

Research on the Causes and Effects of the Antagonism Between Men and Women

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Abstract:

With the development and progress of society, people have gradually realized the significance of gender equality, but the antagonism between men and women caused by gender concepts in the historical process development is still ubiquitous. This paper introduces the concept and development history of patriarchy and feminism, analyzes the reasons for the emergence of the phenomenon of male and female antagonism from three aspects: physiological structure, psychological needs and social expectations, and expounds the negative effects of male and female antagonism that will lead to family tension, population decline, and destruction of social harmony, in order to promote the equal status of men and women, mutual respect and win-win cooperation of men and women, and a more harmonious and just society.

Keywords:

The Antagonism of Men and Women, Gender Equality, Patriarchy, Feminism

1. Introduction

1.1. Background

In traditional cultures, patriarchy has always been the dominant social position, and males are always the first authority in any field. However, with the rise of industrialized society and postmodernist ideas, as well as the influence of Western countries, feminism has become a new theoretical school [1]. The feminist movements initiated by many women have influenced the dominant perception of traditional patriarchal ideas, which has led to a shift in women's thinking and a change in society's traditional perception of men and women. Due to the further development of society and technology, people's awareness of gender equality has gradually become the mainstream and recognized by the public. But in modern society, men and women are still given fixed social roles and expected behaviors. For example, men are often seen as the breadwinners and decision-makers of the family, while women are expected to be responsible for the family's care and upbringing of children. Stereotypes about the social roles played by men and women not only limit individual freedom and development, but also lead to antagonism and conflict between men and women. With the rapid development of the Internet, many women

can only rely on women on the Internet to vent their inequality emotions through novels [2].

1.2. Research significance

Due to history and traditional concepts, compared with the last century, even if the development of modern feminism has its own characteristics, feminism are not truly guaranteed in modern society, and the assignments and goals of protecting feminism are still arduous and difficult [3]. To achieve the beautiful ideal of truly equal social status between men and women, we also need the evolution of traditional concepts and the further development of social thought. However, there is currently insufficient research on the causes of the antagonism between men and women. This article will introduce the concept of male and female rights, analyzes the reasons for the formation of the antagonism between men and women, and explain the social impact of the antagonism between men and women. It aims to enrich the theoretical research on the phenomenon of antagonism between men and women and break the public's stereotypes about the social roles of men and women. At the same time, this research can provide theoretical reference for improving women's social status, allowing women to gain more power, and protecting women's legitimate rights and interests, so that women's actual interests can be reflected, fairness and human rights issues can be improved, thereby making society more harmony and justice.

2. Definition and Development

2.1. Definition of feminism

Feminism refers to the social theory and political movements launched by women in order to improve their social status, end gender discrimination, and promote the equality of male and female classes. The birth of feminism is not only the desire of women to enjoy the same power as men in society, but also the pursuit of gender equality between men and women. In China, the term "women's rights" first appeared in Qing Yi Bao Number 38 on March 11, 1900 [4]. At the beginning of the 20th century, with the economic and military invasion of the West, China gradually opened up and began to be influenced by international feminism, among which the Liu Yazi women's rights movement is one of the famous feminist movements in China. The thoughts of the feminist movement is influenced by the family environment, the eastward progression of Western learning and Reformists, the eastward movement of Western learning, and the reformists, and resolutely rejected the inferiority element of Confucianism and the idea of Rousseau and Liang Qichao as "the good wife and the virgin" [5]. The Marriage Law of 1950 marked the official introduction of monogamy in China, ending the traditional practice of polygamy and opening a new chapter in China's journey towards gender equality. In general, feminism in China has gradually developed under the influence of international feminism, and its development process is closely linked to the modernization process of Chinese society.

2.2. Definition of patriarchy

Patriarchy, also known as masculinism, refers to men's absolute authority in various fields, whether it is dominant privileges in the family or society. It embodies the social phenomenon of male superiority and female inferiority and men's gender discrimination against women. Patriarchy originated earlier and have existed throughout history. Male chauvinists believe that women should be subordinate to

men, give priority to men, and allow women to absolutely surrender and obey men [6]. In their view, women are just their accessories, not a person with real independent thoughts. The selfishness, controlling nature and ruthlessness of male chauvinists further embody the main characteristics of male chauvinism. In the novel “The Awakening”, the protagonist Pontellier drank until midnight and found that his child had a fever when he came home. The first thing he did was to blame the mother for being incompetent [7]. Mr. Pontellier took it for granted that “men are responsible for earning money and women are responsible for raising children”, reflecting the selfishness and ruthlessness of male chauvinists. In fact, patriarchal thinking is to satisfy men’s desire for dominance and power, thereby making women an object that satisfies them.

