

GSSCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

IAS TOPPER'S TEST COPY

ANANYA RANA

AIR **280** CSE
2023

ESSAY

ACCESS **400+**
TOPPER'S COPIES



8448496262



iasscore.in

GSSCORE

An Institute for Civil Services

We are MAINS...



**THE MOST EXPERIENCED & SEASONED
SUBJECT EXPERTS**

Access

**400+
TOPPERS
COPIES**



Scan QR Code
to get the copies

Only **SCORE** Matters!

#SCOREmatters



**MAINS
CLASSES**



**MAINS
TEST SERIES**



**ETHICS
& ESSAY**



**MAINS
OPTIONAL**

- POL. SCIENCE ■ HISTORY ■ GEOGRAPHY
- SOCIOLOGY ■ PUB. AD. ■ ANTHRO. ■ LAW



8448496262



iasscore.in

Essay Test 27-07-09

Essay Ananya Rana

One is not born but rather becomes a woman.

This is what Simone de Beauvoir said.
She pointed out that "a woman is not born as a woman, the social structures creates a woman of her".
Women are not defined in herself but in relation to man which naturally delegates her to playing a second fiddle, "The Second Sex". She is rendered as a mere object, an object of gaze for man, loaded upon with expectations which finally results into her being an unrealized human being.

This burdens women to follow the social dictats, though with adequate resolve this state of existence is resistable.

The subjugation of women starts from pre-birth stages, e.g. foeticide, and continues until her grave, when she will always be remembered as a 'wife of' or 'daughter of' someone, her self-identity veiled by the social constructs. Though it is true that there are basic biological, physiological, and as a result - to some extent - psychological, differences between men and women but that rather than celebrating the natural distinction, it has become a ground for discrimination & subjugation.
Explain in 1/2 lines
or social division
?

biological fact of being a woman -

of women. Anthropological studies suggest that when human stood upright on two legs, the basic reproductive physiology of the women body underwent a significant change. As a result the human new born came out of the mother's womb relatively underdeveloped, requiring nurture for extended period of time, upto 3-4 yrs. This relegated women to the household sector. Our societies evolved around this natural division, gradually depriving women of the economic and political spheres of influence. Since culture is a logical extension of society, this division also crept into the culturo-religious aspects, thus the acquired aspect of womanhood gets subdued.

As civilisations evolved, our understanding of basic human rights or natural rights has become better gone [from strength to strength]. We have realized that for women to become fully realized human beings this natural divide has to be pushed into non-existence. The State can become an enabler of this change through positive interventions wherever women lag behind, which it has done over the years through schemes and policies. In Indian context, some of these are - Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

As a description, this is very well suited but not really as an intro - x -

First, explains how women is a constant

far rightly identifies these but didn't explain source for a wife and discuss the

need to articulate more clearly -

This discussion is happening a bit too early in the essay -

Discuss first how 'woman' is a cultural construct + drawbacks

Equal Remuneration for equal work, Maternity Health Benefit Schemes, etc.

One cannot deny that for propagation of the human race, women have to go through a period of gestation, ~~gave birth~~ which acts as a natural disability in a woman's professional life. Considering the perpetual ^{would it be} call it a disability?
 existential burden that rests on the shoulders of women,

an educated society must give way to accommodate women in the ~~story~~ story of progress of humankind. masculine notion of emancipation?

Our pre-Independence social reformers, as well as the western liberals and Feminist movements have attempted through the 19th and 20th centuries to awaken humanity from its dogmatic slumber.

They have pointed out the patriarchal outlook of our current times, which not only men but even more women have internalised to some extent - as they are sometimes seen propagating the same ideals which led to her subjugation in the first place - such as Dowry, Child Marriage etc. These reformers sought

forth to correct the lopsided social structure by acting as pressure groups and have over time

led to numerous legislations and other gender-neutral outcomes.

