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MONOGRAPH

**“HOW HAS THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN BEEN PROMOTED IN THE
DIFFERENT FIELDS FROM THE MID - 20TH CENTURY TO THE PRESENT?”**

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Gratitude

I would like to start writing this monograph with a somewhat affective entry, so I will start by thanking some people who had a significant influence in making my decisions in the student field, and with their help, today I feel very motivated to develop this monographic theme. It is important to mention my grandparents in the first place because they are the ones who have instilled in me the values of perseverance and responsibility throughout my life, and my parents, who have taught me the importance of being dedicated in any area of life. It should be noted that the Javier School has had a great weight in me too, this is part of my career as a student; I would like to especially thank teachers in the area of Social Sciences, a subject for which I am intrigued when I am writing my monograph, because they are a fundamental part of my education and are responsible for my interest in this branch of science.

Summary

The monographic work that deals with how the empowerment of women within the different branches has been promoted from the mid-twentieth century to the present, has been developed so that whoever reads it, can capture and fully imagine the root of the problem for a better understanding of the rest of the body of the monograph; and is that the discord between the masculine and feminine gender is a subject very visible at present, although it is not discussed directly, it's a situation that we face daily and that is remote from the appearance of roles in a society. For this, it's written taking into account the three bases described below.

The first chapter of the monograph work is responsible of entering into the contextual framework of the topic, so it is based on summarizing a description of the beginnings of this problem, the same causes that led to this problem still standing. It is important to remember that this originated in the beginnings of humanity, because a society is forced to assign roles within it to function, this is the beginning of a division that will transcend to this day. The key words of this social struggle of a female face are male chauvinism and feminism, the ideological currents arising from the arrogant feeling of both genders, with the difference that one arose from another.

Without further anticipation, the second chapter contains a very clear example of how women have spoken out against the male chauvinism feeling, which prevents them from standing out in a society where it is impossible to feel justice for them. Finally, the third chapter seeks to find solutions that diminish this social resentment that affects both genders in many ways, it also raise awareness about the importance of listening and treating each other equally. (300)

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Introduction

The present monographic work whose theme is *the empowerment of women within the different branches* and how this has been promoted from the middle of the twentieth century to the present is important to instill knowledge about the effort that the female population has gone through since the beginning of the development of humanity. The present monograph also aims to recognize the significant role of the female gender through the presentation of cases, with the purpose of attributing importance to the influence of women during the last century; raise awareness of who reads this monographic work about the social struggle that these positive changes have generated, of the cost that the female population has had to pay for the sole reason of being women and finally describe the cause for which they have been inspired to make this fight one for the rights of them and make it remain in force today. For the realization of this monographic work, some references have been taken from different sources, among the main ones are *Women's empowerment, conceptualization and strategies* (Martínez C.), *Knock down the house* (Lears, R. & Olson S.) y *INMUJERES* (García M.). It can be said exactly that the empowerment of women is not yet fully reflected, because in Ecuador, as in many other parts of the world, large gaps are still being faced in different sectors. For example, in Ecuador, one of these is that of the workplace; where women spend 46% of their total time per week on work while men 40%, despite this, a survey conducted by INEC found that men receive higher pay than women. The present monographic work consists of expanded and selected information, so it is composed of three chapters as follows: chapter one is called The empowerment of women, being its sub-themes Her appearance in history, Causes, Ideologies, Male chauvinism and Feminism; the second chapter is called Background, being its subtopics Empowerment cases,

Knock down the house and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez; finally, the third chapter has the title Alternatives to this problem, being its subtopics How to implement solutions focused on reducing male chauvinism and Applied strategies and measures to be taken. (358)

Chapter I

The empowerment of women

1.1 Her appearance in history

In order for the female gender to be recognized as potential within any society, those women had to suffer and go through many ideological, sociological disputes and even political disputes.

Quintana (2014) says: “It is from these historical and social constructions that in each historical and cultural context the masculine and the feminine have been defined, the "should be" of women and men: the conducts, actions, and responsibilities that correspond to them, (...).”

