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Kamala Harris's first speech as vice president of the United States: A reflection of feminism on language

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Kamala Harris's first speech as vice president of the United States: A reflection of feminism

Abstract

This study aimed to investigate the manifestation of the Spirit of Feminism in Kamala Harris's inaugural speech as Vice President of the United States. The research aimed to categorize the many manifestations of the spirit of feminism in Kamala Harris's First Speech and examine the statements made in the speech. This study employed a qualitative research design and utilized the Descriptive method. The data was sourced from a transcript video of Kamala Harris, broadcast on November 8, 2020, on YouTube under the channel CNBC Television. The utterances from that video were gathered by selecting and emphasizing the spoken words. The dataset for this investigation consisted of 13 utterances. The analysis revealed 13 utterances, comprising three instances of education equality, three instances of gender equality, one instance of equal liberty, three instances of rights for women as a social class, and three instances of prejudice and discrimination.

EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Introduction

Kamala Harris delivered her inaugural speech on Saturday, November 7, 2020, in Wilmington, Delaware. She wore a white dress and was observed during the live feed of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris' victory speech on the ABC News YouTube channel. The study aimed to examine the delivery of feminism in a speech. The study assesses how Kamala Harris's speech has influenced women in the United States.

Conceptual and Theoretical Framework

Concepts

Prioritizing the emancipation of women, the term "feminism" encompasses political and social ideologies and ethical principles. The perception that women are irrational and emotive prevents them from attaining political leadership positions, thereby diminishing their prestige. Feminism originated from women's aspiration for gender equality with men (Hannam, 2007). The women who produced these works demonstrate their pursuit of equal rights, particularly in education. Subsequently, in the wake of the French Revolution, women began to exhibit a keen interest in innovative ideas. They assert that the bond between genders has been successfully eradicated and has transformed into multiple factions that have rejected conventional ideas about femininity throughout that era and strived to dismantle masculine dominance. In her book on Feminism, Hannam (2007, p.22) defines feminism as the recognition of the unequal distribution of power between genders, where women are placed in a subordinate position to men. The belief is that the societal position of women can be changed due to its constructed nature and emphasis on women's independence and self-governance.

Literature Review

"Language and gender" pertain to the interplay between linguistic expressions associated with masculinity and femininity. Gender disparities manifest in the statements, lifestyles, and perspectives of both men and women (Gu, 2013). The majority of the research's findings support the notion that women are incompetent language users and that their language is inferior. Many feminist academics from many disciplines take the initiative to rethink and reinterpret gender and language in reaction to such "sexist" discoveries. They use a variety of strategies, but two prominent ones are the "dominance" and "difference" viewpoints.

Method

This study examined the inaugural address delivered by Kamala Harris. This study utilized a qualitative research methodology, indicating the need for a thorough examination and the absence of any quantitative conclusions. Creswell (2009, p.33) defines qualitative research as a method for analyzing the responses of individuals or groups to social or human issues.

Results and Discussion

The researcher disseminated the research findings and analysis through a YouTube channel called "CNBC Television" on November 8, 2020, to conduct this investigation. After thoroughly examining Kamala Harris's inaugural speech video, which involved watching her speech on "CNBC Television," published on November 8, 2020, and carefully reviewing the transcripts, I identified and marked the sections of the speech that embodied feminist ideals. Subsequently, the researcher annotated certain words spoken by Harris and assigned numerical

values to the selected sections for the study. Thirteen statements were to be examined within six categories of spiritual feminism, which encompass education equality, gender equality, equal liberty, consciousness against misogyny, women's rights as a social class, and prejudice and discrimination.

Conclusion and Recommendations

Kamala Harris' inaugural address as Vice President of the United States dismantled gender and racial obstacles, acknowledged the hardships endured by previous generations, advocated for harmony, and underscored the significance of female perspectives and inclusivity. The emphasis on leadership in the film exemplified the essence of feminism. Her groundbreaking election serves as a source of motivation for women and girls globally, emphasizing the significance of inclusivity and gender parity in both governance and society.

