

# Chapter 3

## Feminism and Honor Killing With Special Reference to the 21st Century

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The chapter explores the evolution of feminism and its impact on addressing gender discrimination and promoting women's rights and equality particularly in the 21st century. The aim of the chapter is to explore the role of feminism in advocating for women's rights and dismantling patriarchal norms, with a specific focus on addressing issues such as gender pay gaps, workplace discrimination and representation in leadership roles. The chapter involves a historical analysis of the four phases of feminism. Participants include women and girls impacted by gender discrimination, as well as advocates and activists involved in promoting women's rights. The context of the study encompasses global awareness, legal reforms, educational initiatives, women's empowerment, social media, and cultural exchange. The dismantling of patriarchal norms has helped lower crimes such as honor killings and contributed to a more just and equal society.*

Estimates suggest that between 5,000 and 25,000 honor killings occur globally each year. This wide range is due to differences in reporting practices and the availability of data (Heydari et al., 2021a).

DOI: 10.4018/979-8-3693-7240-1.ch003

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research will utilize a multi-faceted methodology to examine the interplay between feminism and honor killings, exploring historical, cultural, and contemporary dimensions. A comprehensive literature review will be conducted to analyze historical texts, academic articles, and cultural studies on the evolution of feminism, honor killings, and patriarchal practices. Qualitative data will be gathered through in-depth interviews with scholars, activists, and survivors to gain insights into the impacts of feminist movements on honor-based violence and societal norms. Quantitative analysis will involve reviewing statistical data on honor killings and gender inequality to measure trends and correlations. Case studies from various cultural contexts will be analyzed to understand the specific socio-cultural factors influencing honor killings and the effectiveness of feminist interventions. This approach will provide a nuanced understanding of how feminist principles challenge honor-based violence and contribute to broader gender equality efforts.

## KEY TERMS

Key terms in this exploration of feminism and gender equality include “Feminism”(Srivastava et al., 2017) which refers to the advocacy for women's rights and the dismantling of patriarchal norms “Gender Pay Gap”(Heydari et al., 2021b), the disparity in earnings between men and women for similar work; “Workplace Discrimination” the unfair treatment of individuals based on gender in professional environments; “Representation in Leadership”(Huda & Kamal, 2020), the presence and influence of women in senior roles within organizations; “Honor Killings”, a form of violence where individuals, often women, are murdered by family members for perceived violations of “Family Honor” and “Patriarchy”(Wynn, 2021) a social system where men hold primary power and authority. The historical “Waves of Feminism” encapsulate the evolution of feminist movements, starting with the first wave advocating for political and social rights. “Cultural Exchange” and “Social Media” have significantly influenced global feminist discourse, while “Legal Reforms” and “Educational Initiatives”(Gill, 2014) continue to play crucial roles in advancing women's rights and combating systemic gender discrimination.

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