

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE STUDIES  
FINAL EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER, MAY 2006

TITLE OF PAPER: WOMEN AND POLITICS IN AFRICA  
COURSE CODE: PA 404  
TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS  
INSTRUCTIONS: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

THIS PAPER IS NOT TO BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED  
BY THE INVILGILATOR

**QUESTION 1**

Outline the key features of liberal and radical feminism and analyze their strengths and weaknesses as theoretical tools for explaining women subordination and male dominance in a given society. Use relevant examples to illustrate your points.

**QUESTION 2**

Define patriarchy and discuss why it has become such a key concept in the analysis of relations of male dominance and female subordination in most societies.

**QUESTION 3**

Analyze the relevance of the concept of "Feminization of Poverty" to African societies. Use relevant examples to illustrate your points.

**QUESTION 4**

"The African state has played a crucial role in influencing the status of women in their societies." Critically analyze the above statement.

**QUESTION 5**

Analyze the key factors that led to the widespread participation of women in national liberation struggles in Africa. In your view, what key lessons could be drawn from the subsequent exclusion of women in the post-independence era?

**QUESTION 6**

"The continued neglect of women's interests in many African societies has rendered Africa's democratization experiments fundamentally flawed." Critically discuss the above statement.

**QUESTION 7**

The sustainability of Africa's peace-building efforts is dependent on the full participation of both men and women". Critically discuss the above statement.

**QUESTION 8**

"The role and status of women in most African societies has made them more susceptible to the broader effects of HIV/AIDS". Critically discuss the above statement.