Feminist movements in Ukraine as a basis for formation of gender consciousness of students

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The survey embraced 120 students of the 2\textsuperscript{nd}-4\textsuperscript{th} years of studying from the departments of psychology, tourism and hotel management, political science and history in Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University. The correlation of respondents was 58 males and 62 females.
Masculine image of a leader

- domination-subordination,
- strength-weakness,
- power over
Men as leaders

- politics (73% of men and 65% of women);
- business (60% of men and 65% of women);
- education (47% of men and 40% of women);
- medicine (54% of men and 48% of women).
Women as leaders

• politics – 15% of men and 27% of women;
• business – 37% of men and 75% of women;
• education – 45% of men and 58% of women;
• medicine – 41% of men and 52% of women.
Gender consciousness

• system of gender images (constructs),
• which are based on norms, traditions, stereotypes, existing in certain culture, society (circulating in a social-cultural space of a personality), concerning the peculiarities of male and female models of self-representation,
• which define attitude towards acceptance or non-acceptance of such models.
Results of the survey (questionnaire)

• 60% of students did not understand the essence of feminism, could not explain the notion of gender;
• 45% believed that such knowledge was unnecessary for them;
• after completing the course “The theory of gender” the situation has considerably changed – 85% of respondents stated the necessity, applicability of gender problems, feminism.
Aim

- To define key aspects of the feminist movement, which influence formation of gender consciousness of students in Ukraine.
Peculiarities of Ukrainian feminism

- Equal rights for all (eradicate illiteracy);
- Educational activity among women;
- Fight for social and national rights;
- Charity;
- Emphasis on traditional appearance
First wave of women’s movement in Ukraine (latter half of the 19th c. – early 20th c.)

First women’s organization in Ukraine “Women’s higher education aid society” was established in 1840 in Kharkiv and fought for the women’s right for women’s access to higher education (in 1860 such permission was received; Higher women’s courses were established in Kyiv, in 1880 – in Kharkiv).
First Ukrainian feminist

The writer **Natalia Kobrynska** noticed a significant contrast between the condition of Ukrainian and European women.
“The society of Rus women” 1884, Stanislaviv (Ivano-Frankivsk)

The aim of the society was propaganda of women’s issues by means of literature, lectures and corresponding publications in the Ukrainian language, contemporary situation and contemporary fight of women, and raising consciousness of Ukrainian women in this direction and triggering among them the movement, similar to the women’s movements in other countries.
17 women-writers from Halychyna and Ukraine were involved to the project: Hanna Barvinok, Olena Hrytsai, Uliana Kravchenko, Sophiia Okunevska, Anna Pavlyk, Klymentyna Popovych, Mykhailyna Roshkevych, Liudmyla Starytska, Lesia Ukrainka, Olha Franko and others. It was the first anthology of literary works by Ukrainian women in 1887 under the title “The First Wreath”.

Literary miscellany, which united Ukrainian women.
The “Women’s society” was the first Ukrainian civic women’s organization (Ternopil, 1900). The aim was to develop national consciousness of Ukrainian women by means of educational circles, courses, plays, concerts, charitable events. In 1917 it was renamed into the “Union of Ukrainian women”. In 1930 it comprised 60 members.

The aim of the “Union of Ukrainian women” was activation of women’s activity, raising the level of their educational and economic level, participation in the world women’s movement etc.
First Women’s Congress in Stanislaviv (Ivano-Frankivsk), convened on June 23, 1934 on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the first Ukrainian civic women’s society, established by Natalia Kobrynska.
Ukrainian women’s movement became more intense at the beginning of the 20th century: women’s newspapers and magazines saw the world with the large circulation, women’s organizations were actively developing.

The Soviet regime officially granted the woman a full range of legal rights, at the same time banning the activity of independent women’s organizations. There were created women’s departments, which were holding communistic agitation campaigns among women, eradicating illiteracy.
The world federation of Ukrainian women’s organizations

Presentation of Ukrainian women in the world

Deсятий Конгрес - Торонто 2012
Ukrainian women directed their creative forces at establishing national religion and ideals in the society, contributing development of the spiritual culture of the people, educating a new generation of youth. There are over 700 women’s organizations.
Thank you for your attention!