: Gender Hierarchies in Development Thought*, New Delhi Kali for Women, 1995.

Beauvoir, Simone de, 1989, *The Second Sex*, New York: Vintage Books.

V. Geetha. 2002. *Gender, Theorizing Feminism*, series editor ,Maithreyi Krishnaraj, Stree, Calcutta

### References

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C. Menon. Nivedita (ed): 1999, *Gender and Politics in India*, N. Delhi : Oxford University Press.