Keywords: Kamala Harris first speech, Spirit of feminism, Feminist statement, Feminism on language

INTRODUCTION

Although women constitute 50% of the population in the United States, they continue to be inadequately represented in politics (Joseph et al., 2022). During the 117th United States Congress, women occupied 26.54% of the seats, indicating this disparity (Cassidy & Liebenow, 2021). For example, the most prominent governmental positions in the United States are the Vice-Presidency and the Presidency. Traditionally, these fields have been predominantly male-dominated, and women who wish to enter them encounter obstacles (Smith et al., 2007). Based on these assertions, it can be inferred that men have a higher social standing than women. This issue has endured for an extended period. Women had no power whatsoever in this existence. This situation is a result of the inherent dominance of men over women. While this situation continues, women cannot act with the same level of freedom as men due to the limitations imposed on them.

The essence of feminism is the belief that women should possess self-reliance, the ability to assert themselves, and the capacity to safeguard themselves and their own. Feminist women will actively oppose and confront oppression, exploitation, marginalization, and violence. Feminism encompasses social philosophies, political ideologies, and moral theories centered around women's liberation. Women are often excluded from leadership positions in politics due to the perception that they are irrational and driven by emotions, leading to their diminished social standing. Women in society are commonly perceived as responsible for their families' care and well-being, particularly their spouses (Rowlett, 2021). Hence, women must contemplate strategies to attain equitable positions and rights inside their community, which is one of the challenges they encounter. Women should exhibit their ability to showcase their identity and their role in society.

Many groups are fighting for women's rights and interests, and feminism is a global phenomenon (Dewi et al., 2022). As a field of study, feminism is concerned with the fight for gender equality and the empowerment of women (Sam et al., 2019). As an example, women

face social restrictions on their rights owing to factors such as family responsibilities and an unjust lack of opportunities to pursue higher education. The goal of the feminist movement is to improve women's position in society. According to Arif et al. (2022), the movement has become practically ubiquitous in modern culture. Activists began to take action when they realized women's rights were on par with men's (Hannam, 2007). As a subfield of literary studies, it is highly pertinent. Women's literary canon, including their works, readers, language traits, and leadership roles, are all part of this (Ariska & Yanti, 2022). Consequently, a woman can liberate herself from subjugation and dominance.

The term "first speech" refers to the inaugural speech given by a newly elected member of the House of Representatives. Even if a member possesses previous legislative experience in a State Parliament or the Senate, following their recent election, a newly appointed member frequently delivers their inaugural speech in a newly convened Parliament as part of the Reply debate. On several occasions, members selected in by-elections have given their first speeches while discussing appropriations measures, where the typical requirement of relevance does not apply (Handayani, 2021). The suspension of the relevance rule permits members to initiate discussions on measures otherwise subject to the rule.

Kamala D. Harris is Joe Biden's U.S. Vice President. On January 20, 2021, she made history by being inaugurated as the Vice President of the United States, being the first woman, first African American, and first South Asian to hold this office (Cassidy & Liebenow, 2021; Joseph et al., 2022). Throughout her public service career, encompassing positions such as San Francisco District Attorney, California Attorney General, and United States Senator, she was ultimately selected as the Vice President. Kamala obtained a juris doctorate from the University of California. She was born in Oakland, California, on October 20, 1964, to parents of Indian and Jamaican descent. Shyamala Gopalan, the mother of Kamala and Maya Harris, substantially influenced her daughters. Kamala is driven by her mother's counsel to avoid being the final individual, even if she may be the first person to accomplish numerous feats (Immelman, 2020). Nevertheless, according to a survey conducted by USA Today, Kamala Harris currently holds one of the most unfavorable public approval ratings among vice presidents in recent times, standing at a mere 28%. Kamala Harris faced significant challenges on her path to becoming the Vice President of the United States. One contributing element to the current increase in anti-Asian attitudes is the exacerbation caused by the pandemic, with many individuals attributing blame to China for the virus.

Kamala Harris delivered her inaugural speech on Saturday, November 7, 2020, in Wilmington, Delaware. She wore a white dress and was observed during the live feed of Joe Biden and Kamala Harris' victory speech on the ABC News YouTube channel. Harris appeared to be the initial individual to ascend the podium. In her November victory address, the ex-California Senator confidently addressed a throng in Wilmington, Delaware, stating, "Although I may be the inaugural female occupant of this position, I will certainly not be the final one" (Amaireh, 2022).

