

# What is BISP

In July 2008, the government of Pakistan launched the Benazir Income Support Programme (BISP) as a flagship national safety net system. The Programme has grown rapidly to become the largest single social safety net programme in Pakistan's history and one of the largest in the South Asian region. It is also one of the best social safety nets in the world catering for the 5.3 million poor families all across Pakistan. Although, the programme is appreciated and well-recognized both within the country and abroad, there is no shortage of Doubting Thomas's who see it differently. In a recent report in a UK newspaper, Daily Mail, it was stated that the BISP, which was designed to provide cash to some of Pakistan's poorest is not only costly for the UK taxpayers but also subject to corruption. "Just when you thought it could not get any worse ... your cash is doled out in envelopes and on ATM cards loaded with money," the report blamed. Saying that "around 235,000 families pocket cash every three months to boost incomes," the newspaper carried a picture of Pakistanis queuing up outside an ATM, withdrawing money, a part of which was provided by the UK government. Other newspapers have picked up the same story, questioning the amount of money provided by the UK which encourages corruption. According to the report, the UK's Department of International Development was donating £200 million a year to the BISP, contributing about 7 percent of the BISP's total costs. Conservative Member of Parliament, Nigel Evans, who is a member of the influential International Development Select Committee, also agreed that cash transfers were "clearly open to fraud with money siphoned away when it ought to be directed to those most in need". Defending the BISP, the UK officials, however, commended the programme for introducing a biometric system with fingerprint checks which means that the British taxpayers could be sure that the help they provide does go to the less fortunate as intended. The BISP helps 5.2 million of the poorest families gain access to food, health, clothing and schools. Although BISP is a flagship programme of the country to protect the poorest in the country and largely acknowledged as such by all and sundry, the weaknesses of the programme as highlighted by the UK newspapers should not be taken lightly. The programme is, in fact, so popular that it was launched in 2008 by the PPP government and continued by the present PML (N) government for its highly desirable traits of enhancing financial capacity of the very poor and eradicate extreme and chronic poverty. The cash transfers to eligible families have

been increased from Rs. 1,000 per family in 2008 to Rs. 1200 in 2013, Rs. 1500 in 2014 and Rs. 1567 w.e.f. 1st July, 2016. BISP has also expanded rapidly over the years. The number of BISP beneficiaries has risen from 1.7 million in 2009 to 5.3 million at the close of March, 2016 and are expected to increase to 5.6 million by the end of June 2017. The size of the BISP has also progressively increased from Rs 16 billion in 2009 to Rs. 102 billion by June 2016 and is estimated to rise to Rs. 115 billion by the end of current fiscal. In its initial stages, BISP delivered cash transfers through Pakistan Post due to its greater outreach but later started using the innovative payments mechanism in the form of Benazir Smart Card and Mobile Phone Banking. At present, around 94 percent beneficiaries are receiving payments through technology-enabled innovative payment mechanisms.

However, whatever the merits of the programme, its deficiencies cannot be whisked away or ignored altogether. The criticism of the UK press and its parliamentarians should be especially noted because Britain is providing financial support to the programme and its critical observations could also prompt other countries and agencies to re-evaluate the scheme and withdraw their support. This is so because the donor countries need to be given assurance that the money of their taxpayers is meant only for the pockets of the poor to buy vital food, clean water, clothing and healthcare and is not misutilised in any way. The right way to do this is to minimize the influence of parliamentarians in the selection of beneficiaries and give a greater role to neutral officials who are not likely to discriminate between people on some caste, creed or ethnic grounds. Besides, a higher level of resources could be allocated for projects which could enhance employment opportunities so that the beneficiaries could be facilitated to shift from outright grants of BISP and take up paying jobs over a period of time. If such a provision was not included, the queue of BISP beneficiaries would continue to grow, burdening the national exchequer more and more. And finally, donor countries and agencies may preferably be associated with the policymaking process in the BISP so that they don't have the reason to criticize the programme openly with a view to stopping its funding. All we wish is the continuation of the scheme to fulfill its noble objectives without much mud thrown at its doors by the outsiders.