(p.32). Behind these events we can recall that these were the main reason that motivated what we now determine as gender equality; because thanks to the discrimination, whether direct or indirect, that the woman went through, it is due to her current debauchery and expression, and socialization was achieved in the same gender margin.

It is known that two million years ago the first groups of human beings created the first communities, they began being nomadic until they soon became sedentary. From this moment, while they lived permanently in the same place, it was when they were forced to develop the first roles (the role that each individual would play) within a circle of people in common, at the same time this would lead to a good coexistence. In a categorical way, the woman was mainly placed as an instrument for agriculture and other domestic activities while the man was positioned as a hunter and element of superior power within their different tribes, only men were able to occupy a position of this magnitude. Labañino (2012) says: “The woman was relegated to the domestic sphere according to the division of labor between the sexes; during that time it was developed an ideology that still determines the image of women and their role in social life, (...)” (p.2).

“-The first antagonism of the classes that appear in history coincides with the development of antagonism between men and women, (...). And the first class oppression, with the female sex for the masculine” (Labañino, 2012, p.5).

This fact can be considered as the first social division in the history of humanity, and from this moment a specific stereotype is formed for both men and women, and marks what would be the beginning of a long struggle between these two classes of sexual gender.

1.1.1 Causes.

For women, it has not been easy to be heard and considered with the deserved respect within a society, as I mentioned before, there are historical events that have marked a significant line that usually divides the masculine gender of the female gender. It is important to highlight that in order to finally achieve this right, oppression and exclusion were implicated, situations where they were forced to react to this ideological corruption with respect to gender.

“The history of women was practically unknown, (...). But, rather, we should see this development as part of a set of historical circumstances that have allowed women to act more freely than in any previous generation” (German, 2013, p.1).

Next, I will gather certain ways of thinking together with examples that involve the participation of women, to help us to understand how the empowerment of women has been promoted over time. It is not a short period when we situate ourselves in a time where this change was realized, on the contrary, it comprises a long process influenced by repetitive scenarios that have been dragged before from the feminine point of view.

1.1.1.1 Ideologies.

As a consequence of these disputes, certain ways of thinking have been developing over time, which in some way mark a significant separation within a society instead of encouraging a correct coexistence of the same, because these thoughts contradict an egalitarian environment at the moment of creating such differences in the form of ideologies. I consider that this set of ideas or principles of a social nature can also be called doctrines, which correspond to the name of male chauvinism and feminism; I mention this pair first because these are the most well-known,

outstanding, frequent and influential principals within this context, and it is important to know them before continuing to evaluate this process.

1.1.1.1.1 Male chauvinism.

Instead of giving you an exact definition of this term, I would like to explain it through some concrete examples of everyday life for a better understanding of the topic; before this, I will use the next quoted phrase to then make a reflection on what male chauvinism entails. Giraldo (1972) affirms:

If his wife dares to show some independence or threatens him in front of another man, he must beat her in order not to lose prestige in the presence of his friends. The male as the owner of his wife, should not allow her any freedom, otherwise, he lowers himself. (p.5)

Indirectly, this extracted phrase demonstrates the main idea of the male chauvinist thought, which defends the opinion that the masculine gender tends to be superior to the feminine gender by nature, depriving value from the mediation of women, denigrating their integrity as a human being and as a woman, and making the unfolding of her word and her expression impossible. Returning to the phrase, within this can rescue important aspects that are involved in the proceeding of male chauvinism; I consider that three key elements are presented:

The first element relates to the influence of society in the creation of a certain behavior in men who present a male chauvinist profile, this is evident when the husband was given two possible situations between raising his ego by incapacitating his wife or "losing his fame of macho" by not doing it; mistakenly inventing a concept of what is apparently right and what is wrong. Going into the psychological environment of people, we can notice that men and women grow

independently with a false concept like the one I raised above, which forces us to differentiate ourselves according to our gender and defines some stereotypes that end in exclusion between the opposite sexes.

