

## The Feminist Discourse

### Abstract

*The composition deliberates the most collective indulgences and the misapprehensions coupled with feminism, the feminist sway on the philosophy of aesthetics and especially on beauty and art, the definition of beauty, the use of the female image in the arts. The history of the origins of feminism and its development over time forms the basis of the discussion. While how the norms of beauty, art and its engagement have been re-demarcated since the notion of the theoretical feminism of the 60's, stand at the centre. Not long ago when being a feminist preordained the female to being passionately divergent to love and beauty, art was perceived not as pure and beautiful but contaminated and loathsome in the service of ideology and power. The recently coined term of the Feminist Artist seems to be as ambiguous as the constantly evolving feminist theory. So a look is taken into how various modern feminist artists attempt to present their point of view while sustaining a drastic perspective which is somehow connected to the original thought. Hairy armpits, being makeup free and other such representations of female independence might be acceptable in the western hemisphere but are not part of the norm of the feminist artists' life style in countries like Pakistan.*

**Keywords:** *Feminism, beauty, art, artist, history, philosophy, radical, perspective*

### The Feminist Discourse

At its heart is the conviction in equality of socio-economic and political circumstances of the sexes. According to the dictionary definition, the word feminist was coined around 1852, and meant "feminine qualities." Although the modern notions of feminism have their roots in the West, feminism is established globally and various institutions involved in activities on behalf of women to safeguard their rights and interests. As the inauguration of the model was the West, it seems apt to look at the role demarcated for women in the Western history. During the passage of most of that history, women were restrained to their domestic domain, while men were set aside for the public life. In medieval Europe, women folk had no rights to be educated, be land owners or be a participant in public life. By the end of the nineteenth century, in areas of Germany, as a husband one had the right to offer to sell his wife, and women were bound to cover themselves in public in France. Even as recent as early twentieth century, women were not allowed to be part of the public sphere, not being allowed to vote nor being allowed to be in an elective office in Europe and in most of the United States. Without male representation of either a father, a male sibling,

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\* Dr. Sumera Jawwad, Assistant Professor, College of Fine Arts and Design, University of the Punjab, Lahore. [sumerajd@gmail.com](mailto:sumerajd@gmail.com) 03213435996

\*\* Dr. Muhammad Asghar, Assistant Professor, Institute of Art and Design, Government College University, Faisalabad. [asghar@daad-alumni.de](mailto:asghar@daad-alumni.de) 03336887497

a companion, a legal agent or a male offspring, women were barred from managing an enterprise. Practicing authority on their progenies was never conceivable for married women without the authorisation of the respective spouses. Additionally, they had little or no access to education and were not allowed to participate in majority of vocations. Ironically the situation has not changed and such constrictions on women still prevail in the world today. The Western Feminist History is sequestered into four epochs, "waves" as commonly addressed, each with its own particular motivation of varying and advancing points keeping in mind the earlier progressions.[3][4]

To begin with, the nineteenth up to the middle of the twentieth century dealt with feminisms' "First Wave" which focused on managing lawful disparities and eventually upsetting them to support them, especially "women' suffrage". Feminisms' Second-tide or wave (circa. 1960s–1980s) tended to the social issues, widening scope of balanced discussions to incorporate the female role in the public eye, social disparities, and building up gender standards. Third-wave feminism (1990s–2000s) alluded to numerous varieties of feminist movement, observed equally as a propagation of the Second-Wave and including the reaction to its appearing disasters.[5] This "waves" hypothesis has been for the most part used to portray the historical backdrop of feminism, in the meantime the idea has additionally been reprimanded due to sugar coating while obliterating endlessly the chronicled records amongst the "waves", by concentrating on selective prominent identities, and mainstream happenings. Persons and congregations required in aiding the reasons for women' equivalence preceding the presence of the feminist development are now and then marked Protofeminist.[2] various researchers, be that as it may, are disparaging of the newly defined phrase's usage.[1][6] Select few are of the staunch opinion that it reduces the significance of prior offerings,[7] meanwhile others contest by stating feminism is not bound by solitary, undeviating account as derived by words, for example, Protofeminist or Postfeminist.[8] Feminists in the 19<sup>th</sup> century argued against the social segregations containing vindictive, across the board acknowledgment in the Victorian picture of women's "appropriate" character and "sphere".[9] This specific model made an obviously characterized hypothesis of division of "separate circles" for both males and females that wasn't very much characterized in all actuality. The belief system governed that men had to comply with the general society circle (area of paid work and legislative issues) while women were relegated to the private circle (the family circle with the children). The "ladylike perfect," likewise termed "The Cult of Domesticity," was typified in Victorian direct records, for example, Mrs Beeton's "Book of Household Management" and Sarah Stickney Ellis' books.[10] "The Angel in the House" (1854) and "El ángel del hogar", hits by Coventry Patmore and María del Pilar Sinués de Marco, became the de-facto standard for the Victorian female model.[11] Queen Victoria took to voicing her personal opinion by slandering feminism, addressing it in reserved correspondences as "mad, wicked folly of 'Woman's Rights'".[12][13]