# **BISP: Benazir Income Support Programme.**

**July 11, 2008. Yousaf Raza Gillani established the BISP.**

## **Key Points:**

Benazir Income Support Programme is the Marshall Plan and the flagship Programme of the Government for Women Empowerment and Poverty Alleviation Foundations of a welfare state were laid through establishment of BISP and the current government has made giant leaps towards the achievement of this dream. BISP is an independent authority with the President of Pakistan being the Chief Patron and Prime Minister of Pakistan the Executive Patron of the Programme. BISP is managed by a high powered Board headed by its Chairperson. Benazir Income Support Programme Bill was unanimously passed by the National Assembly and the Senate. Because of its performance, transparency and efficient technology based systems, BISP has earned global recognition and donor support and is cited as an example of international best practices across the world. BISP has so far disbursed more than Rs 267 billion to the deserving and needy of the country with complete transparency since its inception.

## **Poverty Census:**

- Conduct of countrywide Poverty Survey/Census for the first time not only in Pakistan but also in South Asia
- Data of almost 180 million (18 Crore) people and 27 million households of Pakistan collected for the first time
- Use of GPS devices to map the data of the entire country for informed decision making (to cope with natural disasters and other emergencies)
- Poverty census completed in record time of one year across all Pakistan including Azad Jammu & Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan and FATA.

**Cash Transfers:** Around 7.7 million beneficiary families consisting of more than four Crore individuals have been identified through Poverty Scorecard Survey for disbursing monthly cash grant. So far, more than 4.7 million deserving families are receiving cash grant of Rs.1500/month. Billions of rupees have been disbursed till date amongst poorest of the poor.

## **Waseela-e-Haq:**

**Provides interest free loans up to Rs.300,000 to help the recipients to set up small businesses. Facility provided to approximately 11,000 beneficiaries, so far. Female beneficiary is the sole owner/proprietor of the business Counseling, monitoring and training for starting the business is provided through Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF)**

### **Waseela-e-Rozgar:**

**Launched for provision of demand driven technical and vocational training to the deserving youth, who do not have any skill, through public/private training institutes. More than 57,000 young male and female members of our beneficiary household have completed training so far.**

### **Waseela-e-Sehet: Life Insurance & Health Insurance:**

BISP is providing insurance cover of Rs.100,000 to the poor family. All beneficiary families are being extended this facility. Premium is paid by BISP and in case of death of the bread earner of the family, the support of Rs 100,000 is provided to the family. Life insurance has already been provided to more than 3 million beneficiary families. Health shocks are the major reason for pushing people below the poverty line. Rs.25,000 health insurance is being provided to the poorest families for the first time in Pakistan. More than 74,000 families are using this health insurance through the Pilot launched from Faisalabad.

### **Waseela-e-Taleem:**

1. Millions of poor children never attend any school due to financial limitations. Under this initiative, 2 million out-of-school children of ages 5-12 years from the recipient families will be sent to school
  2. BISP has started enrolling children (boys and girls) for sending them to primary schools across the country. More than 50,000 children already enrolled
  3. BISP has signed contracts with all the provinces to help sending these 2 million children to school through additional cash incentives of Rs. 200 per child
  4. BISP has signed agreements with World Bank and DFID for the next two years to implement this initiative
- **Giving Identity Card to the Marginalized Women: More than 23 million women have got their CNIC because of BISP, including women from FATA and Baluchistan.**

- **Technology based Payments Mechanisms:** BISP provides technology based payment facilities through

1. **Benazir Smart Card.**
2. **Mobile Phone Banking.**
3. **Benazir Debit Card.**

These state of the art facilities are being provided to the poorest of society for the first time in the history of Pakistan. Millions of new accounts have been opened, and people brought in the financial sector of Pakistan who did not have any access to the banking sector in their lives. A corporate style, fast paced work ethic has been adopted for efficient service delivery.

