

Feminism



Harriet Martineau is often credited as being one of the first female sociologists. Others include **Sylvia Walby** and **Anne Oakley**



Feminism is a movement to achieve the **political, social and economic equality** of the sexes. There are various branches of Feminism and there have been different waves of Feminism throughout history.

Feminism is a **conflict theory** that suggests there is a conflict between males and females as society is **patriarchal** – i.e. it is male dominated



First wave Feminism was concerned with women gaining political equality with men and culminated in the **Suffragette and Suffragist** movements of the early 1900s and led to women being given equal rights to vote



They suggest **women are controlled by males** in all spheres of life: family, education, work, law, media and religion



Second wave Feminism was concerned with women gaining social and economic equality, challenging gender stereotypes and unfair working practices – this led to legal reforms such as **Equal Pay and Sexual Discrimination** laws in the 1970s

Third wave Feminism was concerned with tackling the inequalities that women faced everyday and also the differences between women's experiences. This movement dealt more with the **intersectionality of gender and class, ethnicity, sexuality and (dis)ability**

