

Socio-Religious Impacts of the Women Freedom on Modern Muslim Society

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Abstract

In a broadly followed westernize school of thought, Islam is persistently censured and cogitated to have an outdated/obsolete and discriminatory behavior towards women. The importance of women in Islam is belittled and the status; derogatory in contrast to the western society. The research study whilst highlighting the freedom of women, discuss the western societies in general tend to ignore the vast cultural and ideological differences with the Islam. The research discussion also brings to focus on that how the concept of women freedom is solely related to women rights, hence ignoring their responsibility. The role and identity provided to women in Islam is of such magnitude that women are prominated as a potent symbol of identity. Unlike the western concept of women freedom, research paper will discuss that how Islam defines the role of women in society like no other, giving a perfect balance of rights and responsibilities. This study will also look upon the socio-religious impacts of the women freedom on modern Muslim society, highlighting the extreme focus on freedom of women and its consequences. The study will also highlight the struggle to achieve the conceptual freedom hampering the social and religious ethos and actions. The status of women in Islam is like an elegantly encrypted book where they are given respect in each role they play in the society. The research paper will try to study in detail about the impact of western concepts on women in general, of these ideologies being blindly followed by the society, the imprints they leave on the society and the consequent situations arising.

Introduction

Gender is the often un-analyzed dimension of all public policies from conflict resolution to economic development, public finance to public health, polices rest upon, are shaped by, and shape gender relations. Gender as concept refers to masculinities and femininities. Women and men structural context that refers and creates their powers is also taken nearly universally to refer to social factors shaping realities of women and girls alone. Women are the potent symbol of identity. They signify a vision that identifies a nation. The issue of women freedom is highly controversial today. Islam being a clearly global demographic presence, the fastest growing and expanding religion is not only the predominant religion in some fifty-six countries but also the second largest religion in the world (Europe + America), (Muhammad Vandestre, what is Islam Faith? dragon Promedia, 2017, p 25) but still there is a wide spread belief in the West that Islam has failed to keep up with the time and is still ancient in its socio-religious affairs. Western critics love to offer that vast gender inequality is a way more serious in Islam as compared to the West, but woman in Islam is much better than what is actually acknowledged by west.

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Woman is a female human being. The term woman is usually reserved for an adult. It is sometimes used to identify a female human regardless of age. Woman may also be a person whose sex assignment does not assign with her gender identity.¹ The term used for women in Urdu language is “Aurat” which signifies the feminine meanings of the parts of body which are considered the most reclusive and protected one. Another meaning of “Aurat” in Arabic language identifies anything that may cause sores in eyes.² Quran has also used the words “Nisa and Imrah” for the women, which carries the meaning of matters relating to women issues with regard to protection of their body.

إِذْ قَالَتِ امْرَأَتُ عِمْرَانَ رَبِّ إِنِّي نَذَرْتُ لَكَ مَا فِي بَطْنِي مُحَرَّرًا فَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ³

“(Mention, O Muhammad), when the wife of “Imran said, “May Lord, indeed I have pledged to you what is in my womb, consecrated (for your service), so accept this from me. Indeed, you are the Hearing the Knowing”.

وَإِنْ امْرَأَةٌ خَافَتْ مِنْ بَعْلِهَا نُشُورًا أَوْ إِعْرَاضًا فَلَا جُنَاحَ عَلَيْهِمَا أَنْ يُصْلِحَا بَيْنَهُمَا صُلْحًا وَالصُّلْحُ⁴

“And if a women fears from her husband contempt or evasion, there is no sin upon them if they make terms of settlement between them... and the settlement is the best”.