## **Transparency; the Hallmark of BISP.**

**Distributed Billions of Rupees among the poorest with complete transparency. Introduced branchless banking for the poorest first time in Pakistan.**

## **International Recognition:**

BISP has attracted worldwide support and appreciation for its trust. BISP has been declared a model program. It received direct technical and financial support from international donors and financial institutions. BISP has been approached by a number of countries for replicating BISP model.

## **Development Partners/Donor Support:**

**86% National Funding & 14% Foreign Aids.**

1. World Bank.
2. Asian Development Bank (ADB).
3. UK Department for International Development (DFID).
4. USAID. China, Turkey & Iran.

# BISP Achievements

## OUTREACH

Out of **7.7 Million** eligible beneficiaries, Unconditional Cash Transfer to **5.29 Million** beneficiaries

## PML (N) ↑ BUDGET

FY2013-14 **Rs 75 Billion**  
FY2014-15 **Rs 97 Billion**  
FY2015-16 **Rs 102 Billion**

## SCALE

Nationwide presence with **6** Regional offices at Provincial Capitals, AJK & GB  
**33** Divisional Offices & **385** Tehsil offices

## DONORS

**87%** funding by GoP & remaining by WB, DFID & ADB.  
**2015-16** has been year of continuous excellent upward ratings by donors on BISP performance including meeting of all targets prior to deadlines.

## PAYMENT

### PML(N) CONSISTENTLY ↑

2011-12 Rs. 3000 /quarter  
2012-13 Rs. 3600 /quarter  
2013-14 Rs. 4500 /quarter  
2014-15 Rs. 4700 /quarter

## OLD PAYMENT MECHANISM

Post Office **6.5%**  
Benazir Smart Card **2%**  
Benazir Mobile Phone **2.4%**  
Benazir Debit Card **89%**

## NEW PAYMENT MECHANISM

More efficient, transparent, user friendly system, with increased payment points, where beneficiaries will draw amount by using **CNIC & Biometrics.**

## COMPUTERIZED NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD

BISP is responsible for giving CNIC to over **4 million** women, a mandatory requirement for getting stipends ensuring that the poorest women are able to vote in elections.

## WASEELA-E-TALEEM

Conditional Cash Transfer in **32** Districts **1.37 Million** Children Enrolled & **Rs.598 Million** paid for Attendance Compliance. Rs. 250 per Child per month being given to each mother.

## COLLABORATION FOR BISP BENEFICIARIES TO GRADUATE OUT OF POVERTY

Prime Minister Interest Free Loan/Micro-Finance (Akhwat & NRSF) : **35,834**  
Chief Minister Self Employment Scheme Punjab (Akhwat) : **158,764**

## BENEFICIARY OUTREACH & COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

**Street theatre** in different mother tongues for beneficiaries on women empowerment issues.  
MoS/CP only Cabinet Minister to take **live complaints** & resolving them on the spot weekly on **Radio Pakistan** 1hr every Friday.  
For complaint resolution BISP hotline **0800-26477** works from 9am - 11pm.

## E-COMMERCE

Queen Maxima of Netherlands inaugurated BISP E-COMMERCE handmade products of BISP beneficiaries to be sold online on **TCS Yayvo.com**. Of the total Products uploaded **144** sold. A great platform for young entrepreneurs to connect with the poor beneficiaries.

## 3RD PARTY EVALUATIONS

More than 17 Third Party Evaluation Reports have been released and published on BISP website

## DEMOGRAPHIC DIRECTORY

Inaugurated by Finance Minister Senator Ishaq Dar

## NATIONAL SOCIO ECONOMIC REGISTRY (NSER)

2010 - First Poverty Scorecard Survey  
2015 - New Survey Prep Started to be # 1 in the world  
**2016 - Resurvey Pilot Phase in 16 Districts**  
**2017 - National Roll out across Pakistan** to serve as an **authentic list of the poor** for all Federal/Provincial Governments so that they run targeted poverty reduction programs.

## CLIMATE SMART VILLAGE CREATION

BISP serves as platform for Bio-Briquette, Solar Lanterns and encouragement of such projects for CSR.

## WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

**48,000** BISP Beneficiary Committees (BBCs) created in **32** Districts. Goldmine training ground for Nutrition, Child Health, Education, Family Planning & Adult Literacy.

Sisters in Success & BISP Empowers Talk are being held to motivate & encourage BISP beneficiaries to exit poverty, by introducing them to successful women.

Survey 2012-13 shows that **64%** of BISP beneficiaries have full control over how they spend their stipend.

## ROUND TABLE TALK

With Provincial leadership, CMs & local governments with beneficiaries to encourage them to exit poverty.

## Transparency

Special internal audit wing spot checks & regular monitoring to ensure transparency have been initiated. First year of regular BISP board meetings with superb independent board members feedback.

## WASEELA-E-ROZGAR

**58,528** Beneficiaries trained

## VOCATIONAL TRAINING to BISP BENEFICIARIES

Punjab Rural Support Program: **26,271**  
Sindh Rural Support Program: **800**  
Balochistan Rural Support Program: **24,338**  
NAVTTC Pakistan: **45,977**  
TEVTA Punjab: **28,666**  
THAAP (Punjab): **2,650**  
Indus Heritage Trust: **516**  
Motorway Police: **360**  
AHAN: **1,155**

## EMERGENCY RELIEF

FY2009-11 **Rs. 4.19 Billion**  
FY2013-14 **Rs. 0.68 Billion**

## RECOGNITION

Recognized as one of the top 9 successful institutions of Pakistan in Book "Candles in the Dark".

## Innovation

Different dashboards designed & corporate management adopted for efficient & improve service delivery. E-office & E-research started as well.

## UNIVERSITY TALK

CP's Talk at over 15 Universities to encourage students for CSR & E-commerce initiatives of BISP.





# Feminism: The Perspectives Arguments.....

Feminism history is a collection of movements and ideologies aimed at defining, establishing, and defending equal political, economic, and social rights for women. This includes seeking to establish equal opportunities for women in education and employment. The history of the modern western feminist movements is divided into three "waves". Each Feminism is a perspective that is described as dealing with different aspects of explores the connectedness of the same feminist issues. The first wave refers concepts that other theorists simply do not discuss or even to the movement of the 19th through early 20th contemplate. centuries, which dealt mainly with suffrage, working conditions and educational rights for women and girls. The second wave (1960s-1980s) dealt with the inequality of laws, as well as cultural inequalities and the role of women in society. The third wave of feminism (late 1980s-early 2000s (decade)), is seen as both continuation of the second wave and a response to the perceived failures.

The 3 Movements—First wave movement : The incidents that are included in the history of feminismfirst movements starts from 1809 married women property law in US till 1928 the rightto vote was granted to all UK women equally with men in 1928. There are exactly 69incidents defined within the first feminism wave movement.Most Important incidentsRussia: In 1913 women observed their first International Womens Day on the lastSunday in February. Following discussions, International Womens Day wastransferred to 8 March and this day has remained the global date for InternationalWomens Day ever since.England: In 1918 Marie Stopes, who believed in equality in marriage and theimportance of womens sexual desire, published Married Love, a sex manual that,according to a survey of American academics in 1935, was one of the 25 mostinfluential books of the previous 50 years.Germany: in 1919 granted women the right to voteEngland 1919- Nancy Astor became the first woman to take her seat in the House ofCommons.China: The first female students were accepted in Peking University, soon followed byuniversities all over China.

Second wave movementThe incidents included in the second wave of feminism movements are startedfrom 1963 the report of the American Presidential Commission on the Status ofWomen which caused the enacting of equal pay act till 1980s feminist sex warslast incident the Japanese Equal Employment Opportunity Law of 1985, prohibitsgender discrimination with respect to recruitment, hiring, promotion, training, andjob assignment. There are 104 incidents included in



the second wave of feminism movements. Most Important incidents 1966 Twenty-eight women, among them Betty Friedan, founded the National Organization for Women (NOW). 1969 The American radical organization Redstockings organized. 1973 The American National Black Feminist Organization was formed 1977 the Canadian Human Rights Act was passed, prohibiting discrimination based on characteristics including sex and sexual orientation, and requiring "equal pay for work of equal value" 1980 The second wave began in the 1980s in Turkey and in Israel.

