

Toxic femininity

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The **term toxic femininity** has its origins are interlinked to the concept of **toxic masculinity**.



[ref-calm sage]

About the Toxic masculinity:

- The toxic masculinity means an **authoritarian masculinity** and **misogynistic** men who assert their power through **dominance**, particularly over **women**.
- The toxic masculinity was a term coined by **Shepherd Bliss** during the **mythopoetic** men's

movement in the **1980s**.

- It characterises **homophobic** and **misogynistic speech** and **violence** perpetuated by men.
- Mainly **caused** by the **emotionally** distant **father-son relationships** that leads to the sons growing up under the similar emotionally **distant, violent** behaviour.

About the Toxic femininity:

- The Toxic femininity has **no** consistent definition
- As per the **feminist** perspective, confines **women** to **traditional** and **stereotypical** expectations of **women's** behaviour.
- Women who conform to the stereotype of being **quiet, submissive**, and **accepting male domination** embody **toxic femininity**.
- This perpetuates the acceptance of **men's aggression** as a means of survival.
- Toxic femininity enables **toxic masculinity** by reinforcing the **power dynamic**, as women's submission allows men to treat them as **possessions**.
- **Alternative perspectives** view toxic femininity as a **tool** used by women to gain power within a **patriarchal** structure such as by **manipulation, jealousy** or using their **position** as **victims** to dominate others while appearing **weak** and **powerless**.
- **Conservatives** blame **women** for the **toxic** behaviour **exhibited** by **men** as **men's** actions are merely **responses** to the **toxic traits** of **women**.
 - **Toxic masculinity** is a tool used by **toxic women** to **accuse** men.

About the Gender binary:

- It is a system that classifies **sex** and **gender** into a **pair** of **opposites** that is **man or woman**, that are imposed by **culture, religion**, or other **societal pressures**.
- It classifies all human beings on the basis of two genders and sex.