Women Freedom

It is defined as a basic human right that allows women to make her choices freely, without the pressure of men.⁵ It has acquired the connotations of separatism, feminism, extremism, men avoiding lesbianism and other terminologies like gender equality, women liberation and women diversity etc.⁶

Feminism

“The advocacy of women’s rights on the ground of the equality of the sexes”.⁷ It is originated from the French word “Feminisme” 1840-1845 from Latin Femina “Women” and English ism and 1890-1895 for sense of “women movement” (from feminist adjective) French feminism”.⁸ “Feminism is defined as the group of persons who want to bring change in the attitude of men and norms of society towards women”.⁹ It is a theory that men and women should be equal politically, economically and socially. Generally it means the advocacy of women’s rights to full citizenship that is political, economic and social equality with men.¹⁰

Difference Between freedom and Feminism, there is basically no such difference. Both are the synonyms of each other and connotations as well but still there are two school of thoughts. 1st one says: “Freedom is the sex equality which implies that men and women should receive equal treatment whereas the movement towards the gender/sex equality is named as feminism”.¹¹ The second school of thought says: “Freedom is all about equality whereas feminism is the equity of sexes”

The debate arised from the perceived inadequacy of the concept of equality to address the women’s concerns with either the public or private sphere. It has been identified as strict, formal or legal equality that results from access to employment, politics and all those areas of life which are traditionally dominated by men. This approach, therefore, aims to promote legislation that remove all formal obstacles to women’s entry in public sphere.¹² Equality is interpreted as sameness, thus men and women are not only equal, they become the same. Whereas feminism language of “sex equity” introduces a new way of discussing women’s rights which promotes the substantive equality. It promotes the equity as a necessary condition for social justice.¹³

History and Chronology of Women Freedom

The history of feminism is the chronological narrative of the movement and ideologies aimed at equal rights for women. While feminists around the world have differed in causes, goals and intentions depending on time, culture and country. Most Western feminist historians assert that all movements that work to obtain women's rights should be considered feminist movements, even when they do not apply to themselves. Other historians limit the term to the modern feminist movement and its progeny and instead use the label protofeminis to describe earlier movements.¹⁴

There are eight kinds of women freedom (emancipation): 1. Amazon Freedom -Amazon freedom is dedicated to the image of the female here in Greek mythology, as it is expressed in art and literature, in the physiques and feats of female athletes and in sexual values and practices.¹⁵; 2. Cultural Liberation -The theory that there are fundamental personality differences between men and women and those women's differences are special and should be celebrated; 3. Ecofeminism -It is a theory that rests on the basic principle that patriarchal philosophers are harmful to women, children and other living things. Parallels are drawn between societies treatment of the environment, animals or resources and its treatment of women; 4. Individualist or Liberation Emancipation -Is based upon individualism or liberation philosophies; 5. Material Feminism -A movement in the late 19th century working to liberate women by improving their material condition; 6. Pop Freedom -Is often mistaken by people to be feminism in general the negative, typical man hating ideology; 7. Radical Freedom - Is the breeding ground for many of the ideas arising from feminism. Radical freedom was the cutting edge of feminist theory from approximately 1967-1975., and; 8-Separatists -Are often wrongly depicted as lesbians. These are the feminists, who advocates separation from men sometimes total, sometimes partial.¹⁷

Concept of Women Rights

Powers and privileges traditionally enjoyed by men which many women in recent times wish to share. Among these rights are control of property, equality of opportunity in education, employment, suffrage and sexual freedom. In early societies women bore and raise children, cared for home and helped maintain family economic production. Male dominance however was pre-eminent from the time of the earliest written historical records probably as a result of men's discovery of their role in conception as well as the development of hunting and warfare as prestige activities.¹⁸

Under normal circumstances when the stream of life runs calm and undisturbed, every individual enjoys the sense of mental peace and satisfaction. The time through which we are passing is disturbed and distressing. Nations of the world are in conflict with each other and everyone is anxious to strike at the other, only to serve his national interest. Individuals are behaving like sworn enemies of other individuals. Life is in a tumult. The world has progressed in the certain important directions but all the moral vices have diminished. The entire humanity is suffering from the festering sores of moral depravity.²⁵

In this alarming situation, there comes a need to study the women's position in Islam and west, the verge on which there is a conflict between two societies and also needs to mention that on what points Muslim woman stands against the western concept of freedom.