Third wave movement The incidents that consists in the third wave of feminism starts from 1991 published of an article by Rebecca walker American feminist "Becoming the third wave" following establishment of riot girl movement in Washington and continuing till now, the latest famous incident were the slutwalk incident Toronto, on 3 April 2011 and globally the slutwalk issue is spreading. Slut walk was incident that Toronto police stated women are victims because they are walking and wearing like sluts that had created too many challenges and spreading on media over the world. There are exactly 31 incidents in the third wave of feminism movement The most important 1994: The Gender Equity in Education Act became law in the U.S. It banned sex-role stereotyping and gender discrimination in the classroom 1994: The Violence Against Women Act became law in the U.S 1995: The Fourth World Conference on Women was held in China 2007: The Gender Equality Duty of the Equality Act 2006 came into effect in the United Kingdom 2008: Norway requires all companies to have at least forty percent women on their boards

Feminism ideologies— Liberal feminism seeks individualistic equality of men and women through political and legal reform without altering the structure of society.— Radical feminism considers the male-controlled capitalist hierarchy as the defining feature of women's oppression and the total uprooting and reconstruction of society as necessary.— Conservative feminism is conservative relative to the society in which it resides.— Libertarian feminism conceives of people as self-owners and therefore as entitled to freedom from coercive interference.— Separatist feminism does not support heterosexual relationships.— Lesbian feminism is thus closely related. Other feminists criticize separatist feminism as sexist.— Ecofeminists see men's control of land as responsible for the oppression of women and destruction of the natural environment; ecofeminism has been criticized for focusing too much on a mystical connection between women and nature.— Materialist feminisms grew out of western Marxist thought and

have inspired a number of different movements, all of which are involved in a critique of capitalism and are focused on ideology's relationship to women.→ Marxist feminism argues that capitalism is the root cause of women's oppression, and that discrimination against women in domestic life and employment is an effect of capitalist ideologies.

Socialist feminism distinguishes itself from Marxist feminism by arguing that women's liberation can only be achieved by working to end both the economic and cultural sources of women's oppression.→ Anarchic-feminists believe that class struggle and anarchy against the state require struggling against patriarchy, which comes from involuntary hierarchy.→ Black and Postcolonial feminisms pose a challenge "to some of the organizing premises of Western feminist thought." During much of its history, feminist movements and theoretical developments were led predominantly by middle-class white women from Western Europe and North America.→ Womanism emerged after early feminist movements were largely white and middle-class.→ Postcolonial feminists argue that colonial oppression and Western feminism marginalized postcolonial women but did not turn them passive or voiceless.→ Third-world feminism is closely related to postcolonial feminism. These ideas also correspond with ideas in African feminism,→ motherism, Stiwanism, femalism, transnational feminism, and Africana womanism→ Lipstick feminism is a cultural feminist movement that attempts to respond to the backlash of second-wave radical feminism of the 1960s and 1970s by reclaiming symbols of "feminine" identity such as make-up, suggestive clothing and having a sexual allure as valid and empowering personal choices

**Main Discourses of Feminism**  
**Sex industry**Opinions on the sex industry are diverse. Feminists are generally either critical of it seeing it as exploitative, a result of patriarchal social structures and reinforcing sexual and cultural attitudes that are complicit in rape and sexual harassment or supportive of at least parts of it arguing that some forms of it can be a medium of feminist expression and a means of women taking control of their sexuality.  
**Pornography**The "Feminist Sex Wars" is a term for the acrimonious debates within the feminist movement in the late 1970s through the 1980s around the issues of feminism, sexuality, sexual representation, pornography, sadomasochism, the role of transwomen in the lesbian community, and other sexual issues. The debate pitted anti-pornography feminism against sex-positive feminism, and parts of the feminist movement were deeply divided by these debates.  
**Prostitution and trafficking**Feminists

views on prostitution vary, but many of these perspectives can be loosely arranged into an overarching standpoint that is generally either critical or supportive of prostitution and sex work. Anti-prostitution feminists are strongly opposed to prostitution, as they see the practice as a form of violence against and exploitation of women, and a sign of male dominance over women.

