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Q3(b)

Define patriarchy. How does patriarchy manifest in interpersonal relations?

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2018 · Sociology GS 1 · 15 marks · Sociology

Sociology - The Discipline: Modernity and social changes in Europe and emergence of sociology; Scope of the subject and comparison with other social sciences; Sociology and common sense.

Core demand of the question

- Define patriarchy. How does patriarchy manifest in interpersonal relations?
- Keep the answer within a 15-mark length

Revision summary

Patriarchy is male domination reproduced across household, work, sexuality, and state.

- **Walby**: related structures; Connell: gender order.

Interpersonally it appears in decision, interruption, violence, and the care bargain.

- **West and Zimmerman**: gender as done in interaction.

NFHS files record the Indian everyday.

Introduction

Patriarchy is a system of male domination over women and of older males over juniors, reproduced in household, work, sexuality, and the state. Sylvia **Walby** treated it as related structures. It is not only a bad father.

Body

Definition

- **Classical sense**: rule of the father over the household.
- **Feminist sense**: a durable gender order that privileges masculinities, after R. W. Connell, and extracts unpaid care, after Ann **Oakley**.
- **Intersection**: Dalit and minority women face a compounded patriarchy, not a generic "woman".

Interpersonal manifestations

- Who interrupts, who decides money, and who fears violence in the home.
- **Kandiyoti's patriarchal bargain**: women trade security for deference in everyday talk.
- **Doing gender, after Candace West and Don Zimmerman**: compliments, care, and sexual double standards in interaction.
- Erving Goffman's face-work often scripts women as supportive audience.
- Workplace mentoring, jokes, and the second shift at home after paid work.

Indian files

- **NFHS** on decision-making, mobility, and spousal violence.
- Kin talk that polices a daughter-in-law's voice more than a son's.

Flow diagram

Patriarchy system -> Household

Patriarchy system -> Paid work

Patriarchy system -> Interpersonal talk violence care

Interpersonal talk violence care -> Bargain and doing gender

Conclusion

Patriarchy is a structured gender order, not a single tyrant. It shows in who speaks, who cares, who pays, and who is safe. **Walby**, **Oakley**, and interactionist work link the system to those everyday scenes.

Facts & figures

Walby

Patriarchy as six structures, including household and violence.

Oakley

Housework and the interpersonal extraction of female time.

Kandiyoti

Patriarchal bargain in everyday strategies of security.

NFHS

Indicators of mobility, decision-making, and spousal violence.