Thus, the researcher is interested in researching the spirit of feminism portrayed in Kamala Harris's first speech as Vice President of the United States. The study aimed to examine the delivery of feminism in a speech. The study assesses how Kamala Harris's speech has influenced women in the United States.

More than just conveying ideas, language has many applications. This cultural relic exemplifies the disparities in communication among individuals from several linguistic backgrounds. Social factors and cultural norms inherently influence the selection of languages within a civilization. Through its utilization, language has often functioned to expose and assert authority and power. Linguistic abilities possess influence, and societal norms dictating the appropriate speech and behavior for each gender illustrate this phenomenon.

"Language and gender" pertains to the interplay between linguistic expressions associated with masculinity and femininity. Gender disparities manifest in the statements, lifestyles, and perspectives of both men and women (Gu, 2013). The study of language and gender is an interdisciplinary field that explores various speech patterns about gender, gender dynamics, gendered behaviors, and sexuality. Unlike women, who are OK with their subservient positions, men are more preoccupied with power and aspire to be leaders. Men stress clear and straightforward communication, while women use subtlety, implicitness, and indirectness in their speech. They need to articulate their emotions.

The majority of the research's findings support the notion that women are incompetent language users and that their language is inferior. Many feminist academics from many disciplines take the initiative to rethink and reinterpret gender and language in reaction to such "sexist" discoveries. They use a variety of strategies, but two prominent ones are the "dominance" and "difference" viewpoints. One sees the power dynamics between men and women—the dominant and the subordinate—reflected in the linguistic variations between men and women (Mulyani, 2014).

Based on the overarching philosophy of feminism, women ought to possess the autonomy to advocate for themselves, defend themselves and their species, and exhibit independence. Feminist women will actively oppose oppression, violence, exploitation, and marginalization. Prioritizing the emancipation of women, the term "feminism" encompasses political and social ideologies and ethical principles. The perception that women are irrational and emotive prevents them from attaining political leadership positions, thereby diminishing their prestige. As per societal conventions, women must support their families, with particular emphasis on their spouses (Rowlett, 2021).

In the early twentieth century, Virginia Woolf established feminism by publishing *A Room of One's Own* (1929). Feminist femme (woman), derived from the word feminist, denotes a social class of women who advocate for women's rights. The objective is to achieve an equilibrium between feminism and gender relations. In a broader sense, the feminist movement urges women to repudiate all efforts by the dominant culture to marginalize, degrade, and subjugate them, including in the realms of politics, the economy, and routine social interactions.

Feminism originated from women's aspiration for gender equality with men (Hannam, 2007). The women who produced these works demonstrate their pursuit of equal rights, particularly in education. Subsequently, in the wake of the French Revolution, women began to exhibit a keen interest in innovative ideas. They assert that the bond between genders has been successfully eradicated and has transformed into multiple factions that have rejected conventional ideas about femininity throughout that era and strived to dismantle masculine dominance. In her book on *Feminism*, Hannam (2007:22) defines feminism as the recognition of the unequal distribution of power between genders, where women are placed in a subordinate position to men. The belief is that the societal position of women can be changed due to its constructed nature and emphasis on women's independence and self-governance.

Equality in Education

Multiple iterations of educational equity exist. This could pertain to interpersonal connections and protocols inside educational institutions, scholastic achievements, or the availability of educational opportunities. Ensuring educational parity is crucial to enable women to enjoy equal opportunities and outcomes as men in terms of economic self-sufficiency and autonomy. Spouses are more suitable companions for their spouses compared to domestic servants. Women can engage in employment outside of their household in this particular situation. According to Rosemarie Tong (1988), women must acquire an education to support themselves and have opportunities for personal growth. All people have the right to equal opportunities to

obtain an education, which enhances their cognitive and ethical abilities and enables them to realize their human potential fully.

Gender equality

Gender equality refers to the state where individuals of all genders possess equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities. The repercussions of gender inequity extend to all persons, encompassing men, women, transgender, and gender-nonconforming individuals, children, and families. Individuals from many age groups and ethnic backgrounds are impacted (Piscopo, 2015).