Modernization theory (Late 40's until the mid-60's) characterized the inevitability of progress, the invincibility of science and the desirability of liberal democracy. Nothing was considered higher than human reason: secular was preferred to religious and the rights of the individual were focused.²⁶ Modernization has had differing outcomes for different classes, including women. Most benefits from increased work and educational opportunities, and piecemeal legal reforms, have accrued to elite women, but the experience of others (rural & lower class urban women) has been less favorable.²⁷

In short, term "modernity" compels people to think rationally and believe in progress and self-determination. Modern life style is an ongoing process: its chronological limits are never set.²⁸

It is not possible to separate man's way of thinking from his way of living and his dealing in life. Man is a wise and understanding being who thinks for himself, wants to comprehend his surroundings and tries to know the beginning and the end of everything, in order to be able to understand the mysteries of the world and the beings around him.

Religion is a law inseparable from man's nature just as the laws of life are inseparable from living beings. Religious feelings involve a sense of sacredness.²⁹ Islam naturally emerges into shape of preface ethical system for man who is free from all those defects which are to be found in the ethics of idolatrous religions and of secular creeds. It gives the humanity the moral values in which there are no pieces of immorality. This is Islam's fundamental attitude towards life. No sphere of life is exempt from the universal and comprehensive applications of the moral principles of Islam.³⁰ Mr. Kenneth writes:

*"Religious system can also provide human service professionals with models for the development of communities."*³¹

Women in Islam

The world of humanity is processed of two wings the male and female. The world in the past has been ruled by force and man has dominated over women by reason of his more forceful and aggressive qualities both of body and mind. But then the scales shifted, force lost its weight, and mental alertness, there comes intuition and the spiritual qualities of love and service in which women is strong and will be able to gain ascendancy. Hence Islam came and blessed women with the rights and helped in balancing the society. Women's status in Islam is one of the most controversial and serious issues of our time, not only among Muslim women and those who represent them in the area of women rights in the Islamic world but also among fundamentalist Muslims.

Discussing women in Islam is to extrapolate the position of women in Islamic sphere from an examination of religious texts i.e. Quran and the Sunna (Hadith).

There is no Quranic distinction between Muslim and non-Muslim women in terms of her status as a biological social being, but men are, on principle, in charge of women and the male is not like female.

³²

Islamic Concept about Women in the Light of Quran

Gender inequality, a hot issue, is genetically ascribed to religion whereas its causes are purely non-religious. It originates from political, economic, social and cultural factors. As for Islam, gender equality is part of its jurisprudence and fundamental teachings. Numerous Verses of the Qur'an Traditions enjoin gender equality which categorically proves that gender inequality is not faith-based.

1. Basis of Creation

The concept of gender equality is best exemplified in the Quranic rendition of Adam and Eve. The Quran states that both sexes are deliberate and independent.

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا

"O mankind! Fear your Lord Who (initiated) your creation from a single soul, then from it created its mate, and from these two spread the creation of countless men and women."

Even in the issue of which sex was created first is not specified, implying that for our purpose in this would, it may not matter.

2. Freedom of Choice

Women are independent individuals, as exemplified by the fact that all human beings will be accountable for their own intentions and deeds on the Day of Judgment. If men are ultimately responsible for women (fathers for their daughters, husbands for their wives, etc.), then this accountability would be solely on men's shoulder to bear until the Day of Judgment.

يَوْمَ لَا تَمْلِكُ نَفْسٌ لِنَفْسٍ شَيْئاً وَالْأَمْرُ يَوْمَئِذٍ لِلَّهِ³⁴

"It is the Day when no soul will own anything for any other soul and the Command on that Day will be entirely Allah's"

4. Similar Rights

"وَالْمُطَلَّاتُ يَتَرَبَّصْنَ بِأَنْفُسِهِنَّ ثَلَاثَةَ قُرُوءٍ وَلَا يَحِلُّ لَهُنَّ أَنْ يَكْتُمْنَ مَا خَلَقَ اللَّهُ فِي أَرْحَامِهِنَّ إِنْ كُنَّ يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ
الْآخِرِ وَيُعَوِّضُهُنَّ أَحَقُّ بِرَدِّهِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ إِنْ أَرَادُوا إِصْلَاحًا وَهُنَّ مِثْلُ الَّذِي عَلَيْهِنَّ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَلِلرِّجَالِ عَلَيْهِنَّ دَرَجَةٌ
وَاللَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ"³⁵

"Divorced women shall keep themselves waiting for three periods and it is not permissible for them to conceal what Allah has created in their wombs, if they believe in Allah and in the Last Day. Their husbands are best entitled to take them back in the meantime, if they want a settlement. Women have rights similar to what they owe in recognized manner and for men there is a step above them. Allah is Mighty, Wise."

