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Second wave/phase of feminism saw a more radical edge in feminist movement that was present in theories of earlier period. Radical feminists not only demanded equal rights but also asserted superiority of women over men. They want women to be an intuitive, nutrient, supportive and sisterly whereas men are rational, competitive, aggressive and patronizing. They prioritized the battle against sexism to the battle against capitalism or that against legal and political reform that is liberal feminism. Instead of redistribution of rights and resources, they proposed a ‘revolutionary political shake up of society’. They considered sexist subordination of women as the fundamental form of oppression. The concept of Family was as central means of oppression through ‘sexual slavery and forced motherhood.’

Features of the movement:

1. Their main objective was to have women’s control on their own bodies specially the rights to abortion.
2. To protect against domestic violence

3. To pose an essential femaleness which women must seek to reclaim beyond the structure of the patriarchal family.

In the starting years of the second wave of feminism or basic theoretical assumption was that the 'cause' of women's oppression should be specified. Different feminists, however, offered different causes such as 'male control of women sexuality' **radical feminist's cause**. But it was a common consensus that all women were oppressed or subordinated and reasons for their oppression lay in socially defined structures of patriarchy. The agreement however has given way to more heterogeneous set of ideas, which, arise from different sources. In the 1980s and 1990s feminist's social theory has influence the post structuralism and post modernist analysis. Following post-modernist emphasis on difference and plurality. Feminist theorist have argued on difference and plurality. Feminists theorists have argued that traditional feminist's analysis tended to reflect the viewpoints of white women of North America and Western Europe. During post-Independent period feminism in Indian English literature and philosophy was largely a western feminist's movement. It got sustenance from our freedom struggle under the dynamic humanitarianism of Mahatma Gandhi, Independent spread of education, employment opportunities and law for women's rights. Postmodernist and poststructuralist thought associated with

feminist theories in a complex manner. While on the one hand feminism was fighting for equal subject's position and had its roots in liberal humanist's tradition, on the other hand it joined hands with poststructuralist theories of deconstruction as an oppressed and marginal viewpoint.

Feminist critics such as Elaine Showalter and Helene Cixous have introduced exclusively female branches in feminist critical and feminist writing respectively. 'Gynocriticism' put forward by Elaine Showalter is form of feminist criticism which restricts itself to the study of women's writing and the writings related to female experience 'Critique Feminine' proposed by Helene Cixous is a branch of French feminism, which, signifies a particular kind of female writing which undermines logic and rationality of the dominant male order.