

Introduction they
read, and the news
they hear.



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INTRODUCTION When proposed the question “ What is feminism?”, many said “ I don’t know” or “ You tell me.” Many are just unfamiliar with the term.

When the same group was asked “ Do you know what the Women’s Movement is?”, most of them knew what it was, however, some did not. For those that do not know, feminism and the Women’s Movement is the same thing. Feminism is best defined as the advocacy of women’s rights on the basis of the equality of the sexes. Everyone has watched, read, or heard about feminism but may not know. Feminism is in the movies people watch, the books they read, and the news they hear. Just like any other movement, there are many different variants and types that fall under the single movement. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF FEMINISM Feminism has been going since the dawn of time.

For as long as anyone can remember, women have always been treated slightly less than that of men. Even though feminism itself has been going on forever, organized events have not been going on until the first Women’s Conference in 1848. DIFFERENT TYPES OF FEMINISM Feminism is not limited to just one type. In fact, there are many different types of feminism. Some of the most known types are liberal, radical, Marxism, socialist, cultural, and eco feminism. Liberal feminism is a political ideology that stresses the fact that the rights women have should be equal to that of men.

Although this was the ideology’s main point, its focus was on the women’s ability to maintain their equality through their own actions and choices. Radical feminism is just like what the name suggests. Radical feminism uses radical thinking and reconstructing of the economy and society that

eliminates male supremacy. Marxism may be a term familiar to those older than 16, but for any individual that does not understand what the term Marxism means, it is basically an ideology that adopts the beliefs of Karl Marx. Karl Marx believed that the oppressed working class would eventually overthrow the bourgeoisie and create a classless society in which goods and wealth would be distributed equally. Therefore, Marxist feminism works on trying to investigate and prove the different ways women are oppressed in capitalism (wealth) and private property (businesses and land). Throughout history, the term socialism has been connected to both Marxism and communism.

Socialism is the political belief that the production of goods, distribution of wealth and goods, as well as the cost of items sold by businesses should all be controlled by the government that was put into power through the people. Socialist feminism has the perfect name because of what the movement consists of; and although Socialist feminism is its own type, it is actually the fusion of radical feminism and Marxist feminism, thus they have attributes of both radical and Marxist feminism. Socialist feminists agree that one of the main cause of female oppression is through capitalistic means, but they also support the idea that a radical change in gender roles and male supremacy must be made.

Cultural feminism is different to many other types of feminism because of the decision to retreat to vanguardism. Vanguardism is yet another term related to Marxism, but the word vanguard means “ a group of people leading the way in a new development or idea.” In Marxism, this vanguard was used to draw in larger groups of the proletariat (working class) to gain

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more supporters for the cause. In cultural feminism, the vanguard attempts to draw in more women to better establish the culture of women.

Ecofeminism takes feminism to an entire new level.

Just like with any other type of feminism, the members are focusing on the injustices that women face; however, the difference is that the member want to get rid of all forms of injustice, not just injustices toward women. **MULTI-RACIAL FEMINISM** Multi-racial feminism is a form of feminism that places emphasis on women of color. Throughout history women of color have been regarded as inferior to those of white race, thus, many have not received any acknowledgment of participating in the feminist movement.

With this movement, the goal is to show the importance that all women play- even women of minority or a different race. **CRITICAL RACE FEMINIST THEORY** Critical race feminism is a combination of the feminist theory and the critical race theory, which suggests that white supremacy and racial power are maintained over time. **BLACK FEMINISM VS. FEMINISM** Black feminism essentially states that sexism, class oppression, gender identity and racism are connected in a way that is impossible to separate. Black feminism also argues that the experience of being a black woman cannot be understood in terms of being black or of being a woman.

Feminism is just the supportive belief that women's rights should be equal to that of a man. **BLACK FEMINIST THOUGHT** Black Feminist Thought is a book that consists of ideas produced by Black women that clarify a standpoint of and for Black women. **FEMINISM IN WHY WOMEN ALWAYS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MEN** Why Women Always Take Advantage of Men is a unique story in its

own sense. The folktale puts a spin on the well-known story of Adam and Eve.

However, this story is much more than just a twist on a story. This story portrays feminism when the Woman goes to God himself and asks him why Man can now beat her. God granted Man his wish and granted him more strength than Woman. The Woman then results to the Devil for help. He tells her to go get the keys that God has on his mantelpiece.

When she gets the keys, the Devil teaches her how to use them and she locks man out of the bedroom, kitchen, and his generations. Because of this, the man made an agreement to not use his strength against the woman. Even though she faced a difficult challenge that seemed to be pointless, the Woman proved that whatever Man can do, she can do better.