**Patriarchy** Patriarchy is a social system in which the role of the male as the primary authority figure is central to social organization, and where fathers hold authority over women, children, and property. It implies the institutions of male rule and privilege, and is dependent on female subordination. Most forms of feminism characterize patriarchy as an unjust social system that is oppressive to women. As the feminist and political theorist Carole Pateman writes: "The patriarchal construction of the difference between masculinity and femininity is the political difference between freedom and subjection." **Sexism**- the idea and doctrine that believe women are made just for sex

**Globalization of the feminism** Immediately after the war a new global dimension was added by the formation of the United Nations. In 1946 the UN established a Commission on the Status of Women. Originally as the Section on the Status of Women, Human Rights Division, Department of Social Affairs, and now part of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). In 1948 the UN issued its Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which protects "the equal rights of men and women", and addressed both the equality and equity issues. Since 1975 the UN has held a series of world conferences on women's issues, starting with the World Conference of the International Women's Year in Mexico City, heralding the United Nations Decade for Women (1975–1985). Feminism has shown, and continues to show, that poverty is very much a feminist issue. Whilst the inequality exists in wages and on the work floor, women will find it a greater struggle to reach out of poverty. Whilst they are kept in poverty, they remain powerless, and men continue to oppress them. Maintaining a high profile of gender inequality and its wider implications remains the core principle of Feminist movements. New campaign and protest groups continue to grow from Feminist principles.

**Reactions to feminism** Different groups of people have responded to feminism, and both men and women have been among its supporters and critics. Among American university students, for both men and women, support for feminist ideas is more common than self-identification as a feminist. The US media tends to portray feminism negatively and feminists "are less often associated with day-to-day work/leisure activities of regular women." **Pro-feminism** Pro-feminism is

the support of feminism without implying that the supporter is a member of the feminist movement. The term is most often used in reference to men who are actively supportive of feminism. The activities of pro-feminist men's groups include anti-violence work with boys and young men in schools, offering sexual harassment workshops in workplaces, running community education campaigns, and counseling male perpetrators of violence. Pro-feminist men also are involved in men's health, activism against pornography including anti-pornography legislation, men's studies, and the development of gender equity curricula in schools. This work is sometimes in collaboration with feminists and women's services, such as domestic violence and rape crisis centers.

**Anti-feminism** Anti-feminism is opposition to feminism in some or all of its forms. In the nineteenth century, anti-feminism was mainly focused on opposition to women's suffrage. Later, opponents of women's entry into institutions of higher learning argued that education was too great a physical burden on women. Other anti-feminists opposed women's entry into the labor force, or their right to join unions, to sit on juries, or to obtain birth control and control of their sexuality. **Herstory** is history written from a feminist perspective, emphasizing the role of women, or told from a woman's point of view. It is a neologism coined in the late 1960s as part of a feminist critique of conventional historiography, and refers to history (reinterpreted as "his story") written from a feminist perspective, emphasizing the role of women, or told from a woman's point of view. The word history—from the Ancient Greek, or *istoria*, meaning "a learning or knowing by inquiry"—is etymologically unrelated to the possessive pronoun *his*. The herstory movement has spawned women-centered presses, such as Virago Press in 1973, which publishes fiction and non-fiction by noted women authors like Janet Frame and Sarah Dunant.

