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Reaction Paper This paper is aimed at answering the question “ Which is more useful for understanding gender issues, international law or comparative law?” In order to answer this question it is first necessary to understand what International and comparative laws are.
International law is a set of rules between states and nation which is considered to be binding. These are rules that the states or nations have adopted to solve conflicts or develop relations among themselves or between legal entities or individuals of different countries (Bouchet-Saulnier 222). International law has well defined rules and laws that are accepted by the involved nations.
Laws in different countries or legal systems are different from one another and comparative law is the study of differences and similarities between these laws. The comparison can be between two or more countries. Comparative law unlike is not a set of rules or law in itself but an approach or method to legal enquiry ((Hoffman and Rumsey 4).
From the above understanding of the two laws comparative law would be best suited and more useful in understanding gender issues that International law. The reason for this is compares the laws in different countries and more importantly tries to find the source of the issue. Different countries have different ethnic backgrounds and hence have different gender perceptions. In such case the source of same gender issue in two different countries can be different. Hence, single binding resolution or law like international law in both countries would not be appropriate or right. In this comparative law approach would be best to understand these issues. International law can be used in cases of extreme gender inequality but for deeper gender issues comparative law would be ideal.
Works Cited
Bouchet-Saulnier, Françoise. The practical guide to humanitarian law. 2. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2007. Print.
Hoffman, Marci, and Mary Rumsey. International and foreign legal research: a course book. Danvers, MA: BRILL, 2008. Print.