



Study Of Rebecca Maria Torres As A ‘Feminist’ In Geopolitical Perspective

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Abstract:

Rebecca Maria Torres is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography & the Environment and holds a post of Associate in Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS) at the University of Texas at Austin. Her areas of interest include migration, gender, children’s geographies, rural restructuring in Latin America, and activist/engaged scholarship. As a feminist, Rebecca was not simply taking notes, in a courtroom normally observing the things which was masculinist, going on, but she was making spaces of migration controls & telling what can expect some unexpected findings in what she was doing as a feminist with geopolitics on her mind. In my present research, I need to momentarily uncover to you the likely occasions that will happen in the fairly not so distant future. The world's nation-states are competing for limited resources in our current economic and political structure. For the time being, that will remain the case. Spirit has provided us with sufficient resources to support the entire planet's population. However, our self-centred and avaricious sides of humanity are also in play because we live in a polarized world.

Keywords: *Migration, Gender, Children’s geographies, Feminist, Rebecca Maria Torres, feminism, Geopolitical feminism.*

Methodology:

Points may be discussed in this study:

1. Description of Feminism, its types & criticism.
2. Some special fieldwork along the border with Mexico. As a result of this she is able to give a great deal of feminist rhetoric:
3. A feminist, user of geopolitical strategy.
4. Giving meaning “Role-playing: a feminist-geopolitical analysis.

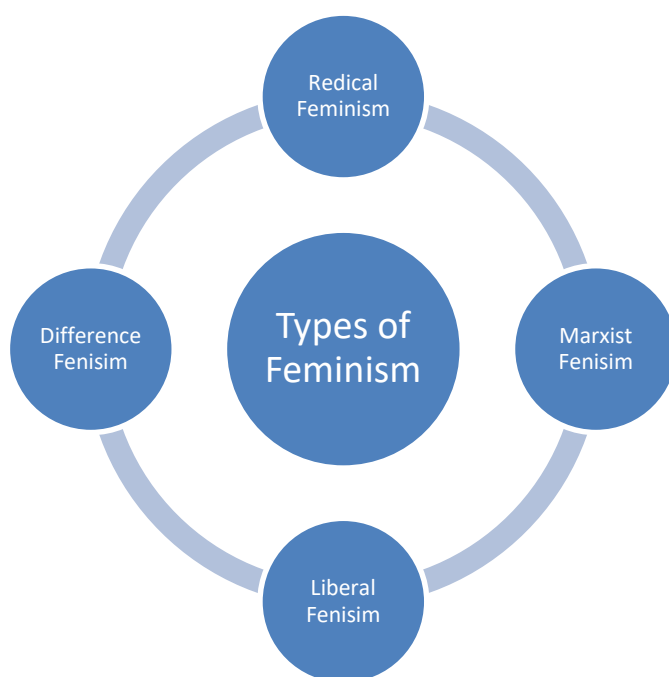
Detailed discussion:

1. Description of Feminism, its types & criticism.

Feminism is an approach analyzes the differences between the inequality of men and women and significant forms of inequality, the society's norms of gender are usually constructed by the societies that are not determined by biology. If this issues be studied thoroughly the patriarchy factor is the prime cause of gender inequality – women are considered subaltern as in the society or family men have more power. Since its starting the 'Feminism' is to be considered a movement that is related to the politics & its motive is to resolve/abolish the inequalities based on gender.

Types of Feminism

Universally, there are following four types of Feminism –



❖ Radical Feminism

In this type, women are to be considered an item of oppression, as the men, to have the benefits try to exploit the women and usually in this type of feminism all the blames of exploitation of women on men. Since, now most of the families, Society or countries are having patriarchal atmosphere, which is dominated by the father figure or you can say ruled by men. Here men are considered themselves the ruling class, and women are considered the subject class. This type of feminism involved the study of Rape, domestic violence & women pornography; adopted methods to secure or maintain their power over women.

Further this type is also distinguished between two groups of radical feminist by Rosemarie Tong:

1. Radical-libertarian feminists (who believe eradicate gender differences)
2. Radical-cultural feminists (who believe in superiority of the feminine).

Criticisms of Radical Feminism

- The concept of patriarchy has been criticised for ignoring variations in the experience of oppression.
- Some critics argue that it focuses too much on the negative experiences of women, failing to recognise that some women can have happy marriages for example.

- It tends to portray women as universally good and men as universally bad, It has been accused of man hating, not trusting all men.

