

**A PHILOSOPHICAL AND LEGAL QUESTION ON GENDER
EQUALITY AND INEQUALITY: ARE MEN AND WOMEN EQUAL
IN THE UNIVERSAL SYSTEM AND EYES OF THE LAW?**

A DISCUSSION POINT

BY

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A great man, to the essence of what greatness signifies, must not only be a good listener; neither does he seek applause or ego recognition for being above a woman. Rather, he seeks the road to happiness by giving others the honor and respect he wishes for himself.

In establishing a law and a penalty corresponding to the degree of human nature, it is not enough that legislators give to one gender of humanity a greater role and right than the other. Surely, one of the most undeniable rules of justice would be that, without being forced to, men and women, in every relationship—be it in marriage, friendship, society, community, organization, or the workplace—have equal rights, just as the rich and the poor should be equal before the law.

Nevertheless, the promoters of the doctrine that a man is greater than a woman and, therefore, that a woman should be placed under mental and social slavery, is to me, illogical.

In response to this issue that the doctrine of gender equality emerged—to curtail the continual abuse of women in society because they are

inferior to men and must be subservient to men. Proponents of the doctrine of male superiority over females and promoters of male chauvinism and misogyny have often predicated their arguments on religious texts.

The principal precept is from the Bible, 1 Timothy 2:12-14, which states:

“But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding, she shall be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.”

The above text , in its reasoning , raises three contradictory and unrealistic positions.

First, it appears to maintain that women are inferior and have no right to make opinion.

Second, it indicates that a woman sole duty is to give birth to children.

Similarly, though not identical, the Biblical precept appears to be partly corroborated by the Islamic Quran, Chapter 4, Verse 34, which says:

"Men are in charge of women by right of what Allah has given one over the other and what they spend for maintenance from their wealth. So righteous women are devoutly obedient, guarding in the husband's absence what Allah would have them guard. But those wives from whom you fear arrogance—first advise them; then if they persist, forsake them in bed; and finally, strike them lightly."

The underlined phrase, "strike them lightly," raises the question: I was wondering what strike them means. What does it mean for a woman whom a husband might deem arrogant? I do not have mastery of Quranic interpretation as I do the Bible, so I will leave it at that).

Returning to the Biblical verse, 1 Timothy 2:12-14, I dare say that such a passage reflects human ego and social constructs rather than divine truth. They are among the contradictions found in religious texts that have been inserted based on human bias.

After Truth, the other two realistic concepts that represent God are “Love and Justice” A just God could not have created humanity only to place them in a hierarchy of inequality between men and women.

All forms of inequality in life are human constructs and rooted in subjective perspectives.

Over the centuries, women have struggled to define their rights, raising the question of whether one human being—by virtue of a specific identity—has the right to condemn or limit the rights of another when both are creations of God. This gave birth to the subject of gender equality.

This movement has led to the establishment of several legal instruments affirming that gender equality is a fundamental human right. One such initiative is the United Nations Joint Program on Gender Equality (JPGE), which aims to create a society where women and men have the same opportunities, rights, and obligations.

Among a plethora of international legal instruments asserting the rights of equality of men and women, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Form of Discrimination against Women (1979), calls on countries and everyone to embody the principle of the equality of men and women through law and Order or other appropriate means, and prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex.

It is an undeniable truth that gender equality is one of the most fundamental human rights. It implies that men and women, boys and girls, regardless of class or race, are equal in value. They should enjoy equal rights, have equal access to opportunities, and deserve equal respect and responsibilities.

Having considered the subject of gender equality, particularly from the perspective of international human rights law, let us now turn to the theological aspect of equality between men and women.

If we go back in time to the story of Creation, we will observe that human beings --- of both species were created equally. That is because the Creator, God Almighty, who is proclaimed to have created human beings in the likeness and image of being of God, made them so - equally. We came to understand this point of view, especially on the part of the Bible- Genesis chapter 1:26-28; on the story of creation

“ And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing.”

The phrase let us make, thus indicates a singular-source-but pluralistic God’.

In our future lecture, we will come to an unpopular and controversial discourse on the fact that God is both Father and Mother God.

Someone once asked me “Does God have a wife?”, I answered “yes, God is just a self-made husband and wife”, and as so demonstrated , there is a third dimension of God- which is why the early Christians coined the concept of TRINITY, same which is represented in all creations. In electricity, for negative wire to produce current, it must be joined with the positive wire, and in every creature and texture ever found in the Universe.

So the same is true of man. Man and woman were created same time, same moment. This demonstrates why no one among them is higher in value than the other. All what is needed is a balance of vibration to produce harmony.

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