

Gender Equity, Ethics and Feminism: Assumptions of an African Ubuntu Oriented Society

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ABSTRACT Feminism is a key transformative movement which impacts on women's rights and has been an essential and important influencer on critical theory and, although, pursuing its very distinct agendas, has assimilated aspects from theories such as Marxism, Deconstruction and to an extent Postmodernism. What is especially interesting is its schema to comprehend the nature and contrivance of male oppression and the way in which the fairer-sex experiences this oppression. The experience of African women in an Ubuntu oriented society, such as South Africa, is particularly important to understand, since this is a suppressed discourse requiring greater analysis. By interpreting feminism and feminist ethics in African society in a way which allows it to view itself in new forms, the researcher seeks to provide an overview of feminism as well as the role of ethics in African culture. The present research, thus, serves to promote gnosis as well as deeper understanding of the philosophy of Ubuntu and will assist in determining where African women fit in the scheme of universal expression.