

FEMINISM

Feminism is the pursuit of equality between men and women. Feminists seek economic, political, social, legal and personal rights for women that are equal to those of men.

Feminist campaigns have campaigned for major societal changes such as voting rights, reproductive rights, greater political representation and fairer pay. But there is still a long way to go until men and women lead truly equal lives.



ECONOMICS

The word 'economics' comes from the Greek word 'oikonomia' meaning 'household management'. But nowadays the meaning of 'economics' has expanded to mean the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services.

When we analyse the economy we investigate the psychology of human behaviour and decision-making.



What is FEMINIST ECONOMICS?

FEMINIST ECONOMICS

Values the role of unpaid work carried out by men & women, in the home & through care work

Acknowledges that the economy depends not just on the production & distribution of goods and services, but on *co-operation & care*

Recognises that *relationships* influence how our economy functions

Recognises that the interests of members of the same household may differ and that resources are not necessarily *shared equally*

Acknowledges that the *complexity* of human lives cannot always be quantified



FEMINIST ECONOMICS

Feminist economics promotes economic equality between women and men. The activities, behaviour and decisions of men and women have a major impact on our economy. But mainstream economics has a tendency to be based on men's lives and recognises only work that is done for money.

A feminist economics perspective recognises the paid and unpaid work of both men and women.



MAINSTREAM ECONOMICS

Has a tendency to prize *money, machines & men*

Measures paid work in *Gross Domestic Product* (GDP), but fails to count the contribution of unpaid work

Fails to recognise *non-market activities* as important to the economy

Builds its picture of the economy as consisting of people motivated by *self-interest & material goods*

Assumes that the influences on people's decisions can be objectively quantified & tends to build economic theories that depend on *mathematical models*