### **Feminism's Waves**

"Second-wave feminism" communicates the period of feminist achievements from mid nineteen sixties till late eighties which witnessed communal and partisan variations, as unclearly connected. The development fortified women to

comprehend facets of their own existence as profoundly politicized and reflective of a sexist power configuration. While the concentration of the primary wave feminists was on supreme rights, for example, suffrage, second-wave feminists centered on other social equity issues, for example, finishing separation. [17]

1960s feminism had its logic, its activism instructed and compelled by social and political atmosphere of the said decade. The time period was set apart due to expanded female acceptance in progressive schooling, foundation of scholarly women' reviews, academic courses and departments[18], in addition incorporation of the feminist belief system in supplementary related fields, for example, legislative issues, human science, history, and literature [6]. This scholastic move in interests scrutinized business as usual, and its benchmarks and authority [19]. The ascent of the Feminism development uncovered "a few feminisms", or distinctive hidden feminist points of view, because of the differing causes it resulted bunching them together and in some cases amalgamated, as well as multifaceted quality and combativeness of the matters encountered[20]. The development being on a regular basis censured due to an absence of portrayal of the most mistreated women, being distant and unaware of the issues that gap women, while observing a marked deficiency of unmistakable quality on the imbalances of ethnicity and social standings.[21]

### **The Third Wave**

This wave started from the mid-nineties and was primarily created in light of how younger female generation comprehended the frustrations and helplessness of the Second-Wave. Additionally it aimed to address the reaction counter to the second-wave's drives and developments. These feminists worked towards confronting or maintaining a strategic distance from Second-Wave "essentialist" womanliness portrayals, which in all actuality were stressed out encounters of females of white, upper working class category. In the core of the Third-Wave's belief system is a comprehension that sex (gender) is beyond the paired masculinity or femininity, otherwise a post-structuralist clarification of sex and sexuality. These particular feminists frequently portrayed "micro politics", while trying to test models defined by the Second-Wavers whether there activities were singularly useful for females. [17][22][23][24]

### **The Fourth-Wave Feminism begins**

The latest influx concerning woman's rights is a genuinely late improvement. Jennifer Baumgardner recognizes it as starting from 2008 and proceeding to today[25]. Kira Cochran, creator of "All the Rebel Women: The Rise of the Fourth Wave of Feminism"[26], characterizes the forth upsurge feminism as a development which is associated via technology[27][28]. Researcher Diana Diamond characterizes the latest wave's woman's rights as a development that "joins governmental issues, brain science, and most profound sense of being in an overall vision of progress." [29]. Moving on from the fundamental hypothesis of woman's rights and its different stages we begin taking a gander at how the feminist thought has influenced aesthetics when all is said in done and particularly its consequences for expressions in art.

## **Science Fiction under Feminism**

At the turn of the twentieth century, Sci-Fi in particular the feminist Sci-Fi rose as a subgenre of sci-fi that managed arrangements of the female body for the public eye. Female scholars of the idealistic writing development at the season of first-wave woman's rights frequently tended to sexism as their chosen theme. Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "Herland "(1915) . "Sultana's Dream" (1905) a book of Roquia Sakhawat Hussain, a Bengal Muslim feminist, portrays a sex interchanged purdah in a cutting edge realm. Amid the 1920s, scholars, for example, Gertrude Barrows Bennett and Clare Winger Harris circulated sci-fi stories composed from a feminine points of view and at times managed sex and sexuality-based themes while prominent 30s mash sci-fi overstated manliness close by sexist depictions of women[14]. By the 1960s, sci-fi joined emotionalism with radical and innovative studies of the social order. With the emergence of feminism, female characters were addressed in the so titled "subversive, personality growing genre"[15]. Feminist sci-fi exhibited inquiries regarding social issues, for example, how does a general public develop sexual orientation parts, how generation characterized sex, as well as what causes the political energy of both genders to be imbalanced? The absolute most remarkable feminist sci-fi works have represented these topics utilizing utopias to investigate social orders where sex contrasts or sexual orientation control irregular characteristics don't exist, and oppressed worlds to investigate universes where sex disparities are heightened, stating a requirement for this work to carry on[16].