This verse denotes that rights enjoyed by men are the duties of the women and the duties of men are the rights of women. This implies a similitude between both the genders. There is no right conferred on man that woman may be deprived of because she is a woman.

Men, however, have an Advantage over Women:

"وَلِلرِّجَالِ عَلَيْهِنَّ دَرَجَةٌ"³⁶

"There is a step for men above them (women)"

6. Men as Supervisors

"الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ وَبِمَا أَنْفَقُوا مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ"³⁷

"Men are caretakers of women, since Allah has made some of them excel the others and because of the wealth they have spent."

The Arabic word "qawwam" used in the Verse denotes support, protection and supervision according to the Arabic usage. The relation between rights and duties in Islam is reciprocal and cannot be

compartmentalized. However, man has been made more responsible in connection with the performance of social and economic obligations. Maintenance of women is the basic responsibility of man in the Islamic Law. At no place has this responsibility been placed on women. Women have been freed of the burden of social, political and economic responsibilities. But they have been given more freedom than man under certain rules and regulations and the opportunities for women to capitalize on them are more than those enjoyed by men.

8. Equal Rights but no Equal Capabilities

There is no discrimination between men and women in opportunities at different levels. Both enjoy equal opportunities in all walks of life. However, it is also necessary to distinguish between the responsibilities Islam has placed on both so that they could utilize their capabilities accordingly in the best manner, within their respective spheres and do not have to encounter any social disorder. So far, as the assignment of various responsibilities, women on the basis of capability is concerned, Islamic history is replete with examples. In the absence of gender equality a society would not only face deprivation, economic inequality and other social evils but would also be unable to tread the path of life with a win-win mindset. As for its relation to religion, Islam enjoins to promote gender equality in all walks of life, either economic social, worldly or religious.

9. Choice or Deprive

What women freedom bestows women to survive in society, it leads women to enjoy full human rights, independence and freedom of choice at any level like as men have to do that, but recent activities of the government of France have no witnesses to activate feminism and promote women's rights in their culture. A contemporary report by "the guardian" newspaper is here below:

Report: "French police make woman remove clothing on nice beach following burkini ban" ³⁸In this report 4 police officers at a beach of France force a body covered women to remove her dress what she considers to be a burkini. (Muslim women swimming dress).The woman said: "I was sitting on a beach with my family. I was wearing a classic headscarf. I had no intention of swimming".The saddest thing was that people were shouting 'go home'. Some were applauding the police. Fifteen resorts in the south-east and others elsewhere in France have already banned the burkini, including the nearby city of Cannes. Where three women were each fined €38 (£33) under the ban at the weekend.The ban by several towns will come before France's highest administrative court following an appeal by the Human Rights League a French NGO.It is challenging the decision by a lower court in Nice, which upheld a ban on the outfit by the town of Villeneuve-Loubet.Authorities in 15 towns have banned burkinis, citing public concern following recent terrorist attacks in the country."Independence and freedom of choice for a woman is her being able to choose whatever she wants to do with her life, may it be her career or the choice of a life partner".

Conflict between Muslim Women and Western Concept of Rights

The modern man with his philosophies of criticism and scientific specialism finds himself in a stronger predicament. His naturalism has given him an unprecedented control over the forces of nature, but has robbed him of faith in his own future.