The second element implies the woman's desire to be free, to be really heard and considered in the same way as men. In the text, the male chauvinism promotes gender inequality by placing men in the role of head of a family, where immediately the role of the woman becomes insignificant and begins to be seen as an object. Male chauvinism makes it common for her to be denied the self-determination of her actions and these depend on the pleasure and power of her husband over his wife. At present, there are still women who feel oppressed, are humiliated and are in the frustrated search for freedom and intent to emancipate, and this is one of the main causes of their early empowerment in history.

This previous aspect comes hand in hand with the third and last element involved, this corresponds to the violence caused by men towards the female gender. Although in the quoted phrase is pronounced verbatim that the man hits the woman to "make respect his manhood" and is related to an act of violence, we do not always refer to this term with the sole intention of associating it with physical aggression, so violence can also mean a really bad threat to the life of women. People have the right to enjoy their freedom in an equal way, but for women this has been a challenge considering that there is abuse against us, taking away the possibility of living in decent conditions like our aggressors (OHCHR, 2013). Normally in most cases, violence against women starts from feelings similar to male chauvinism that derive from the lack of awareness about the importance of gender equality, foolishly believing that there are those who

are superior to others and unfortunately has caused a negative social impact, the same that has been developing since the mid-twentieth century to the present.

1.1.1.1.2 Feminism.

Just as male chauvinism focuses on the masculine individual in the first place because men are the ones who manage this position, feminism is a movement made up of feminine attitudes that do it in the same way but with the women in charge. But what is it that makes feminism different and special, of male chauvinism? Personally, as an inexperienced but informed woman, I think that feminism arises as a result of male chauvinist behavior, and instead of overshadowing the role of women demeaningly, it seeks to change the male chauvinist ideology logically for a common improvement.

So, the difference between these two concepts is extreme and lies in each of its purposes; the purpose of feminism is to promote equality between women and men, to suppress labels, to end violence and to demand rights through manifestations of historical power encouraged by the feminine mind. There are those who think that feminism was made to be a similarity of male chauvinism and deduce that it leads to this and vice versa, however, feminism has revolutionized as a social, political and cultural doctrine to put an end to male chauvinism. (1497)

Chapter II

Background

2.1 Empowerment cases

In this new chapter, after analyzing the historical context of this problem, after having studied male chauvinism as its main cause and finally conceptualizing the term of female empowerment as a social struggle present since the beginning of humanity, I will enter this time to demonstrate how this feminist idea has had a positive impact during these last two centuries through the

support of cases and I will also identify what is the main factor that generates in the assumptions of the "weak sex" the much desired thirst for savoring real justice, while they continue in their vain attempt to reach true gender equality, one that does not limit women to conform, much less a false equity that prevents the fulfillment of their rights by one hundred percent.

What until now has been granted justly, for all in an equal way, is a collective environment that allows the free action of people in general; but in the case of the feminine individual, this civil right still remains partially unnoticed, and this fact has been ignored in such a way that the woman is deprived of living with the same normality with which the man usually does. As time goes by, this situation becomes worrying in the eyes of the female population, and including me, we consider that it is time to ask ourselves a question thought by the majority rationally but confronted by the minority out of fear, to what extent will we allow this problem to be without controversy with which it should be treated?

Reflecting the previous line, it is about the alarming response as a consequence to this question, where the purpose of my second chapter starts; and it is that on repeated occasions there have been cases that demonstrate the strength of the feminist movement against the denigrating male chauvinism ideology, which obscures the potential that the opposite sex can achieve in different tasks from which it is excluded. Considering that there is an interrelation between both genders and also that we are dealing with an issue that directly affects relations within a society, this can be considered a political as well as social discord. Lears, R. (director) & Olson S. (producer). (2019). *Knock Down The House* [movie]. USA: Netflix referred to the feminist movement as the most efficient and effective peaceful social revolution of the entire twentieth century, this gave rise to liberal women with fiery political ideas that would promote cultural change that the world

demands. It is for this reason, that I am going to describe certain cases in particular that are linked to the branch of political science, for the explanation of these feminine interventions that have culminated in significant achievements for the history of women, I consider that it is the one that has received the most influence from us.

