

# Feminism in English Literature of 20<sup>th</sup> Century

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## Abstract

Style of writing has changed over the centuries, and the need to talk about new things like sexuality, homosexuality, and the value of freedom. In the 19th century, writers began to talk about the importance of women being free and respected. For example, when women were finally able to vote and their status in society improved, writers wrote more openly about new subjects. This is also one of the great changes in the development of literature. Some subjects in 20th-century literature were considered taboo in the 19th century, such as religion, homosexuality and sexuality in general, and rejection of religion.

**Keywords:** Feminist, literature, centuries, women

## Introduction

Women strive for equal opportunity and fight for their rights and independence in the field of Education, work and life as a man as started in England in the beginning of 19<sup>th</sup> century. As a group of people call this the "feminist first wave." It took place from about 1800 until the end of the First World War he about 1940. Waves: Goals a big part of that was the legal equality of women. Right to education and work for a living these two were her most important things people talk about. Premiered between 1890 and 1920 the feminist wave focused on women's political rights where in their suffrage was at its peak. "Women should stay in home, calmly do housework, give birth, and raise children." Martin Luther said. Women should be friendly, courteous, and cheerful companions. She had life, honour, home décor, and they were kind so she leaned towards kindness. This is exactly what it was made for. They are also meant to be a joy, amusement and comfort to their. Husbands that examine the strong connections that have formed among new feminist ideas in China and the writing of "modern" women between the end and beginning of the last imperial dynasty established the People's Republic in 1949 which includes both well-known and lesser-known literary works seen in this course. Both were embroiled in the heated gender debate of the time. and used formal strategies to imagine stories about women's experiences and potential Not what was popular at the time. This survey will address her two general questions: What impact has the rise of enlightening views on gender relations and sexuality had on literature? Practice of "new women" debuting in the cultural public sphere time? This includes not only the content of the story, but also how it was written, who wrote it, etc. what they wanted to achieve and how it was published. Feminism is not the only I'm a woman, but one of the authors is a man. This article points out and considers the differences between men's and women's writings on feminism. From different perspectives both sexuality and homosexuality are discussed.

## The Progress of Feminism

Feminism is defined as "the belief that women should have the same rights" have more authority and opportunities than men, equal treatment and scope of activities "The aim is to achieve this situation," says the Cambridge Online Dictionary. Feminists People who want men and women to have equal rights. It's called feminism. However, it wasn't until his 1970s that the terms "feminism" and "feminist" became popular. They became used more often in public. The feminist movement is a social group Political views that address the issue of gender inequality. Hundreds of years ago British women began to fight oppression. The movement has been around for a long time as time went on; the first feminists started talking about their thoughts on inequality. The women's suffrage movement began. Women used to fight for equal rights, work than men. The feminist framework also tells us how to deal with problems and what to do..?. As defined by Jane L. Papert et al. Theoretical Perspectives on Gender and Development: People are People When They Are Alone According to humans, inequality arises from "the need to create unequal incentives to achieve the greatest motivation." Another definition of 'talented people who can efficiently carry out the most important tasks in society' The book argues that inequality arises from "the habit of offering difference." It is a reward for maintaining a weak working class segmented by gender and race. ”

## Historical Background

Women in England and France were among the first to fight for their rights in the field of Education and above all respect. "The first time woman pick up a pen in her defence of her sex when Christine de Pizan published her Epitre au Dieud` Amour (Letter to God) love in the fifteenth century,” says Simone de Beauvoir. Mary Wollstonecraft, author of the powerful work Defending Women's Rights attracted a great deal of attention. In the early nineteenth century, when women began to bring about improvements in society. Ms. Wollstonecraft was the woman who stood up "although she was mostly silent, rather loudly." She is part of man,” says Arianne Cernok in her book Men and the Making of. Modern British feminism. Some still think of Mary Wollstonecraft Founder of feminism in England. Her book Defending Women's Rights this is considered the first distinctly feminist document. Florence Nightingale believed that women had "everything". “Men have potential, but never had the opportunity.”<sup>8</sup> Established Nursing Schools and Fought for Them More education for women. She was also one of the most important social reformers Early 19th century. Still, feminist women didn't simply advocate that men and women have the same things. But feminist men have given women more freedom They did so in small numbers. John Stuart Mill was one of them. he was British Philosopher, political economist and feminist influenced by his wife Harriet Taylor Mill is a women's rights activist. "Principles Governing Existing Social Relations" The relationship between the sexes, the legal subordination of one sex to the other, is inherently and still wrong .and considered as one of the main obstacles to human progress. and it should be replaced by Principle of perfect equality that recognizes no powers, privileges or obstacles

