

**MA in Women's and Gender Studies
(MAWGS)**

ASSIGNMENT
(July 2019-20 Academic Year)
First Semester



School of Gender and Development Studies

Indira Gandhi National Open University

Maidan Garhi, New Delhi - 110068

MA IN WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES

ASSIGNMENT for MWG 001
(2019-20 Academic Year)

Assignment No.	Submission of Assignments by the Students
MWG-001/AST/TMA-2019	Please check submission deadlines on the IGNOU website or by contacting your Regional Centre.

As explained in your Programme Guide, you need to complete one assignment for each course of 8 credits. Last date of submission for all assignments is mentioned above. **Please contact your Regional Center regarding any further updates regarding assignment submission.** With proper planning you will be able to do them within the stipulated period.

Kindly note that examination forms for Term End Examinations will only be accepted if you have submitted the assignments by the given deadline at your Regional Center/Study Center. Include your name, enrollment number, programme code, course code and e-mail ID on the submitted assignment.

PLEASE ALSO READ CAREFULLY INFORMATION REGARDING ASSIGNMENTS AND STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM PROVIDED IN THE PROGRAMME GUIDE.

Programme Code : MAWGS
Course Code : MWG 001
Course Title : Theories & Concepts in Women's & Gender Studies
Assignment No. : MWG 001/AST/TMA-2019

Note : The assignment requires you to attempt **TWO** essay type questions. The recommended length for each answer is 1200-1500 words. **Maximum Marks: 100**

Statement Regarding Plagiarism: Please write all answers in your own words. Assignments with plagiarized material (copied directly from course books or any other external sources) will not be accepted. Please read statement on Plagiarism provided in the Programme Guide.

Attempt the following two essay questions (50 marks each).

1. Read MWG 001, Block 5 Unit 2: 'Feminism and Psychoanalysis'. Now imagine that Kate Millett and Nancy Chodorow get the miraculous opportunity to go back in time and meet Sigmund Freud, with whom they have a conversation about his ideas on female sexuality. Present this conversation between the three characters in the form of a dialogue.

AND

2. Read MWG 001, Block 3 Unit 3: Legal Issues: Case study of Section 377. As you may be aware, the Supreme Court of India read down Section 377 in September 2018. However, civil rights (such as marriage, divorce, inheritance, adoption and surrogacy) still remain out of the reach of the LGBTQ community. (see for example, <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/after-historic-section-377-verdict-govt-set-to-oppose-same-sex-marriage/story-usQCbLH8uawdZZQ8hueupL.html>)

Many members of the queer community support the battle for equal civil rights. However, marriage and family have also been critiqued as patriarchal institutions from a feminist perspective (see, course material for MWG 002 "Gender and Power", Block 4 Unit 1).

Present alternate views on the debate about civil rights such as marriage and divorce for all members of society, including the gay community. What is your opinion on this issue? Justify your position based on your readings.