❖ **Marxist Feminism**

As cleared from the name, in this Capitalism is the main cause of oppression or principal of source of women's oppression rather than patriarchy. For capitalism, Women's, usually, plays number of unavoidable functions, they reproduce a free labour force for them, a woman easily absorbs anger & keep her husband going as the husband supports his wife and children, so, he is more dependent on his job. In this type of feminism the position of women is her lack of ownership of property or means of production, a consequence of the emergence of private property. However, the women, who belong to ruling class are more sensitive and that there is a scope for co-operation between working class women and men. But, Marxist feminists believe that gender inequalities will disappear in Communist society,

Criticisms of Marxist Feminism

- Other sources of inequality such as sexual violence are ignored in Radical Feminists.
- The second criticism is that the experience of women will not be happy in communism.

❖ **Liberal Feminism**

Existing disparities on the basis of gender affect both men and women. Gender inequality can be explained by society's culture and values more so than by its structures and organisations. The result of being socialised into gender roles is the creation of fixed, unbiased expectations of men and women. Equal chances for women are hampered by discrimination. Liberal feminists advocate changes to be made within the current system, not through radical change. Liberal feminists' primary goal is to create equal opportunities, as evidenced by laws of equal wages and for annihilation of Sex Discrimination by the way of Act. The goal of liberal feminists is to eradicate sexism from children's literature and the media. The most significant influence on women's lives has undoubtedly come from liberal feminism; mainstreaming is just one example.

Criticisms of Liberal Feminism

- Based on male stereotypes and preconceptions, such as independence and competition, it evokes women to become more like men and, as a result, gives a little weight to the importance of traits like empathy that are typically associated with women. The blame against liberalism is that it prioritises public life over private life. Radical and Marxist Feminists: It ignores more pervasive structural injustices. Difference, it is primarily based on the experiences of middle-class, educated women, according to feminists, who claim that this viewpoint is ethnocentric.

❖ Difference Feminism/ Postmodern Feminism

In this type, women are not considered to be one homogenous group, feminist philosophy before it, was criticised for asserting a "false universality" (white, western heterosexual, middle class).

- Criticised the essentialist viewpoint of earlier feminists

Previous feminist philosophy was criticised for being a component of the masculinist Enlightenment Project. Instead of focusing on "politics and opportunities," postmodern feminism is more concerned with language (discourses) and the link between power and knowledge. An illustration of a postmodern/destabilizing theorist is Helene Cixoux.

- Criticisms of Difference Feminism

The Patriarchy, an objective social system, continues to oppress women. Separating women's subgroups hurts this movement of change.

2. *Some special fieldwork along the border with Mexico. As a result of this she is able to give a great deal of feminist rhetoric:*

In her article, "Rebecca Torres: Another Arrogant and Wrong-headed Feminist" Rebecca Maria Torres, did some special fieldwork along the border with Mexico. As a result of this she is able to give a great deal of feminist rhetoric. It is very important to mention a quote of her paper, which shows her efforts & achievement, counted a mile stone in her works as a feminist:

"Feminist geopolitics provides a lens of analysis through which to explore the ways global political processes, such as migration control, are intimately experienced by marginalized subjects through every day practices of officials acting as the state."

The Ethnographic observations, which were of a higher order than what any non-feminist can hear or understand. It follows that there are people who observe and those who make ethnographic observations, the latter of which includes feminists like Torres.

She continues by saying that she is promoting accountability, kindness, and hospitality towards newcomers while working "through a feminist ethic of care, social justice, and action."

Torres, considers the Feminist geopolitics as a conceptual framework & believes that over the past two or three decades a group of some powerful feminist geopolitical analytic, in Rebecca's foundational treatise it is argued for a feminist political imaginary that transcends unsettles. In the early works of these critics they have given very importance these two things; to think clearly on the issue of grounding of geopolitical discourse & the international representation to the geographies of everyday life to be linked. This group of Feminist geopolitics, while embodying & decentring the notion of the also focusing on remediates conventional geopolitics, placed the people in front & center, for analysis, who are subject to inequality and violence of women, children, migrants, LGBT, refugees etc. Hyndman, another critic, similar to other feminist thoughts, she adopted an attitude of argument & challenging by asking for a shift from macro-scale state security to the micro-security of people, and asked 'security for whom?' by declaring 'Gender' that it is not only a critical variable, but it is associated with disparities, inequality, violence or oppression by the ways of race, ethnicity, sexuality, gender identity, age, and disability & by this way all the Feminist geopolitics thought beyond the boundaries of a theoretical work & presented a

new angle of action with the inclusion of politics, directly from the side of that people to whom they want an improved condition. Through analysis, in addition to social, political or economic factors, these feminist geopolitics generated some accountable ways to understand the intersections of place & power and accordingly, these factor, opened a new kind of analytical potential to connect the world and in which ways that clarify the individual experience.

