Горинова Ю.А.

Научный руководитель: ст. преподаватель К.О. Мацкевич Муромский институт (филиал) федерального государственного образовательного учреждения высшего образования «Владимирский государственный университет имени Александра Григорьевича и Николая Григорьевича Столетовых» 602264, г. Муром, Владимирская обл., ул. Орловская, 23 email: yuliagorinova2002@yandex.ru

The impact feminism does on the modern society

Nowadays, feminism is a quite widespread and popular movement that aims to define and establish the political, economic, personal, and social equality of both female and male sexes. In everyday life many of people are struggling with the stereotypes and restrictions based on one's gender, which we find completely unacceptable. Feminism is trying to fight for the rights of women and break down the stereotypes, but some people often substitute concepts and depreciate the feminists' job. That is why we are willing to explain the impact of feminism and maybe change people's minds on that subject.

Most people currently hold the opinion that feminism has outlived itself and is no longer needed by society. Women have already received equal rights with men, and the issue of gender equality can finally be considered closed. But if the movement still exists, it means that some problems have remained unresolved. So, for instance, some of the most pressing issues modern women struggle with are sexual harassment, domestic violence, the pay gap between men and women, eating disorders and body image, sexual and reproductive rights, honour crimes and female genital mutilation.

Sexual harassment is, unfortunately, quite common problem which women could face in the wide variety of settings: it could happen in the childhood, at the school, streets or even workplace. Sexual harassment can take different shapes such as unwelcome touching, gesturing, commenting and other physical interacting of many kinds. Regarding of this, the statistics say that 97% of women has ever been harassed, which is still not quite accurate accounting how many of them are scared to talk.

The problem of domestic violence in general is even more taboo, especially in Russia. At the legislative level, only administrative punishment of the rapist in the form of a fine is fixed. Women have already been afraid to seek help on their own, and now it seems almost impossible to get out of the cycle of domestic violence. This happens due to the social attitude so-called "do not take out the trash from the hut", as well as the pressure exerted on women by phrases like "beats means loves", "tolerates - loves", "beat a woman with a hammer, a woman will be gold", "if you want to live soul to soul, shake your wife like a pear" and so on, and also the opinion that it is important to endure for the sake of children or for the sake of literally anything else.

This is where the feminism is trying to help. Due to the lack of specific legislative enactments many social organizations were founded. For example, "Nasiliu.Net" (No To Violence) is a large project unique for Russia that is aiming to break the silence about domestic violence and make the problem visible. The Center is actively engaged in educational and informational activities, as well as targeted aid to survivors of domestic violence. Their job is to assist and support people in overcoming the traumatic experience and helping them to make a fresh start. The other center of such kind is "Sisters" - a center for helping survivors of sexual violence. An important distinguishing feature of both centers is providing help in the form of psychological assistance for both victims and the abusers. However, the main part about it is that they have to understand their issue and seek for that help, but that's how any therapy works.

Thus, it can be understood that with all the problems we have listed above, feminism is continuously fighting to this day. Gender discrimination, the problem of employment, education, rape and emotional abuse – all this is just the tip of the iceberg. The significance of my work is to disseminate relevant objective information about feminism and the ideas of feminism to establish equal rights and opportunities in society.