



Analyzing the Attitude and Context of the Feminism Term Formation in Female Students

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Abstract

The purpose of the current research was to analyze the attitude and context of the feminism term formation among female students. The research population included all the female students in over the country. The research sample subsumed 15 subjects who were selected via purposive sampling procedure. The research method was qualitative research and phenomenological study. Data was collected through semi-in-depth and semi-structured interviews and three main categories and 10 sub-categories were extracted. The findings showed: the word feminism has many concepts and different approaches. And according to the family and social background of each person and the gender stereotypes of each society, it is possible to describe redefinition of feminism. The existence of various ideas and mentality towards feminism caused it to be described differently by individuals. The understanding of the attitudes of different groups in society regarding feminist thoughts is important to study, discover, describe and perception of the female students' attitude. Understanding the attitude of students can inform researchers and academicians about the thoughts and the meaning of feminism, the female students' point of view and its prevalence among people in society. Also, there were different feedbacks regarding this word due to the non-nativeness of the feminist approach. According to the students' point of views, western teachings were the basis of feminism and their dissemination without localization would cause them to be dominated on the society's culture. Therefore, according to the obtained concepts and categories, it is necessary to revise the feminist approach based on Islamic teachings and rich Iranian culture and redefine it as an approach towards the realization of equality between men and women based on their dignity and their unique position.



Extended abstract

Introduction: Feminism has always faced different interpretations and meanings in different historical periods. The main reason for this variety and plurality in the definition of feminism is that this school has a relatively wide territory and a relatively long history. Although the feminist movement in the West has not reached the peak of its social fortune, it is still being pursued as a social concern in developing countries. Many people, especially among women, are afraid of pursuing their demands and rights and many of them may withdraw from demanding their benefits and social rights. By examining the attitude of young women towards feminism and gender relations, it was found that support for feminist goals is accompanied by ambiguity about the concept of feminism. In the sense that they could not express their true views under the influence of various factors. Approaches were different among people who had different life experiences and also based on racial and class backgrounds. Today, with the growth and development of communication technology and the increase of people's access to various information sources, the evaluation of civil liberties has been combined with different analyzes of the word feminism. The existence of different approaches and different attitudes in defining this word, inducing different perceptions of it and persuading public opinion to continue it in developing societies shows the necessity of defining and analyzing this word. Accordingly, the need to explain and understand this issue can be found not only in the analysis of the current freedoms and current laws of women in societies, but also in the statements of experts and analysts. Our society with Islamic and religious approach in creating social and political freedoms for women has taken steps in response to the causes of wrong perceptions of the concept of feminism. The purpose of the current research was to analyze the attitude and context of the feminism term formation among female students.

Method: The research population included all the female students in over the country. The research sample subsumed 15 subjects who were selected via purposive sampling procedure. The research method was qualitative research and phenomenological study. Data was collected through semi-in-depth and semi-structured interviews and three main categories and 10 sub-categories were extracted.

Results: The findings showed: the word feminism has many concepts and different approaches. And according to the family and social background of each person and the gender stereotypes of each society, it is possible to describe redefinition of feminism. The existence of various ideas and mentality towards feminism caused it to be described differently by individuals. The understanding of the attitudes of different groups in society regarding feminist thoughts is important to study, discover, describe and perception of the female students' attitude. Understanding the attitude of students can inform researchers and academicians about the thoughts and the meaning of feminism, the female students' point of view and its prevalence among people in society. Also, there were different feedbacks regarding this word due to the non-nativeness of the feminist approach. According to the students' point of views, western teachings were the basis of feminism and their dissemination without localization would cause them to be dominated on the society's culture. Therefore, according to the obtained concepts and categories, it is necessary to revise the feminist approach based on Islamic teachings and rich Iranian



culture and redefine it as an approach towards the realization of equality between men and women based on their dignity and their unique position.

Conclusions: Based on the analysis of the attitude and the formation of the word feminism based on the opinion of the students, it was determined that The existence of stereotyped ideas and mentality towards feminism and different activities of feminists causes different description of people. Also, based on the perception that students had regarding their definition of feminism and their family and social contexts and their changes; They showed different behaviors towards these thoughts. Feminism and feminist thoughts have been effective on people with different views. It could be seen that the students of today's generation have shown attention to these thoughts based on the amount of information received and their analysis and their previous background and depending on their positive or negative attitude, they interfere in their lives. The gender view of families and society towards men and women has changed and many discriminations and inequalities have decreased due to the increase in people's awareness. One of the reasons that most of the interviewees had different responses to this term was the non-nativeness of the feminist approach. Here, according to the obtained concepts and categories, it can be reported that it is necessary to revise the feminist approach and be redefined as a phenomenon in order to achieve equality between men and women based on their dignity and their unique position.

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