

Feminism

And the family

The background of the slide is a solid light beige color. On the right side, there are several thick, wavy, light grey lines that flow from the top right towards the bottom left, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Marxist Feminism

- The family is patriarchal
- Domestic labour services and supports the capitalist economy
- Ideological role of the family
 - Children learn to accept authority
- The family is an obstacle to gender equality in employment
- The functions of the family should pass to other agencies

Radical Feminism

- Similar to Marxist feminism
- Emphasises the family as a patriarchal institution
 - Domination, exploitation & oppression of women
 - Domestic & sexual violence is part of this
 - The organisation of society allows the domination of women
- Solution – changes to structure of society

Criticisms

- Feminist viewpoints tend to ignore the diversity of family forms
- They focus on the negative aspects of family life
 - The possibility of women being satisfied within the family is ignored
- It is difficult to see an alternative to the family
- White feminists have ignored issues of racism and the ways in which this may change women's experiences
- Too much criticism of the family, too few constructive ideas