2.1.1 Knock Down The House.

This title comes from a kind of documentary whose roles as main characters are starring four female faces with dominant characteristics that are similar, and whose content was published in May of this year on Netflix, an American online platform that reproduces content of all kinds of entertainment, therefore, we are talking about an issue of this last decade. The name of the documentary focuses on what was stated in the introduction above, where women take command and earn respect in territories where they are not used to seeing each other, nor to position themselves efficiently "as a man would."

This encompasses the success of this group of women with the desire to be capable and with the illusion of being equally worthy of receiving a public office, in this case being part of the government as congressmen after a long time without applying alternation in their corrupt representatives. From the beginning, a very modern idea is presented about the process carried out by revolutionary women, with the dream of inspiring the rest of the people to join this movement that is mostly feminist in nature. I mean the majority and not one hundred percent, because each of these women has different purposes, very different or very close to the elimination of male chauvinism, however, what I want to highlight is the competition that will create the strength of all united. Lears, R. (director) & Olson S. (producer). (2019). *Knock Down The House* [movie]. USA: Netflix: said: "She said: you shouldn't show your emotion, because

woman are consider fragile if you do. You need to be more of a bitch. We work harder in these races just because we're women, we aren't rich, white dudes in suits" (wp). Swearengin is one of the women who will interpret this film represent the idealization of the feminine empowerment that we are looking for so much in this retrograde society.

2.1.1.1 Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez.

This young woman with twenty nine years old activist and politician of the American country reached the majority of votes in the New York primary elections in 2018, obtaining the lucky victory and defeating her opponent Joseph Crowley, the fourth most feared leader in the congress. But it was not easy to achieve this, the story of how she came to occupy this position was remote a short time ago and represented a constant struggle that provoked continuous criticism towards her integrity by conservative sectors that conspired against her, at that time it is seen implied male chauvinism for underestimating her attributes as a professional. Because she was inclined to the Democratic Party, her political interests were based on the defense of working class families, which in relation to gender inequality, in this situation a specific group of the population is also ignored for reasons that go against the ethics and morals of a person. Lears, R. (director) & Olson S. (producer). (2019). *Knock Down The House* [movie]. USA: Netflix affirms:

For women, getting ready involves so many decisions about how you are gonna present yourself to the world. Because there's kind of standard protocol for how a man running for office, like, should dress. You're either put on a suit or you put on shirt color white and cloth pants. (wp)

Unlike others, she did not look for either the right or the political left, she was looking for a middle point that she called up or do90wn, she was outraged that eighty one percent of those who made up the congress were men, mostly skinned white, with titles of lawyers and wealthy.

Despite the humiliation of receiving comments that she is not a typical candidate, she used that difficulty and transformed it into an ingenious advantage with which she expressed her rejection of the search for regular candidates for the government, such as certain corrupt like Joseph Crowley. Without looking completely, this factor is the axis on which the cause of my monographic work revolves, I am talking about the key to starting a change is to get out of the traditionalism in which we are stuck. In the case of Ocasio, the problem was the lack of opportunities for a certain segment of the population and the creation of a stereotype in politics that mostly involves men of high social class. With the female gender it happens in the same way, the male chauvinism that leads to gender differences is a product of customs collected by an archaic culture that remains in force until today, whose principles designate what is or is not right to do according to man and women, it is not healthy for us to still be this way. (1253)

Chapter III

Alternatives to this problem

3.1 How to implement solutions focused on reducing male chauvinism

At this point in my monographic work is where we really question ourselves about where we witness and in what ways we can show that empowerment, which we are talking about so much by the female gender. More than a specific action, such as the previous case of the American

policy Alexandria Ocasio Cortez in charge of the congress in her country or as the stories of many other women like her, it is really about the force as a whole that these actions have been generating, the simple fact that this feeling of struggle has prevailed regardless of exclusion and that, despite the fact that there are factors that are against it, a movement as firm as the famous male chauvinism has been consolidated, with the difference that this arose in search of equality as a result of thoughts guided to phalocracy, this time with a feminine face as a leading figure and with the name of feminism, thanks to this women would no longer be a scream not heard in the air, now we would be the union of many more.