3. The Causes of the Antagonism Between Men and Women

3.1. Physiological factors

One of the reasons for the antagonism between men and women is the differences in the physiological structure of men and women, such as reproductive organs, hormone levels and body proportions. These differences in physiological structure lead to differences in physical fitness, strength, endurance and fertility between men and women, and even differences in the division of labor between men and women in certain social roles and occupations. For example, it is generally accepted that men are more dominant in manual labor and protection work, while women are better at nursing and family care. Because of hormonal differences, some physical and intellectual jobs are usually performed by men, while social and clerical jobs are usually performed by women. Physiological differences in hormone secretion may lead to differences in behavioral expression and emotional expression between men and women. For example, women have an advantage in recognizing non-verbal emotional information such as facial expressions, posture, and tone [9]; Men are better at objective facts and rational analysis. Differences in physiological structure lead to differences in specific fields or abilities, and the different division of labor between men and women is a manifestation of the antagonism between men and women. In short, the differences in physiological structure and hormone levels between men and women may affect behavior patterns and psychological characteristics, leading to the phenomenon of antagonism between men and women.

3.2. Psychological factors

There are also differences between men and women in terms of gender identity, gender roles and psychological needs, which can lead to men and women looking at the same issue from their own perspective, which can lead to the dissatisfaction of the other party and unconsciously provoke gender antagonism. Studies have shown that there are differences between men and women in terms of emotional expression, communication styles, and social skills. For instance, when faced with the same problem, men usually solve it directly to get the results they want, while women may pay more attention to emotional aspects. When it comes to buying items, men tend to focus on practicality, while women tend to focus more on perfection [10]. In general, men have an open and active way of thinking, while women tend to be more detail-oriented; Under the traditional concept, men are generally indoctrinated with the idea of “man is the backbone of the family”, and the antagonism between men and women is intensified due to stereotypes of men and women. Influenced by psychological

needs, the different requirements of men and women for their partners can also cause ideological conflicts. When a man and a woman are in love, the emotional value provided by the woman is richer when they are together, and the man will look at and solve the problem more directly and objectively. For example, women may have conflicts because their male partners are not delicate and romantic, and men will have conflicts because their female partners are too sensitive, which can lead to the breakdown of family and couple relationships. Therefore, psychological factors may be one of the causes of the antagonism between men and women.

4. The Influence of the Opposition Between Men and Women

4.1. Family tensions

The antagonism between men and women will lead to problems and challenges in family relationships, which will have a greater impact on family communication, children's growth, and family atmosphere. First of all, when men and women are opposed, it can lead to barriers in family communication. Men and women in the family may have disputes due to disagreements, and in more serious cases, domestic violence may occur. For example, in the movie "Women in the Storm", the heroine Xu Min was subjected to long-term domestic violence by her husband because she was too strong. This reflects the fact that many women want to break free from the public stereotype of "male dominance and female dominance", but are forced to give up due to biological differences with men. Second, the antagonistic family environment of men and women will affect the growth of children. The opposition between husband and wife often makes children feel at a loss, and frequent disputes can also make children afraid to communicate with their parents, resulting in introverted and low self-esteem. Finally, the antagonism between men and women can make the family atmosphere tense and oppressive. The prospect of family breakup can also cause children to feel fear and stress, which can lead them to learn wrong emotional patterns and even fear marriage. Overall, the antagonism between men and women will affect the harmony and stability of the family, and more communication and respect are needed to resolve it.

4.2. Population decline

The emergence of the antagonism between men and women will also have a great impact on the country's population, and there will be an imbalance in the sex ratio between men and women at birth, and a decline in the fertility rate. There are unequal treatment of women's education and employment opportunities and traditional stereotypes about women, which lead to limited choices for women and affect reproductive decisions. In the long run, this has led to an increase in the absolute number of males relative to females, which in turn leads to an imbalance in the ratio of men and women, affecting social development, and even the emergence of a single male society. For instance, due to social tension and instability caused by the antagonism between men and women, many young people have begun to have negative attitudes towards marriage and having offspring, thus reducing the fertility rate. Meanwhile, due to the rapid advancement of urbanization and the rapid development of women's higher education, women have begun to pursue gender equality and realize more self-worth than raising children [6]. In summary, the antagonism between men and women will lead to a decrease in trust between men and

women, which, combined with the pursuit of gender equality by modern women, will affect future population growth.

5. Conclusions

Over time, both men and women have evolved and changed their own genres of oratory. At the same time, with the progress of the times, more people are still aware of the importance of gender equality and have begun to advocate for equality between men and women. Despite this, the unequal status of men and women and the antagonism between men and women still exist, and the emergence of this phenomenon is due to factors such as physiological, psychological and social influences between men and women. Physiological factors are reflected in the different physiological structures of men and women, resulting in great differences between men and women in terms of behavioral expression, emotional expression, and social division of labor. Psychological factors are reflected in the differences in gender identity and psychological needs, resulting in differences in emotional expression, communication styles and social skills between men and women. Social factors are reflected in the public's traditional gender expectations and unfair treatment of men and women, resulting in the inequality of gender roles in society. The intensification of the antagonism between men and women will have a negative impact on the family, the country and society. First of all, the antagonism between men and women will lead to problems and challenges in family relationships, and children will become inferior and introverted in the deformed family ecological environment. Additionally, the antagonism between men and women will lead to a decline in the country's population, and due to gender antagonism, the trust between men and women will decrease, which will lead to a decline in the country's fertility rate and a serious aging of the country. Finally, gender antagonism will affect social harmony and be detrimental to the development and growth of adolescents and the shaping of values.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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