## **Feminist Concept of Art and its Practices**

Examinations of past stylish practices have affected the generation of feminist specialty in the current context, hence the last has added to a sensational adjusting in the atmosphere through the world of art. Progressions that have plagued the universes of workmanship throughout the twentieth century, significantly in fields of visual expressions, are habitually the core substance during philosophical dialogs in the scientific custom in regards to the likelihood of characterizing art (Danto 1988; Davies 1991; Carroll 2000). A single test in characterizing art originates from a thought that contemporary craftsmen every now and again make under a confirmed idea of addressing, emasculating, or dismissing beliefs which characterized a specialty of the past. Early to the mid-twentieth century indulgences of Dada and Pop Art are very often the purpose of philosophical request, in which attempts are made in searching for shared characteristics amongst works of art where next to zero discernible characterizing likenesses exist. Feminist artists not only wished their work be considered important, but also in their works they implemented an investigation of the conventional feelings which they considered to be reasons of their rejections from the effective focuses of culture.

Hence, the art itself likewise outfits various cases that subvert more established models of compelling artwork, yet with included layers of implying that recognize it from prior skeptical developments. On account of the gendered importance of the significant ideas of the stylish convention, feminist difficulties frequently deliberately deconstruct the ideas of workmanship and tasteful esteem. And in this case the feminist art has merged—and in some cases has driven—developments inside the artists world that baffle, dumbfound, annoy, and irritate,

turning around for all intents and purposes all the tasteful estimations of prior circumstances. As art commentator Lucy Lippard put it, "woman's rights addresses every one of the percepts of art as we probably are aware of it" (Lippard 1995: 172). Feminist specialists successfully experimented with the thoughts that art's primary esteem is tasteful, it is for consideration instead of utilization, that it is in a perfect world the vision of a solitary maker, that it ought to be deciphered as a protest of self-sufficient esteem (Devereaux 1998). Woman's rights itself went under inward feedback for its unique concentrate on white, western women' social circumstances, a commonplace study in feminist circles that has a nearness in stylish verbal confrontations. By the late twentieth and mid twenty-first hundreds of years, the energies of feminist and postfeminist craftsmen of differing racial and national foundations have made the nearness of women in the contemporary art world today effective and emotional. In numerous discourses of contemporary workmanship, "feminist" is a mark for work created amid the dynamic period of second-wave woman's rights from the later 1960s to around 1980. The expression "postfeminist" is currently being used for a consequent era of specialists who seek after a portion of the thoughts and interests of the periods gone by. These lexes are far from being exact, and there are numerous craftsmen honing presently who keep on identifying themselves with the expression "feminist." Conceivably a significantly bigger gathering does not go especially to names, contrarily their work is intensely confrontational on the topics of sex and sexuality that it has turned into a concentration for feminist understanding (Lintott 2013). (Cindy Sherman's photographic art is a valid example.) Over the long haul and political atmospheric moves, the intercessions of craftsmen and their visionary studies modify in like manner.

### **Feminist Art**

In the contemporary art world a number of identity markers have been as laden as the phrase feminist art. Is something meant by it, and characterized by whom, and how can it identify with historical achievements of the growth in feminist art? Feminism in this century carries a more extensive, more profound, and more differing scope of voices and interests than any time in recent memory. Its plan and definition stay vague for some reasons, including philosophical inconsistencies, clashing generations' securities, and shifted connections to the heritages of the second-wave woman's rights of the sixties and the seventies. First-class objectives like sociopolitical financial equity, and the females' lawful command over their own particular physiques, even now bind together the woman's rights of once in a while. However, in the event that feminists in the sixties and seventies disallowed the worldview of magnificence as inalienably inconsistent with the quest for scholarly correspondence, modern feminist art grasps excellence and brains, discovering organization in the alternative to have both. Also, it mirrors an all the more comprehensively educated and multicultural point of view that tries to represent contrasts in ethnicity, social status, and nationality. Reinforcing social generation to be a type of political action, artists of the feminist school appropriated governmental issues to the domain of feel under the premise that art echoes and manages social arrangements of sexual orientation and power. The feminists searched for an optional rationality to what had set up the current standards of aesthetic virtuoso, magnificence, and demeanor toward the body, and they effectively shown for more prominent portrayal inside

