

A Study on Gender Conflict and Its Impact on Society

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Abstract—The gender elements of war are highlighted in this article, which is arranged around important topical subjects such as female combatants, sexual violence, formal and informal peace procedures, and so on. It sheds light on how conflict alters gender roles and the policy alternatives that could be taken to maximise good changes while reducing negative ones.

I. INTRODUCTION

Gender role conflict is defined as a psychological state in which socialized gender roles have negative consequences on the person or others. (4) Few people benefit from violent conflict, which tends to deepen inequities and marginalisation. More than gender disparities, a variety of characteristics, such as ethnicity, age, and occupational group, may influence how people experience conflict. Nonetheless, there is consistent evidence that women, men, girls, and boys all have diverse experiences with conflict, and that conflict has varied effects on men and women. Gender inequality is a worldwide issue. Gender refers to the socially and culturally constructed roles that women and men play in society. (5) Gender analysis allows for an examination of not only the various roles, but also the various opportunities that women and men have in a given social situation. Inequality may be a source of conflict, but conflict exacerbates inequality.

II. GENDER AND CONFLICT

Men and women differ in a variety of ways, including (a) genuine gender differences (i.e., men and women have distinct capacities), (b) gender roles (i.e., how men and women are expected to act), and (c) gender stereotypes (i.e., differences in how we think men and women are). The majority of what we think of as gender differences are actually variances in our culturally manufactured gender roles and gender stereotypes, not true gender or sex differences. This is also true in terms of communication and conflict resolution styles. (3)

III. CAUSES OF GENDER CONFLICT

The prevalence of discriminatory gender norms and practices, widespread sexual and gender-based violence, weak institutions and women's lack of access to justice and basic services, women's exclusion from political and economic decision-making, and a shrinking space for opposition or civil society organisations are the main factors driving gender conflict. When inflexible, sexist, or restrictive gender roles result in personal constraints, devaluation, or violation of others or oneself, gender role conflict arises. (3)

IV. GENDER CONFLICT IN THE SOCIETY

- Household responsibilities: Despite the fact that both parents working in two-parent households is prevalent in many countries, women still devote more time to parenting and housework than men
- Care giving: Women are more likely than men to give unofficial care to family members and others.
- Sexual harassment: Sexual harassment refers to unwanted sexual comments or advances. A survey found that around twice as many women experience sexual harassment as men, about 81% of women and 43% of men reported at least one incident. (1)
- Armed conflict: According to studies, patriarchal gender relations collide with economic and ethno-national power dynamics, fueling a proclivity for violent conflict. Increased gender disparity in a country is linked to a higher risk of intra- and inter-state conflict. Evidence also suggests that, young women were forced to escape their homes and join gangs or insurgencies as a result of domestic and communal violence. (2) According to research, while female state leadership has no effect on intra-state armed conflict, female representation in parliament and the female-to-male higher educational attainment ratio are

linked to lower levels of intra-state armed conflict. However, no obvious causal link has been discovered. In general, this research imply that increasing gender equality and women's security could help to maintain stability.

V. PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT OF GENDER CONFLICT

Inequality between men and women presents itself in a variety of ways. Gender conflict has a significant impact on mental health around the world. Higher levels of anxiety and depression are some of the psychological repercussions and others include stress, anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in women and people of marginalized genders.

Sexism, or prejudice or discrimination against persons based on their sex or gender, is the source of gender disparity. It primarily affects women and girls, with birth-related implications.

Women with mental health disorders outnumber men by as much as two or three times, according to a 2020, depending on the situation. Women, in comparison to men, are:

1. Generalized anxiety disorder and panic disorder are twice as likely to occur in women.
2. They are roughly twice as likely to experience depression throughout the course of their lives.
3. An eating disorder is 4–10 times more likely to develop, and PTSD is more than twice as common.
4. Women are more likely to attempt suicide, although, males are 3.63 times more likely to die by suicide. (6)

VI. CONCLUSION

Gender conflict is repeatedly brought to the public's notice in various manners. Conflicts produce and leave behind a multitude of problems and challenges that effects numerous aspects of a country. Conflict and displacement result in demographic alterations that have major consequences, such as decreased male population and associated household structural changes, decreased fertility and higher infant mortality, civilian dispersion and reallocations, and increased rural-to-urban migration.

Governments, policymakers, and all other stakeholders participating in post-conflict early recovery must consider the impact of conflict on gender and take the required steps to netralize the conflict in general.

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