Low in the Earth
I lived in realms of ore and stone
And when I smiled wild and in many tinted flowers:

Then roving with the wandering hours,
O'er earth and air and ocean's zone,
In a new birth
I dived and flew,
And crept and ran,
And all the secret of my essence drew
Within a form that brought them all to view-
And LO, a Man!
And then my goal,
Beyond the clouds beyond the sky,
In realms where none may change or die-
In angel form; and then away
Beyond the bounds of night and day,
And life and death, unseen or seen,
Where all that is hath ever been,
As one and whole.
(-Rumi Thadani's Translation)

It is strange how the same ideas affect different cultures differently. The formulation of the theory of evolution in the world of Islam brought into being Rumi's tremendous enthusiasm for the biological future of man. On the other hand, Europe has had to believe that there now appears to be no scientific basis for the idea that the present rich complexity of human endearment will ever be materially exceeded. That's how the modern man's secret despair hides itself behind the scream of scientific terminology.³⁹

Muslims Women against the Western Concept of Rights

Thus, if fundamentalism is about returning to the golden age of Islam, Muslim women argue that they have much reason for optimism and much room for maneuvers. Furthermore, Muslim women regard western feminism as a poor example and have no wish to follow it. Not only they do dismiss this western concept of freedom, but also they discipline the kinds of freedom offered to women in the west. Islamist women argue that by concentrating on labor market analysis and offering the experiences of minority, freedom concept has developed an analysis which is irrelevant to the lives of majority of women over the world. Freedom has prepared women to become sex objects and made her an advertisement tool for benefit. There is no proper space in West for marriage and motherhood. Western concept of women freedom has served in losing the recognition, respect and honour that women had once obtained in matrimony. By contrast, Islamist women argue that they can get benefit by returning to the sources of Islam. One of the fact that Islam bestow complementarities on women, as human beings, as partners to men and as mothers and daughters. Islam demands respect for women and offers them opportunities to be learned, educated and trained and provide an honored space for them to become mothers, wives and home makers. Islam recognizes the importance of women in life cycles. Islam at its inception provide women exemplary female role models and has delineated a path that can be honorably followed at each stage.⁴⁰

Change is a fact of life. The pace of change may be slower in some societies but change is ultimately inevitable. With the aforementioned facts about women freedom and its comparison with Islam in the earlier chapters, the progression of the whole concept comes under scrutiny. It has to be seen with a microscopic lens of whether the concept of women freedom as a whole repairs the cracks in the society or widens the cracks even more.

The concept of women freedom has in reality claims to have been born and bred in the western society. While the west boast highly of originating the school of thought, it remains to be seen as of how much the concept can be incorporated into different societies.

It is a law of nature that every concept of freedom comes at a price and demands sacrifices. While highlighting the concept of women freedom, it has pinched the non-liberal parts of the society. Some hail the concept as a balancing act in the society while others blame it for unceasing unrest and race for supremacy between the genders.

The undesirable consequences of concept have not been able to be curtailed. This chapter investigates the socio-religious impacts of women freedom on modern Muslim society including a decline in morality, a collapse of family structure, an increase in divorce rate, an increase in cases of sexual assault, lack of modesty in clothing and fashion trends, and preference of progressive values over traditional values. Change is not always good for society as potential benefits are far outweighed by the negative consequences as evident in the case of growing freedom of women in modern societies.

Impacts of Women Freedom

1. Acrimonious Competition-Root Cause of Discord

One of the most uninvited effect women freedom has had been that women have started taking men as their adversaries rather than a medium of help. Thinking of men as a barrier in their path of success, women start campaigns merely on the basis of bashing men and focusing on pushing them out of the picture. This has had immense negative impact on the society as a collective effort towards achieving goals is always more successful rather than spending half of your energies on something that is hindering the process of attainment.⁴¹ Maulana Maudidi writes in this context:

“This mindset of the individual, that he becomes restless when he sees another person in high prestige. This is the root cause of envy, spite, hostility, rivalry, impediment and squabble in collective life and as a result the bounty which he is unable to get by right means he start thinking of gaining that by unlawful means. So, Allah has advised here to avoid these contraband tactics.”⁴²

2. Women as a Show Piece in Society:

Hijab has great importance in Muslim society. But in present days, women freedom has endeavored to spread-out the Hijab in modern societies. It made women to take interest in glamour and fashion industry. Women are highlighted in most advertisements of different products. The industrial firms has adopted it as valuable business and modeling art is going at its esteem. If the purpose of women freedom is to get equal rights, then women should work at the relevant field in an impressive way and not to become a show piece.⁴³

