Overview

Feminism is not one simple theory or philosophy. While the many types of feminism have the same goal of equality of the sexes, the differences are in the beliefs of the cause(s) of that inequality and consequently, differences in the methods to correct gender inequality. In other words, there are different types of feminism because there are a wide variety of viewpoints and understandings about inequality and oppression and how to address them.

Related Resources:
- *The Tribal Goddess* submitted by Eugenia L. Weiss (Appendix A)
- *Members of Get Lit perform "Somewhere in America"

**Black Feminism**

Black feminist thought, produced by African-American women, is intended to express Black women’s standpoint (Hamilton-Mason, Everett, & Hall, 2009), which includes core themes of racism, sexism, classism (along with other forms of oppression), and what women do to resist. Black feminists are attentive to the diversity of Black women's experiences and expressions of consciousness regarding these core themes, and the interdependence of Black women’s experiences, consciousness, and actions (Hill Collins, 1990). A core goal of Black feminism is to empower Black women by recognizing how gender, race, and class intersect and are socially constructed. Black feminists articulate that liberation of black women entails freedom for all people, since it would require the end of racism, sexism, and class oppression (Hill Collins, 1990).

Related Resources:
- *Felicia P. Fields, Lachanze and the cast of “The Color Purple” perform "Hell No!"
- “Black Feminism” video by Johnnie Hamilton-Mason
- *Supplemental Readings (Appendix B)*

**Feminism in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Through the pedagogical tool of *testimonios*, social work educators can inform students about Chicana Feminismo and Mujerismo. *Testimonios* are a way of story-telling used in
the Latino community to share knowledge. Chicana feminists have adopted the term to bring awareness from everyday life experiences in order to provoke understanding through critical thinking. Through testimonios we can engage in reflecting on identity and diversity using theory as a foundation for this reflection. The main purpose of testimonios is to bring forth awareness, understanding, and in many cases healing, which are powerful to social work practice.

Related Resources:

- [Feminism in Latin America and the Caribbean resources submitted by Elithet Silva-Martinez (Appendix B)](#)
- “Introduction to Feminism in Latin America and the Caribbean” video submitted by Eli Silva-Martinez
- “Introduction to Feminism in Latin America and the Caribbean” video submitted by Eli Silva-Martinez (en español)
- “Based on the book, Stories of the Struggle: Women in Puerto Rico” video submitted by Raquel Delgado (en español)
Appendix A: *The Tribal Goddess*

by Eugenia Weiss, University of Southern California School of Social Work

The feminine cauldron of the archetypal goddess lies in each of us through our consciousness, wisdom and motherhood brings the cosmic energy of birth.

Healing and chanting as united worship, in pain and loss while simultaneously embodied in life-giving; a balance of harmonies we declare a global vision of strength and courage from the misunderstood priestess of universal love and transformative justice.

She speaks a Kundalini of illumination and creation of mother earth as a symbol of divine mystery, forever magical, must be heard as the voice of a lioness protecting her young.

Primitive inspiration, a moon force, that unites us in a drum beat of breath to continue our struggle for totality, out of repression and fear, with a vision of feminine consciousness and power against the greed and dark side of humanity.

She raises us in unison with her sisterly tribe, in sand storms, forever untold sacrifice of spirit that feeds the hungry for light and blossoms of peace.
Appendix B: Supplemental Readings

Black Feminism


Latin American and Caribbean Feminism


