

Marxist feminism (information and evaluation)

Socialist feminists aver that women are members of social classes,
Significantly affecting gender relations which change as the class structure does
Capitalism is the main beneficiary
Of women's subordination - said subordination has several social functions:
women are a source of cheap labour as they are dependent partially (on husbands);
a reserve army of labour for economic booms and recession since their role is primarily
in the home;
They reproduce the labour force through unpaid domestic labour i.e.
Nurturing and socialising children to become the next generation of workers,
additionally
By maintaining the current workers – their husbands, **Ansley (1972)**
Says wives are 'takers of shit', consequently they should overthrow capitalism

'Star Wars' ep 5
released

Conversely **Barrett (1980)** proposes a non-economic factor that is also key
To subordination and must be subverted: the 'familism' ideology
Wherein the nuclear family and its sexual division of labour is rooted in normality,
Portrayed as the only place where women can be fulfilled through motherhood, sexual
satisfaction and intimacy

Additionally, **Mitchell (1975)** notes Freud's psychoanalytic theory:
In that even if capitalism were overthrown
Ideas about femininity are implanted deeply in women's subconscious mind,
Complicating the subversion of capitalist ideology

Ultimately, Marxist feminists seek a revolution to a communist society
Whereby the communally owned means of production will eliminate gender inequalities
They typically seek more sweeping changes whilst socialist feminists
Argue the possibility of change within a democratic system

A02

+They emphasise structural factors such as the paramount economy
-Yet don't explain subordination in non-capitalist societies though Marxist feminists only
seek

to explain the position of women in contemporary capitalist society

'An American Werewolf
in London' released

-**Hartmann (1981)** claims Marxism is 'sex-blind' (men could also perform unpaid
domestic labour)

-Additionally, they ignore how men oppress women independently of capitalism

-It's not proven that unpaid domestic labour is the most cheap

Way of reproducing labour power e.g.

It could be done more cheaply through the market or state provision i.e. publicly
Funded nurseries

+Conventional Marxists can't explain why sexual discrimination exists

Whilst socialist feminists emphasise 'sex' and 'class'

Black feminism (information and evaluation)

Brewer (1993) views the basis of Black feminist theory

As an 'understanding of race, class and gender as simultaneous forces'

They are disadvantaged due to being black, women, and w/c

- with each inequality reinforcing and multiplying each other

'Jurassic Park' released

Mirza (1997) proposes a need

For distinctive Black British feminism since they can oppose the distorted ideology ;

Offer 'other ways of knowing' and invoke 'critical race/gender reflexivity' into mainstream academic thinking'

Specifically, they can subvert the image of black British women as passive victims of racism, patriarchy and class inequality;

The sexually available exotic other; the controlling asexual mother

And show how they've been 'brave' enough to develop alternative family

Forms promoting women's autonomy;

To oppose activities of police and immigration authorities and tell their own story

'Spawn' released

Collins (1990) argues a 'racist bias' in feminist theory

Which has 'suppressed Black women's ideas'

Being white m/c woman-centric

Hooks (1981) agrees, claiming black women in the USA didn't unite for women's rights

Since they didn't view 'womanhood' as key to their identity

And points to **Sojourner Truth** in the nineteenth century

Who responded to white males in 1852 at a women's rights movement in Ohio

Stating that she could 'work as hard as any man' and if black males did succeed

They'd dominate women similarly. Additionally

Collins (1990) says slavery

Shaped all relationships black women had e.g. with employers and families

Given their employment in white families

Black women could see 'white power demystified' and subsequently

Develop a 'distinct' view of the contradictions

Between the dominant groups' actions and ideologies

AO2

+Black feminists focus on race in contrast to 'sisterhood' as with the mainstream

Murphy claims black women's splinter groups has led to analyses

Recognising the importance of ethnicity

+**Bourne (1983)** claims the neglect of racism is an example of irony

Since black culture heavily influenced the women's movement (slogans, organisational blueprints)

Additionally, white feminists are lukewarm with racism since subverting it would significantly

Alter the power structure granting them social, political and economic privileges

-**Anthias** claims the racism model ignores Britain's 'non-black' minority women

Such as the Chinese; obligations and obedience varies according to culture and ethnicity

'Star Wars' ep 6 released