Gender equality eradicates rigid gender roles and stereotypes, violence directed at women and girls, male dominance in decision-making and constraints on women's autonomy, and male relationships that promote aggression and disrespect for women. Gender equality is crucial in population and development programs since it enables individuals, regardless of their gender, to make informed decisions that positively impact their sexual and reproductive health, as well as the well-being of their partners and families. Gender equality is a fundamental human right and a prerequisite for a stable, prosperous, and sustainable planet.

Equal liberty

One of the goals of liberal feminists is to attain unrestricted autonomy in expressing their thoughts and actions. Liberal feminism advocates for women's pursuit of freedom due to their occasional lack of rights compared to males and their frequent adherence to societal norms. Many women are deprived of autonomy in their actions and decision-making. Liberal feminism promotes women's autonomy to engage in the same activities as men daily, at a minimum. To achieve sexual equality or gender justice, society must confer women identical political, economic, and educational rights as males. Education is essential for vocations or positions, even without opportunities for political rights (Mukrimaa et al., 2016).

Consciousness opposing misogynistic

Misogyny is the precise term used to describe the intense dislike or hostility towards women. The term is etymologically derived from the Greek terms *misein*, meaning "to hate," and *gyn*, meaning "woman." A misogynist believes that women are inherently inferior to men and hence does not believe they should receive equal wages. Throughout history, misogyny has been widespread, extensively discussed in Western intellectual discourse, and continues to persist in the form of objectification and violence directed toward women (Piñeiro-otero et al., 2021). The following modifications are necessary to prevent the occurrence of excessive proselytists,

even towards women who challenge their societal roles and disrupt the patriarchal hierarchy. They often display arrogant, boisterous, unruly, or defiant behaviors. The social consequences of misogyny on defiant women, who may be derogatorily labeled as witches, sluts, or prostitutes, account for this phenomenon.

Women's rights as a social class

Feminist activists have advocated for women's legal entitlements, encompassing contractual and property rights and suffrage. They have also championed women's bodily autonomy and integrity, including the right to abortion and access to comprehensive prenatal care. Furthermore, they have campaigned for the safeguarding of women and girls against domestic violence, sexual harassment, and rape. Additionally, feminist activists have fought for workplace rights, such as maternity leave and equitable remuneration, while opposing misogyny and all other manifestations of gender-based discrimination.

The rights of women are considered to be fundamental human rights that are safeguarded by international human rights treaties and other legal instruments. These rights encompass several entitlements, such as freedom from discrimination, the right to life, the prohibition of torture, the right to privacy, access to healthcare, the right to a decent existence, and the right to safety, among numerous others. Nevertheless, human rights legislations consider the impact of women's distinct societal situations on their capacity to obtain and exercise their rights (Salaam, 1979).

Prejudice and discrimination

Prejudice is an unjust and baseless judgment of an individual based on affiliation with a particular social group. Discrimination refers to individuals' unjust or unfavorable treatment based on their membership in a specific class, group, or category. Discrimination pertains to observable actions, while prejudice pertains to thoughts and emotions.

Prejudice encompasses intense negative emotions towards another person or group and the experience of these emotions. An individual's employability and potential for success in the workplace might be hindered by unfavorable views and preconceived notions, leading to mistreatment and bias. Individuals' opportunities, well-being, and feelings of agency are all impacted by discrimination. Individuals who are subjected to discrimination regularly may internalize the stigma or prejudice that is held against them, which can lead to ill health, humiliation, low self-esteem, fear, and stress.

METHOD

This study examined the inaugural address delivered by Kamala Harris. This study utilized a qualitative research methodology, indicating the need for a thorough examination and the absence of any quantitative conclusions. Creswell (2009:33) defines qualitative research as a method for analyzing the responses of individuals or groups to social or human issues. In addition, as stated by Cohen (2007:168), qualitative research serves several purposes, such as providing descriptions and reports, generating significant concepts, producing theories, and testing theories.

The researcher extracted the data from the social media platform YouTube. The primary data source for this study was the transcription of Kamala Harris' victory speech. The film was uploaded on November 8, 2020, to the YouTube channel CNBC Television. The video can be seen via the following YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VdwMNexBHc>. Kamala Harris' victory speech resonated with the aspiration of a generation of women to have equal opportunities for success.