On the one hand," Mill once said. Mill was also the first British member Congress has found a way to allow women to vote. Feminists and academics broke down The movement is divided into her three phases, each with a different purpose. wave One of them was when women tried to win the right to vote. This is when they tried to get it The Nineteenth Century and Her Nineteenth-Century British and American Women's Suffrage Early 20th century. Women's rights and property rights became an important topic first wave. They also opposed movable marriage and the possession of a married woman

by her husband and their child. In her book *Feminism: A Very Short Introduction*, she says for married people: Women turn their homes into prisons. The husband owns the house and everything in it, the woman, his breeding machine, is the most despicable institution. Married women are "A woman is enslaved, and her position is no different from that of a West Indies slave." Resembling servants of the time, they have few rights or possessions. "If women's rights are not the same as those of men, what are they?" writes Marion Reid in her article *A Plea for Women*, which has been called "the most detailed and effective argument by a woman since Wollstonecraft's *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*." "Woman was designed for man in one sense, but she was also made for herself in another and higher one," she confesses. Reid emphasises on reasons why women should not be confined solely by domesticity, and that caring for the home and children should be in both the wife's and husbands best interests. Many female writers and feminists claimed that acknowledgement of what women need to fulfil their potential and their individual natures, not just equality, was what they required. In one of *A Room of One's Own's* most famous passages, Virginia Woolf makes a point on how women's skills have been wasted. "She contemplates a number of greatly talented women from the past, from the Duchess of Newcastle to George Eliot and Charlotte Bront – who were deprived of experience, intercourse, and travel, and this is why they never wrote quite as powerfully and generously as they might have," Walters says of Woolf's argument. Woolf She also believed that women needed money and their own space to write.

### **Feminism In Present Scenario**

If you call it "post-feminism," it started in the 1990s. it still continues, At the time, it was called "post-feminism." Post-feminism refers to the second wave of feminism Its shortcomings are recognized, but it's still fighting for the same thing as the first wave. But, the exercise focus has changed a bit and gave more importance to the individual As national processes and rules. Feminists are also more diverse today. First and The second wave of feminists consisted primarily of Western white middle-class women and the Third Wave feminists are women from different countries, cultures and religions background. In the 1990s, not only did women become more important in society, Not only in the UK, but also in other countries around the world. US women Kingdoms can attend the same schools as men, have the same jobs, and can reflect men's thoughts and ideas. Opinions are respected and considered. Women can do it too It has long been recognized thanks to the feminist movement. if that's it When it comes to modern feminism, it's not so easy to explain. Some women don't want it They are associated with her because they still see her as her strict and her out-dated group.

### **Comparison of Male and Female Writers On Feminism**

Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, women and men writers wrote about feminism and feminism. Women from different perspectives wrote under a pseudonym, I didn't want to use my real name. Charlotte Blount used the pseudonym Curler Bell. In the early 18th century, women were afraid to write about their social problems as the problem was directed at men. Because their opinions become more generally accepted and they don't want to be influenced by social influences Prejudice against women writers. Therefore, they used male names. Feminism was not discussed Just opened at that time. Instead, it was passed down through literature. when people travelled Literature could spend with them all over the world. This made it one of the options available to mankind Share your ideas and opinions on this topic. The European Enlightenment was a big part of it , this made it easier for people to have more

sexual freedom, which was influenced by nineteenth-century writers and the 20th century. But this is not possible because little attention is paid to sexuality and said to be difficult to say how widely the value spread to other countries. However, it is clear that this is the case it has been happening gradually since the middle Ages. Also, especially in the 19th century, The Victorian era from 1840 to 1900 was a time when his twin motives existed: sexuality and bondage. Women's oppression is related to women's lack of power and political ignorance. To combat this, Feminists began to develop their own ideology, a new way of thinking about relationships, Sexuality and male authority, Women's education, suffrage, marriage, etc. Society's views on sexuality and women changed significantly during the Victorian era. Late 18th Century has changed dramatically and this was the most important and far-reaching development of all. in one In a male-dominated world, opportunities for women have increased and new opportunities have emerged .

Female characters are She is sometimes portrayed as a "sex offender, or a hypersensitive woman who cannot accept her feelings." "Nature as a sexual being," says Buswell. Modernism was a new literary style it developed in the late 19th century and early 20th century. as a result, Literature became more real, and writers were given more latitude in sexual expression. Subjects. But it wasn't until after World War II those ideas about sexuality and gender emerged. Development has begun. The sexual revolution began in his 1960s and continued through the 1980s ,the impact of this movement was great. The revolution changed traditional attitudes towards Man., Sexuality and relationships in general. Because of sexual freedom, not only heterosexuals, Homosexual and polygamous relationships were also accepted. Increased advertising effectiveness Nudity, pornography, legalization of abortion and birth control. there are a lot of important things During the sexual revolution, more women wrote than any other in history. As a result, many literary works were written at that time. As a result, most academically, this work deals with gender and sexuality, which at least stems from the women's movement. and the civil rights movement. Literature at the time was mostly about white middle-class women and was shaped by feminist ideas. Women's activism was a common theme they wrote essays and attempted to restore the lost literary tradition of women's literature. Quick Literature also focused on reading women writers' resistance to patriarchy. Depictions of female characters," Pamela K. Gilbert said in his book Gender. About gender. In general, this era was a time when people were interested in sexual exploration. And gay culture, like Mrs. Dalloway and oranges aren't the only fruits.

## Conclusion

The second wave of feminism was considered the same as the first wave and became more focused On women's liberty and women's social equality. At the time, women wanted equal access on education, equal pay, contraception and abortion. There was a way to show this society It was better Also in the first chapter a lot has been written about modern feminism third wave. This has been happening since the 1990s and is often called that. of The movement responds to what is now considered a flaw in second-wave feminism. Equality around the world, not just in the US and UK

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