It is pertinent to understand that (most of our) ^① current political and economic problems owe their existence to patriarchy - which has an inbuilt structure of subjugation, discrimination & ~~resisting~~ ^{oppression} into it. ~~Our~~ Our existing political structure, which is mostly composed of men ~~of non sensitized men~~ ^{the numerous} ^② who are not sensitive to ~~problems~~ ^{problems}, is not conducive for governance of any State. Women, on the other hand, who have been at the receiving end, stand at a vantage point ^{better position} ^③ to understand (the problems) caused by patriarchal structure, and therefore must be made leaders in more and more numbers. As a woman, as a mother, she ~~saves~~ gives primary to 'care ethics' over 'virtue ethics', which I believe ~~this~~ is the need of the hour, in every sphere of our lives - the economic, political, social, environmental etc. To exemplify how surreptitiously the patriarchal structure has impacted our lives is to look at the Olympic motto which celebrates 'stronger, higher, faster' aspect (which is naturally the men's domain), rather than 'Flexible, Balance, Endurance' (which the women excel at). There is no reason to believe that ~~the~~ the original motto is objectively better than the one I ^{have} proposed.

aren't you essentializing women here?

~~Each and every aspect that I have mentioned has led to women~~ you haven't talked about it though -

With all the progress in gender equality we have achieved, there is still miles to go. The change has not to be just notional but practical, it has to be driven by both men and women. The dichotomy of the sexes has now transformed. The classical division, has lately given way to discussions about numerous genders.

~~It has to be~~ → ~~the domain of~~

Our progress has to occur on a larger domain now as we understand the nuances of being human.

It is also true to some extent that it is incumbent

on the oppressed to themselves become agents of change, to break free from fetters that have bound them.

There have been examples like Indira Gandhi,

Margaret Thatcher etc. who have come forward on their own terms, have fought personal and professional battles with resolve so that they can be at their desired positions, breaking numerous glass ceilings on the way.

It would be negligent of me to not address the fact

that men have also been at the receiving end of

the social structure. It is expected of them to be

the provider of food, be emotionally stoic, be

physically strong etc. This makes them susceptible to the

same vulnerabilities that are faced by women, ~~by way~~ of hampering their true development in moral terms.

The fact of the matter ultimately is not to view the other human being as an object or as a being-in-itself,

but as a subject, a conscious being, or a being-for-itself.

When done so, the evolution of humankind will not be

through a predefined construct, but rather ~~as an~~ an assimilation of well-realized human beings. The natural

accident of birth must not determine the fate of

a person.

Following are remarks and suggested improvements.

(22)

→ ~~Ananya Rana~~ → Ananya Rana
→ ~~Ahost reduced the essay to~~ → ~~a discussion on women empowerment~~ → ~~not accurate~~

→ The topic expects you to discuss how 'sex' and 'gender' differ and how former is given & biological but later is constructed & socio-cultural -

→ Talk about socialisation, several divisions of labour, behavioural expectations, role models, social sanction & conformity, etc -

→ Rather than talking about general women empowerment, you could mention agents and examples that attack this social construct → Mary Kom
→ Kalpana Chawla etc -

ROUGH WORK

⇒ Simon de Beauvoir - "a woman is not born a woman, the society in fact creates a woman of her" → meaning → ~~is itself~~ +

inherently man & women are born as tabula rasa

Conclusion existential philosopher → narrowness → political, social construct

↓
determination of values

incumbent upon us to

break free

↓
eg. of women who
have achieved this
feet

power structures ~~that~~ → ~~the~~ subjugation

economic independence → empowerment

worst political scenario → women as leaders → understanding

Dimension

- Born → infanticide, foeticide → ~~BBB~~ P
- biological differences → natural accident of birth → not of choosing
- ~~that~~ anthropological factors → society structured around it.
- Social structure naturally determines → cultural aspect
↳ relegated as second fiddle
- women defined ~~not~~ in herself but
in relation to man

↓
expectations, discriminations

Feminist movements

↳ women's right to vote etc. → true expression of ~~the~~ humanness

correct the lopsided ~~the~~ structure →

↳ patriarchal outlook → environment, political, society, moral

↳ virtue ethics v/s care ethics

↳ problems

problems of the current world

↳ owe to mis. outlook

↳ suppression, oppression

Motto of Olympics

→ stronger, higher, faster

→ women → flexible, balance, endurance

Dominant culture

It is not only that women have been a victim to the social structure
Fetters ⇒ unrealized human being (anyhow)