Percentage of men and women in each profession by Mattrocheleau:

Professions	Men	Women
Secretaries	11.2%	94.6%
Hair Dressers & Stylists	7.6%	92.4%
Receptionists	9.9%	90.1%
Therapists	10.8%	89.2%
Social workers	18.5%	81.5%
Flight attendants	24.2%	75.8%
Cashiers	26.8%	73.2%
Hotels	30%	70% ⁴⁴

Shahzad Ali and Deeba Sahwar in their research work describe the representation of male and female in un-electronic media as:

Female are being used in advertisement as an eye catching elements having the functions of capturing the attention of viewers. Women bodily charm is used to promote ads concerning physical fitness products, cosmetics and those that add to appearances of the body. Young female models are the important element of advertisements.

Some of the findings are as:

Product Category	No of Commercials	Male	Female
Cosmetics	38	13	31
Fabric and footwear	09	06	07
Cleansers	11	2	09
Food & beverages	50	14	44

So the participation of female principal characters is collectively 63.5%.⁴⁵

3. Sexual Assault:

The Western society has badly prevailed our civilization by the modern media. We can estimate it by the saying of Maulana Maudodi:

*“The frequency and popularity of obscenities and sexual lusts are the result of literature, bold pictures, co-gatherings, theatres, parties and the shows of immorality. Dress less pictures are published in daily, weekly, monthly and annual-based magazines. It is regarded as a sure short way to increase the publications”.*⁴⁶

Sexual harassment also stand around the Muslim societies. 35% of the women globally have experienced sexual violence and 120 million girls have experienced forced sex. Percentage of women who have experienced some form of sexual assault with respect to the country is:

Country	Percentage
Bangladesh	57%
Cambodia	77%
India	79%
Vietnam	87%
Arab	37%
Seven region of Egypt	99%
South Africa	$\frac{3}{4}$ ⁴⁷

As far as we talk about Pakistan, it is among those countries where 70% women experience sexual violence in the lifetime by their intimate partners and 93% experience some form of sexual violence in public places.⁴⁸ Islam gave women the virtue and modesty and nothing in this world can be the substitute of this decency. But due to the slogan of women freedom, women stepped out of their houses by kicking off their home peace and then become a prey of man’s lust. It gives birth to such disguised and immoral civilization which killed the vitality of modesty and purity. It opened the door

for generic freedom and fornication. “According to a survey report, submitted by an American Judge “Lind”. He says, out of 495 High school girls 50% of them claimed that they have become a victim of sexual assault.”⁴⁹

Within the West itself, this freedom slogan has failed to give women the status they deserve as a human in society. Even after passing laws and legislations, having discussions and claiming to be torch bearers to ensure women freedom, women in the west are the ones most subjected to the gender and sexual assault. It has not been able to secure the rights of the women while talking about their freedom.

4. Abortion and Multitude of Illegitimate Children

The so-called slogan of women freedom take women to factories offices etc to work with the man. This liberation resulted in the multitude of unlawful child’s and abortions as well, whether it is mutual or forceful. American Judge Lind writes in this context: “Every year almost fifteen thousand pregnancies are aborted in America and thousands of children are killed right after their birth”. The ratio has risen up to 75%. The adultery is a result of this concept.⁵⁰ The prevalent and widespread practice of abortion in nearly all industrialized countries has been equated with the “Culture of Death”. Estimated rates are:

Country	Percentage
Russia	58.2%
China	27.1%
US	24.3%
Japan	22.2%
Sweden	25.7%
New Zealand	24.8%
Canada	24.2%
Australia	22.5%

The world’s average rate of abortion for every 1000 women occurs 2-3 times. Asia accounts for 50% of the world’s population, but 60% of all abortions.⁵¹ A recent study revealed that and estimated 2.25 million abortions were conducted in Pakistan in 2012 and 623,000 Pakistani women were treated for complications resulting from induced abortions.⁵² Hundreds of children born out of wed locked are secretly killed each year. Their bodies are literally thrown out with the garbage.⁵³ An average of 140 children were born out of wed lock each day to Muslim mothers in the year 2015. According to Nation Registration Department Statistics total 159, 725 children remain born out of wed lock to Muslim mothers since 2013.⁵⁴