historical centers and access to instructive open doors. Their work of art frequently utilized customarily household practices, for example, make systems or discovered articles to destabilize customary ideas of "high" art. Judy Chicago, a standout amongst the most understood advocates of practical feminism, ensured a lot to categorize (and, by augmentation, scrutinize) the visual dialect of "the female". Mary Kelly revealed the works of a mothers' body in Post-Partum Document, a diaristic account of the artist's connection with her neonate offspring, regurgitation, crap and what not. Lynn Hershman Leeson's "Development Charts" draped graphs on females confronts specifying their prospective upgrades under plastic-surgery, whereas Barbara Kruger's apportionment of broad communications pictures, joined with charged dialect, transparently studied the gender specific nature of deployment. In an article in Art news from 1971, Linda Nochlin postured an enquiry which charted feminist art account: "Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?" The appropriate response, she contended, wasn't that females are not as much suitable for enormity than menfolk however that basic imbalances, together with confined admittance to aesthetic preparing and support, blocked womens' complete cooperation and independence as specialists. Nochlin's emphasis on the commonsense rationale of ability improvement, as opposed to characteristic mediocrity/predominance, tested patriarchal belief system in a way that lined up with then-current points of woman's rights.

So, how does one start to portray a continually augmenting phrase? Provided the advancing endeavors of ensuing periods of researchers, activists, creators, experts, government authorities, mothers, and sisters (and furthermore a broad summary of unsung holy people and gutsy ladies in the demonstration of standard every day presence) to re-describe being a feminist, it may show up an exercise in futility or an action in hubris. Regardless, being noticeable on the web, art warrants a plan, consequently a functioning characterization. What takes after becomes an investigation of the variations of criticalness and the altering visions at the back of the expression Feminist Art, as it was known during the sixties and the seventies, also as it flourishes today. Likewise, it will require advance essential valuation coupled with alteration as genuine enhancements to enlighten our appreciation of this practice. Initially feminism earned "political suffrage" on behalf of females in the mid-twentieth era; nevertheless, standoffs to full political patronage, and in addition complete political as well as monetary disparity, persisted. Propelled, using Civil Rights progress, feminist pioneers during sixties and seventies focused on both frameworks and organizations that maintained sexual orientation imbalance. Defending the expression "the individual is political," outstanding feminist voices of this supposed additional influx of feminists such as Betty Friedan (*The Feminine Mystique*, 1962) in addition to writer Gloria Steinem(creator of Ms. Magazine in 1972) appealed for homogeneity at work as well as home. The destined to-be worldwide development prevailing with regards to accomplishing time-honored communal and political amendments, and feminist art created to be one of the social branches of second-wave woman's rights.

The mediating years since second-wave woman's rights saw "feminist" lined up with generalizations of militancy, man-loathing, crying, and grotesqueness. At the point while Beyoncé "turned out" as a feminist in January 2014, notwithstanding committing ink to a short paper titled "Sex Equality is a

Myth," various social intellectuals commended her de-stigmatization of the word, whereas others blamed Beyoncé for allowing years of troublesome activism. Could woman's rights' center legislative issues persevere through this sort of rebranding? Unquestionably, the media especially visual media including the web has ignited the recovery of feminism's center concerns. The "rambunctious tussling" of feminists during the times of online networking (examples depicted by Rebecca Traister and Judith Shulevitz from *The New Republic*) now seizes bunch frames: "once in a while an angering concoction of activism and news coverage, temperamental 140-character trades, and more huffing and puffing than activity. Yet, dissonance is endemic to social developments, and can be gainful." Alternatively, taking Tina Fey's sardonic outline: "you can tell diverse eras of women by regardless of whether they wear that Hillary Clinton blue power suit or the re-appropriated Playboy-image neckband worn incidentally." The afore mentioned progressions mirror the many-sided quality of distinction and character arrangement, an effort which has been fuelled by academic efforts in the territories of strange hypothesis, sexual orientation examines, basic race hypothesis, and feminist reviews, a large portion of that became out of changes in forward-thinking edification enveloped by the sphere of the political improvements during the seventies. Feminist specialists frequently indicated the belief system of utilization and commodification, fuelled by broad communications, to emphasize the typification of female bodies and selves. Be that as it may, the visual exploitation of the female physique in the media and political verbal confrontations over ways of controlling them has just evolved in the era of the web. The question now becomes how do these feminist artists evaluate an arrangement where they become verifiably a section? Would they identify with histories of feminist art including male-incredulous accounts of innovation easily? Which novel issue or system is to be grasped by them? Also, in particular, what would be the basic motivation of such a practice?