In view of the fact that certain rights are not granted to women or are mostly rights violated corruptly and inhumanly, it has truly awakened the desire to end this situation permanently; and as a consequence they have been forced or obliged to make themselves heard and respected through striking manifestations that vary according to the case and that have given their results in favor of this cause. The objective of these women is none other than that of retaking what they should have belonged from the beginning, and the positive effect it has had on society is significant; Personally, I consider that the last years are the ones that have had the most public repercussion and those that have the most important for each of these fighters. There are people who have the audacity to call this set of necessary actions, a movement of a rebellious and immoral character, but we know that every cause has its effect, and those feminist statements are nothing more than the result of the accumulated indignations that have faced the female population in their constant struggle to overcome the line drawn by male chauvinism.

3.1.1 Applied strategies and measures to be taken.

The repetition of these cases against them has encouraged the formation of several feminist organizations that fight for different reasons but have the same purpose of restoring tranquility and providing a dignified life; these gigantic masses are initiated mainly by women who have generally been victims of different types of abuse, also participate in the lack of respect for those of our gender or who are simply aware of the patriarchy still in force in the middle of the twenty-first century. It is inevitable to go unnoticed the favoritism of a sexist character towards the masculine gender in our society, it is for this reason that this is visible in areas such as social, professional, family, sports and even interferes in the personal sphere of women. Next, I will mention what have been some of her responses against this treatment that directly implies male chauvinism, among her most recent pronouncements and those that have presented the most controversy are the following:

One of the issues that have caused more controversy is about, if the abortion is correct or is an immoral issue, if it must be legalized or penalized, if practicing an abortion is safe or puts life at risk for many women and girls; and it happens that the answer can be seen from many points of view, for example, someone who is devoted to a religion such as Catholicism will see inhuman taking the life of a person who is not born yet, but it is also atrocious to force a girl to skip her childhood and living with the trauma of a rape without first receiving the opportunity to decide on her own body. Castello (2008) affirms: “Women are the main actor in such an important decision, it involves us directly to face an unwanted pregnancy, in a country where abortion is punishable and its practice is carried out in conditions that put our lives at risk” (p.20). Women want to stop taking clandestine measures and want to feel supported by the legal side, which is why they have organized mobilizations in different parts of the world that claim for the

decriminalization of abortion and have almost succeeded, as is the case in Ecuador, where the difference in votes in the General Assembly was only five. Although they did not achieve it, it must be taken into account that this problem was remote some years ago and that the persistence of the famous wave of women who paint the city of color green will soon achieve a big change led by feminists.

Another color just as important as green is purple, because with this we identify the women marching against different types of violence and we can still speak for those who have been silent. Many crimes have ended the lives of many women, the most painful thing is that they have been forgotten and the cases have not received legal advice that demands justice for them and sentencing for their aggressors. We live in insecurity in a world where going out in the streets in a skirt means being provocative and therefore a violation is “the most normal”, where prosecutors do not do their job and where the only culprits are the victims. Once again male chauvinism is the reason and the problem that we are humiliated in many ways, we lose credibility and security in front of everyone and this deserves more attention from us.

It is not the same to hire a man as a woman of childbearing age and with many possibilities of becoming pregnant, maternity leave and a subsequent reduction in working hours are factors that definitely affect discrimination against women in the workplace (INMUJERES, 2016). Speaking of the professional field that involves the economic side, women have also made themselves heard to end the great difference that represents the labor gap between genders and gradually achieve their full economic autonomy. I will use the case of Mexico, because it is the Latin American country that has the highest rate of underemployment, however, its government agreed to create a law that promotes labor equality between men and women, after conveying requests

and efforts from the National Women's Institute. The Mexican Standard requires the same remuneration for performing work of equal value, thanks to this the public centers will have a certification that guarantees that they comply with this requirement for the benefit of both genders.