**Women global status**•Majority of 1.5 billion people in the world living on \$1.00/day or less are women. •In most countries, voting rights have only been awarded to women in the last 30 years •15% of the world's lawmakers are female (2003) •Men In US - 71% of computer scientists; 74 % of doctors, 64% of college professors, 77% of architects, 90% of engineers : UN •In Ethiopia, women and girls are viewed as the property of male family members who may exchange them as they wish. •Handing over girls and women to rival partners to settle conflicts by establishing a blood tie still in Afghanistan, Pakistan ... •The World Health Organization reports that 40-70% of women murdered in the US, Canada, Australia, and Israel were killed by their husbands or male partners

Leading women's rights organization in Pakistan concludes that 80% of women experience domestic violence. •Israeli women are not allowed to divorce their husbands if the husband refuses but husbands may be granted a divorce if the wife refuses. •Honor Killing: a man is obliged to kill a female relative if she does something believed to tarnish the honor of the family—unmarried women who have sex, marital infidelity or suspected infidelity, seeking a divorce, flirting, being raped, dating without parental approval all qualify. •UN estimates about 5000 deaths from honor killings annually, Pakistan, about 2 killings daily. •Rape is a threat to women everywhere: in the US, 74 women are raped every hour, 1 in 4 women in her lifetime. In India, a woman is raped every 35 minutes and 1 in 10 reported to police •WWII—Moroccan soldiers rape Italian women, Japanese soldiers raped Korean women, Nazi soldiers raped Jewish women •1990s: Bosnian Serbs raped between 20,000 and 50,000 Muslim women in the former Yugoslavia

An estimated 250,000 to 500,000 women and girls were raped during a civil war in less than 100 days in Rwanda in 1994. •In 2003, reports from Liberia, Zimbabwe, and Burma indicate that government soldiers used rape to terrorize and control groups that oppose the government. •Effect of prostitution overlooked by governments in Thailand, Korea, and the Philippines who use prostitution to boost their economies and militaries •Sexual tourism: Thailand, Brazil, Hungary, tourism based on the travel of men from first world countries to third world countries to buy cheap sex from “Exotic” women. •In the United States, a woman is raped every three seconds, a woman is abused every 18 seconds, and four women are killed by their boyfriends or husbands every day. •One in six American women are victims of sexual assault, and one in 33 men. •Two thirds of all illiterates are women. •Women and children comprise eighty percent of all poverty population.

Conclusions •Gender differences in socialization within the family and elsewhere traditionally operated to the disadvantage of female who were dissuaded from opting for meaningful careers •The traditional allocation of roles within the family whereby females take disproportionate responsibility for housework and childcare is determined not by biology but by limited female employment opportunities outside the family and by the existence of patriarchal power within the family. •Many household tasks provide few opportunities for individual creativity. •Even well qualified professional women will find their career prospects more limited once they take time out from work to care for young children. •Even when women are



employed full-time outside the home this may mean also that they are obliged to undertake the so-called "triple shift" of employment, housework/childcare and emotion work. • Patriarchal power ensures that major family decisions are taken by males rather than females.

The existence of "empty shell marriages", high rates of divorce and considerable levels of domestic violence show that family relationships are often far from harmonious. • Limited educational opportunities and gender discrimination at work mean women's employment opportunities are worse than men's. Women tend to be horizontally segregated in a range of poorly paid occupations such as secretarial work, shop work, cleaning and hairdressing and caring professions such as teaching, nursing and social work which are not especially well paid. When they are employed in potentially well paid professions such as Law or Medicine they will tend to be vertically segregated at the lower levels of these professions. They are also unlikely to be employed in skilled manual occupations such as plumbing or engineering. • They may also be victims of routine sexism in their daily lives and feel obliged to concern themselves excessively with their appearance. • We might conclude that there is much truth in this but that gender inequalities are still substantial.

Feminism may be described as a body of thought which suggests that women have been and are disadvantaged in both past and contemporary societies. Feminists emphasize the extent to which societies are in several respects patriarchal: that is, societies are dominated by men who oppress and exploit women. There are several varieties of Feminism but all stress the exploitation of women. They argue that it is vital to clarify the meanings of the concepts of sex and gender respectively; that powerful processes of gender socialization operate to the disadvantage of women; that female students have been disadvantaged in education (and to some extent still are, despite their recent relative improvement); and that women are exploited at work, in the family and in society generally where they may often face sexual harassment and/or male violence.