

READING PART 3

4 of the most remarkable feminist thinkers or activists

Frida Kahlo: She was a Mexican painter. Although she moved in the atmosphere of the great Mexican muralists of her time and shared their ideals, Frida Kahlo created a painting that was absolutely personal, naive and profoundly metaphorical at the same time, derived from her exalted sensitivity and various events that marked her life.

Simone de Beauvoir: In 1949 Simone published *The Second Sex*, one of the cornerstones of modern feminism. There she postulated that women are not born, but are made, as part of a construction of society. Historically, the philosopher affirmed, women have been relegated to secondary roles, an oppressed existence where no space is left for transcendence but only for immanence. And women, slaves to their bodies through reproduction, would be forced to remain in the patriarchal system. Of course the book caused controversy and was even considered pornographic. Today it is a fundamental text for the genre.

Marie Curie: She was a physicist, mathematician and chemist, an expert in the field of radioactivity. She was the first woman to receive the Nobel Prize in Physics and Chemistry, as well as the first woman to teach at the University of Paris. Marie married the scientist Pierre Curie and was the mother of Irène Joliot-Curie, who would later also receive a Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Malala Yousafzai: On October 10, 2014, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize together with the Hindu Kailash Satyarthi, an activist for children's rights, becoming the youngest winner of this award.

Both were awarded for their fight against child oppression and for the right of all children to education. Regarding Malala Yousafzay, the Committee stressed that "despite her youth, she has already fought for several years for the right of girls to education and has shown by her example that children and young people can also contribute to improving their own situation. She did so under the most dangerous of circumstances. Through her heroic struggle she has become a leading spokesperson for girls' right to education, the jury added.

READING PART 3

Waves of feminism

First Wave: The right to vote and education

Focused on demolishing the female role as subordinate and subservient to the male, and the political objectives to achieve this were clear: to achieve the right to vote, which would give them the power to access equal education, as well as freedom physical and financial of their male guardians.

Second Wave: radicalization and the sexual revolution

The 1960s and 1970s unfolded within a framework of anti-war movements, mistrust of the state, the civil rights movement, and a growing awareness of social minorities that were not gender or race. Although radical thought within the movement already existed since the first wave, it is normalized and adopted as a fundamental part of feminist procedure. Voices like those of Gloria Steinem, Angela Davis or Dolores Huerta become representative of the movement. The centerpiece of this phase focuses on reproductive and sexual rights, female empowerment, anti-colonialism, and the beginning of an intersectional approach.

Third Wave: intersectionality and queer theory

The 1980s were especially hard for the LGBT community, the public response to the AIDS epidemic made clear the need to create organizations that advocate for the human dignity of non-heteronormative people. Gender and sexuality began to be a conjuncture issue for both feminism and the LGBT movement. The epistemic consequence of this space-time moment is queer theory.

Fourth Wave: a diverse feminism

The above questions are part of the theoretical framework of the fourth wave of feminism that began in the early 2000s, whose central themes are sexual harassment, the standard of physical beauty (bodyshaming) and the culture of rape. We are not talking about simple topics but neither new ones. Feminism has had to resignify itself constantly since its inception. Within this process there are always ideas and perspectives that were "normal" or "positive" in a specific time context but are no longer so in the next.

WORKSHEET 1.3

Activity #1

Write the name of these women who have stood out in feminism according to the photo and their concept

Answer Bank!

- Frida Khalo
- Simone de Beauvoir
- Malala Yousafzai
- Marie Curie

She was a pioneer in the field of radioactivity and the first person to receive two Nobel Prizes in different specialties: Physics and Chemistry.



Name:

She was one of the first artists to express female identity in her work from her own point of view, rejecting the traditional male vision.



Name:

She wrote *The Second Sex*, a work that has been considered foundational in the feminist movement and where the patriarchal education that limited women to marriage and the family was denounced.



Name:

She received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014 in recognition of her work as an activist for civil rights in Pakistan.



Name:

Activity #2

Match the wave number of feminism with the idea of the right side that corresponds to each one

Wave 1

In the interwar period, the feminist movement came to a standstill. Women had won the vote, some began to go to university and, satisfied with these new rights and freedoms, many demobilized. But after World War II, the feeling of malaise appeared again. The women had actively participated during the war and no longer wanted to return to the role of submissive, obedient and accommodating wives. Now they wanted to have their independence, work, have fair wages, control their motherhood and divorce without pressure.

Wave 2

The 18th century is known as the Age of Enlightenment. With this came the Enlightenment and the French Revolution, and the defense of equality among citizens acquired a great role in society. In 1789, in the midst of the revolution, the French National Constituent Assembly approved the Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen. This document, far from supporting the rights of all people, exclusively collected and proclaimed the fundamental rights of men. Being part of the revolution and the enlightened movement, women began to be aware of the oppression in which they lived and decided to fight against it.

Wave 3

Throughout the 21st century, awareness of persistent gender inequality has been growing in the world. Feminism has gained strength globally, giving rise to phenomena such as the massive feminist demonstrations on March 8, 2018 or the #MeToo movement, in which thousands of women denounced their experiences of sexual harassment on social networks.

Wave 4

Also known as suffragism, it emerged in the United States and the United Kingdom in the mid-19th century. In this phase, feminism went from being a purely intellectual struggle to becoming a social action movement.