5. Rampant Divorce

Freedom has led to “no fault” divorce. Women ask for divorce just because they feel like it. Marriage is no longer taken seriously. It is supposed to be a choice, a no life longer commitment. The particular fact of dismantled family has led to the alarming increase of divorce rates in last couple of decades in which mostly are demanded by women.⁵⁵ Rosenfeld Associate professor of sociology at Stanford claimed by a recent analysis by the aptly named:” How people meet and stay together?” Survey collected from 2,262 adults with opposite sex partners who answered about their relationship status between 2009-2015. Women initiated 69% of divorces compared to 31% of men.⁵⁶ In 2013 50% divorces were occurred in Kuwait. Highest divorce rate was recorded in 2014 in Maldives with 10.97

divorces per 1000 inhabitants per year. In 2012, in Qatar 20% divorces were caused by women for their bad behavior and 17% by refusing household chore. In 2013, in Tunisia up to 50 percent women filed for divorce.⁵⁷ Global divorce rate continue to raise and it has increased by 251.8%. Divorce rate in the following courtiers is:

Country	Percentage
Egypt	17%
Brazil	21%
Turkey	22%
Iran	22%

Average length of marriage in Islamic society has reduced to 20%.⁵⁸ Family court reveals that Pakistani women today are on the brink of a social change with the number of Khula Cases drastically increasing and are becoming a lifesaving decision. The reason for this hefty increase has been cited as awareness in women.⁵⁹ About 150 divorces cases are reported in daily Lahore courts.⁶⁰ In the last two decades there is a rise in divorce rate in Pakistan because the society is moving towards modern Arab organization. The reason is women are neglecting their responsibilities and are placing their careers before the family.⁶¹ More than 53 thousands divorces take place in Saudi Arabia every year. The number of cases compared to 2016 increased by 846 that could be 40-45 percent of marriages.

⁶²

Conclusion

In my conclusion, western world struggled hard in order to make equal human and women's rights. They brought many reforms at different social, political, economic educational and basic common levels to abolish the gender gap between men and women. The women of west strived for suffrage, independence of women and this was the struggle of centuries that they proceeded. But, after this effort are they independent in their natural needs same like as their men...?

Are they equal in social practice of their men...?The answer is "no". Because the do not count both man and woman in regard of their nature as they are different in physical emotional and relational perspectives. But in Islam, women have their rights by its true teachings in respect of human nature. The concept of women freedom has given certain confidence to women to stand for their rights, earlier, even in the urban cities women were not confident enough to stand for their rights even though being aware of them. Due to the introduction of concept, women have started taking a stand for their legal and moral entitlements. Even in the rural set-ups, the women rights agencies are helping women to realize their rights and fight for them.

But the concept has given more harm than good to the society. Conclusively, it needs to be seen over the longer course of time that how the concept of women freedom end up shaping the society, where on women are gaining unparalleled success, morals are arguably being lost in the process. One inevitable result will always arise when people tend to mutate the laws of nature defined and structured beautifully by Allah.

Conclusion & Suggestions on the Basis of Survey:

Following results have been recorded on the basis of this survey:

1. In the contemporary times there has been a hefty increase in the number of social distortions.
2. Our society actually do not pay much attention to this that change is not always good for the people, it sometimes affect the society in negative way.
3. Men are actually not aware of the true position of the women that Islam has bestowed them with.

4. Women consider man as their rival and opposer.
5. There is a hefty increase in the down fall of the moral values which is producing the sense of competition among the male and female members of the society.
6. If we go with the above facts then it seems very hard to deny that western concept of women freedom has not even destroyed the position of women as a human but also restricted her to a sex symbol. So,
7. Women of the modern societies actually need to know what “women” is.
8. There is also a dire need to access the true position and status of women in Islam.
9. Any kind of impact can be abolished from any society by redefining the moral and social standards and by accepting each other position as human because every gender has its own requirements and role accompanied by some common elements and aspirations.
10. Women must be taught to strictly adhere to fine line between ethical and unethical whilst demanding their rights.

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