Rebecca, beyond the limits, by following the feminist research ethic, led a path to this study in order to place her account of everyday constraint in border, legal, and carceral contexts. As a person who has lived in areas with significant Latin American migrant populations, she was interested in migration for a very long time & despite of being a middle-class Cuban American woman who works full-time in academia, she felt a great sense of obligation to work toward a better understanding of and response to attacks on refugees and immigrants. In her works, she also speaks about the contribution of some other scholars, who are dealing with this issues like; Amy Thompson, a policy analyst who has worked with unaccompanied children for more than 15 years and has returned to UT to finish her PhD in social work, and Oscar Hernández, an anthropologist from COLEF Matamoros who has conducted research with unaccompanied children in shelters on the border areas, as these team members have all made contributions to the research from which Rebecca gives examples in a variety of ways and finally, she makes no attempt to differentiate between immigrants, migrants and refugees in this piece. As a matter of fact, Torres purposefully employ the terms "refugees," "asylum seekers," "immigrants," and "migrants" interchangeably.

No doubt, her research and volunteer work lead her to concluding that many Central Americans and Mexicans qualify for legal protection or relief under the Convention against Torture (CAT), the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Travelling or Crime Victims Visa Program, Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS), and other laws. Additionally, she concurs with others who point out that the definitions of protection under the asylum laws need to change to account for contemporary forms of displacement and that they are becoming hazy, especially in light of enforcement & exclusion.

3. *A feminist, user of geopolitical strategy.*

Torres, a feminist, typically uses a geopolitical strategy to manage migration. And while talking on this issue she reveals that in the present history of the United States of America, she is dealing with both the anti-immigrant & anti-refugee administration by the inauguration of the administration of Trump. As after Trump, the Obama's administration was famous for making records in making harsh policies & for deportations of migrants and refugees of Latin America. In addition to outsourcing enforcement to Mexico, reintroducing migrant family detention, upping "family unit" raids, and speeding up immigration court hearings, the rapid expansion of U.S. Homeland Security migration control encompassed all of these measures. These state deterrence and enforcement tactics made women and children from Mexico and Central America seeking refuge more susceptible to violations of their legal and human rights.

In order to examine the personal and embodied aspects of migration controls, Torres takes a feminist geopolitical perspective. This approach grounds the state's operations in the routine, every day, and commonplace actions of state officials as well as in the experiences of weak but stubborn women and

children who are refugees. She critically investigates the routine state practices of U.S./Mexico migration enforcement in three areas: border security spaces, legal spaces, and carceral spaces, using examples from two research projects and personal experience as a volunteer. Instead of an "immigration or refugee crisis," she also argues, the structural and systemic crisis of rights and responsibility which are currently experiencing, reinforced, and reproduced, is habitually being used by border and legal administrators. Using a feminist care ethic, migrant and refugee tales of daily constraint may be used in resisting rights violations and promoting responsibility, humanity, and hospitality towards newcomers through justice, care, and action.

4. Giving meaning "Role-playing: a feminist-geopolitical analysis:

Apart from the above, in her article "Role-playing: a feminist-geopolitical analysis of the everyday workings of the Mexican state", Rebecca emphasized that although participatory approaches are becoming more and more crucial to geographical research on a base "every day," their probability as a tool for comprehending actual geopolitical processes has received less attention. By supporting the use of a specific participation instrument — role play — in this paper she adds to the increasing body of literature on participatory research in geography and feminist geopolitics, by applying this methodology, in a case study while conducting research with Central American immigrants residing in the Mexican border city of *Tapachula, Guatemala* & provides an example of our use of the technique.

By doing so, she offers a thorough analysis of the usage of role play and shows how effective it is at revealing immigrant women's daily interactions with low- to mid-level state actors as they try to exercise their legal rights. This concludes that role play, with its stimulation of creativity, embodiment through performance, and facilitation of a thorough discussion of challenging subject matter, is particularly well adapted to disclosing these experiences.

Conclusion:

From the above discussion, it is gathered that Torres Maria Rebecca, as some other feminists, did not simply observe by sitting or simply observing the trials, but she analysed it with the help of geopolitics of her mind. She promoted accountability, kindness, and hospitality through a feminist ethic of care, social justice, and action by arguing for a feminist political imaginary that transcends unsettles in her treatise. Despite of being a full-time academia, she felt a great sense of obligation to work, response to attacks on refugees and not forgot to mention the contribution of some other scholars, who are dealing with these issues. And gave a new meaning to the existing terms "refugees," "asylum seekers," "immigrants," and "migrants" interchangeably.

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