The modern feminist art, while displaying no elaborate solidarity, can tell us a plethora of the muddled arrangements confronting artists connected with the female nature currently. Enquiries mentioned above are in some routes inexplicable, as classifications, similar to any phrase, are likely to go up against their very own existence. Maybe feminist art in this era has more to do with recognition as a feminist, and frequently with personality all the more comprehensively, as opposed to an arrangement of generally collective objectives or a solid motivation. It appears that numerous contemporary specialists are acquainted with their feminist account, and they comprehend that guidelines regarding taste, magnificence, importance and esteem have for some time been discussed without the representative of the female voice. However, those benchmarks stay intense within the art realm. It is observed, from one viewpoint, a free-gave calculated way to deal with woman's rights: Michal Barat Koren's "Bathsheba" assumes a fundamental system of art classified as feminist, modernizing history, yet shares in illustrative traditions of lighting, synthesis, stylish magnificence, and ensemble. Mickalene Thomas deliberately indicates the question of feminist art recorded study, the female leaning back bare, in her reference of the "Grand Odalisque", however she maintains a material magnificence related with that work of art in her utilization of rich designing and rhinestones.

What's more, if unattainable dreams, (for example, unthinkable models of magnificence, latent female sexuality and every one of the fantasies and values that maintained sex progressive systems) were the prime focus of a prior era of feminist evaluate, modern feminist art outspreads its degree to manage the multifaceted opinionated landscape of feminism in this period. These cases enthusiastically lure using pictorial charm, a value verifiably related to womanliness in addition to unique sin. All the while upholding and studying beliefs of magnificence and happiness, these craftsmen drag you into the realm, just to uncover that realm as distorted and unsteady, built employing obsolete arrangement of devices. Devising on a very basic level changes the manner we comprehend what our perceptions convinced us of, contemporary feminist art bequests its personal rendition of antiquity and mimetic space. All things considered, the aforementioned might now and again be careful about unattainable dreams all the more comprehensively, and even those for feminism.

### **Discourse**

There was an era where feminism presented itself unequivocally and raucously against both love and magnificence. Unified to a combination of further social, chronicled and basic strategies with culture and art, woman's rights sought after to reveal societal imbalance, oppression, and the self-enthusiasm of winning gatherings. Presently, on the other hand, "feminism" has repercussions. Woman's rights grants an influence impact which is not comparative with the particular profile or shape it took amid the later twentieth century. The worries that feminism has always sought after to challenge – unfeeling sexual and bigot brutality towards women and the countless practices that undermine their humankind – continue as heartlessly as ever all through the world. Be that as it may, there is currently a feminist upshot: a huge development, a world writing, a speculative engineering recreating each train and caressing all aspects of financial, sociopolitical life. The previously talked about transferal has impacted the association amongst feminism and art. Traditionally, art was seen thru woman's rights as not being unadulterated and wonderful but rather corrupted and unsavory in the administration of belief system and authority. The sentimentalism of stylish culture where the query was "Does it move me?" was violently prohibited in patronage of the strongly investigated and deliberately uncovered appreciation that art could not be generic and influencing, but rather intentionally influential in administrations of matchless quality, segregation and harmful brutality. This holds consistent with date, and would urge to challenge a number of the prized white collar class methods of insight about workmanship's helpful reason and ameliorating impacts. Tomahawks of genuine awry power are still sex, sexuality, class, and race; and their acknowledgement are repeated to us over pictures over the full convention. In any case, our re-engagement with the difficulties of the stylish remain: not examining on excellence but rather as an impact aligned with the preservation of human life is in the resonations of that dubious open door.

As of now a predominant overpowering inclination is to make new associations between the tasteful, unequivocally a full of feeling, tangible, synesthesia way of “sense-knowing” in distinction to pragmatist or just as scholarly representations of information – and the moral. The curious unification climbs out of history and its catastrophe. It is in the background of the horrifying abhorrence, primary and secondary, memorable and proceeding with – that a desire to reshuffle the topic of affection with the idea of a wonder rises. In this manner an enthusiasm for workmanship that generates another class or thought of excellence which would be thought to be moral in its belongings; which could make the general epicurean of art handle the shocking way of majority that is exhibited as culture and art. Magnificence rises from that which unveils to us that the abuse of some other's humankind is likewise an allowance of our own, transcendently when the general crowded neglects to share its injury. Training is an area of affection not among people, as in animalistic love, but rather concerning eras. Training endeavors to impart to, yet not hinder a future, to exist together in time between chronicled moments. Training is neither about dreary safeguarding nor correspondingly impolite advancement.

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