Now, the actions that we must take must be real and constant as the feminist movement that we have inspired, because during this time, norms of coexistence have been implemented but they have not been carried out in their entirety, which are two very different things. We must make both men and women work in the same jobs, share the same respectable and professional environment where they can access jobs worthy of work and the opportunity to obtain quality promotions. We must promote political leadership in female characters, normalize the fact that a woman stands out as a visionary, businesswoman, within the police force or similar where the traditional stereotype is guided to masculinity. For those who continue to be victims of the macho tendency, we must help create awareness of the consequences, educate the population so that they are able to sensitize and generate their own opinion on this fact, give talks to women and girls to inform themselves about how to enjoy our rights and teach us not to shut up in the face of such a problem. And within what is in the hands of more powerful institutions because everything lies in them, justice must be made palpable for girls and women, being accessible for free, training legal services for a good performance of their work, far from the system corrupt in which we live falsely.

To get into the subject and be able to recognize the reason for such controversy, let's start by looking at it in the following way: the word gender is a very broad term that, as far as we are concerned, it usually refers to differentiate man from woman as male and female gender,

however, the first thing we think of when we hear the phrases such as gender violence, gender inequality, sexist violence, domestic violence or others, is in a girl, teenager or woman victims of oppression behind a macho and oppressive society. How will we be able to change reality if we keep our principles intact? Then, the main causative factor of this problem starts from the upbringing we receive and how we develop according to these.

Carmona adds that the patriarchal structure is a structure of violence that is learned in the family, reinforced in civil society and legitimate in the State; In this system there is no understanding or deep acceptance of women as persons, nor as autonomous citizens subject to rights. (Muñoz, 2012, p.16)

It is time to become authentic, start thinking in a real and different way, change simultaneously over time and act without facilitating male domination. (1560)

Conclusions

At the end of the investigation and writing of this monographic work, it can be concluded as follows, mentioning that:

1. Male chauvinism is an ideological current, led mostly by men, which encloses all mediocre thoughts or actions whose characteristics are based on diminishing the importance or validity of the female gender against society.
2. With respect to what I mentioned in the previous paragraph about the fact that this ideological current is not only led by men, because it is also prudent to recognize that the cause of this has been developing belongs in part to women, we are guilty by allowing us not to be treated with the same equality and having been silent for a long time.
3. One of the reasons why women have been stuck in a society of retrograde thoughts is the fact that generation after generation is being educated so that the male gender differs from the female gender by nature. Then it is advisable to say that one of the options that would have more impact and greater change would generate in terms of the solution of this problem, can be given from the home taking measures in the training of young people, because in them are the conditions of their In the future, we must try to eliminate that mentality of a sexist nature that is limited to designating what is right or not depending on the gender to which you belong.
4. Despite the fact that the woman has had obstacles throughout history, these caused in circumstances such as the discrimination we have talked about, in recent years she has managed to stand out in a significant way in different areas, which has meant that now society sees women with different eyes and is currently also accepted as a capable, free and independent individual.
5. Now, women have the facility to access to the same rights as men, for example, the workplace is one of the fields that has undergone the most changes, now allowing women to exercise in places such as a podium, the presidency, the army, the police force, among others. These were jobs that were considered only for men before, for sexist reasons that

question whether or not a woman is skilled or dictates that she does not require qualities that "only a man could have." (389)

Recommendations

After elaborating the body and the conclusions of the present monographic work, it is necessary to take into account that the following aspects are important to recommend:

1. Given the situation that puts women on a lower level compared to the male gender, and that as a consequence brings almost the entire female population to feel unable, in the

face of uncompromising measures and a life that lacks dignity, the recommendation

would be that of generate security for them in some way, providing them with an

environment where justice can be felt and the law is put into practice, which must come

from both our representatives and our citizens in search of an area of equality.

2. Foster a good coexistence and instill good principles in the population, because the way

of acting of an individual is mainly part of their education, one of the steps would be to

leave aside the violence that lead many marches, strikes and female demonstrations of all

kinds; but it is worth mentioning that they fight for the same purpose for which this

monographic work was written, so that they are finally recognized and truly included in

society, it is necessary to stop feeling vulnerable and rejected. (203)

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