The researcher employed the non-interactive documentation strategy to collect the necessary data from the chosen source for this study. This data was used to assess the video and text of Kamala Harris' inaugural speech. The researcher undertook the following steps to gather data: specifically, they watched the video of Kamala Harris' inaugural speech, transcribed the speech, and carefully studied the transcript. Subsequently, identify and mark the potential expressions of feminism, then assign numbers to the marked expressions. The data identified above exemplify the essence of feminism.

Data analysis was conducted in this study after the collection of data. The data analysis technique utilized in this study employed Miles, Huberman, and Saldana's (2014) framework, which involves several stages categorized explicitly into three parts: data condensing, data presenting, and conclusion drawing or verification. The researcher engages in the process of reading, interpreting, learning, and analyzing a single sentence made by Kamala Harris in her inaugural speech in order to acquire the script. Next, the researcher attempts to determine whether the subject matter exhibits characteristics of feminism. Next, the data selected will be scrutinized to ensure its suitability for the analysis of feminism. Subsequently, the researcher condenses them into a table that categorizes and illustrates the essence of feminism.

The researcher collated the data into a table for analysis in this study. Subsequently, the data was presented and scrutinized comprehensively, drawing upon the principles of feminism

theory. The analysis must be concluded and rigorously verified utilizing field-collected data as the final stage of the next several steps.

Spirit Of Feminism in Kamala Harris' Speech

The researcher disseminated the research findings and analysis through a YouTube channel called "CNBC Television" on November 8, 2020, to conduct this investigation. After thoroughly examining Kamala Harris's inaugural speech video, which involved watching her speech on "CNBC Television," published on November 8, 2020, and carefully reviewing the transcripts, I identified and marked the sections of the speech that embodied feminist ideals. Subsequently, the researcher annotated certain words spoken by Harris and assigned numerical values to the selected sections for the study.

Thirteen statements were to be examined within six categories of spiritual feminism, which encompass education equality, gender equality, equal liberty, consciousness against misogyny, women's rights as a social class, and prejudice and discrimination.

Table 1. Spirit feminism in Kamala Harris's first speech

No.	Spirit Feminism	Kamala Harris's First Speech	Minutes
1.	Rights for women as a social class	"We have also witnessed your courage, your resilience, and the generosity of your spirit."	0:03:55
		"It is his love for Jill, who will be an incredible first lady."	0:05:23
		"With a new generation of women in our country who cast their ballots and continued the fight for their fundamental right to vote and be heard."	00:08:01
2.	Prejudice and discrimination	"Black women, Asian, White, Latina, Native American women who throughout our nation's history have paved the way for this moment tonight."	0:06:58
		"Women who fought and sacrificed so much for equality, liberty, and justice for all, including the Black women, who are often, too often overlooked."	0:07:20
		"To root out systemic racism in our justice system and society."	0:10:25
3.	Education equality	"Tonight, I reflect on their struggle, determination, and the strength of their vision to see what can be."	0:08:17
		"But while I may be the first woman in this office, I will not be the last because every little girl watching tonight sees that this is a country of possibilities."	0:08:56
		"Dream with ambition, lead with conviction, and see yourselves in a way that others may not, simply because they have never seen it before, but know that we will applaud you every step."	0:09:27
4..	Gender equality	"Joe's character that he dared to break one of the most substantial barriers that exist in our country and select a woman as his vice president."	0:08:33
		"And to the children of our country, regardless of your gender, our country has sent you a clear message."	0:09:17

		"I will strive to be a vice president like Joe was to President Obama."	0:09:55
5.	Consciousness opposing misogynistic	-	-
6.	Equal liberty	"thank you for turning out in record numbers to make your voices heard."	0:03:31

From the numerous statements made by Kamala Harris throughout the speech, it can be deduced that she expressed admiration for the courage and determination of women in their fight for equal rights. This encapsulates the ideology of recognizing and appreciating the contributions made by women to society, as well as granting them the authority and ability to make decisions and take action. In addition, Kamala Harris acknowledged the significant contributions made by women of all ethnic backgrounds throughout the history of the United States, paving the way for the progress we see today. Furthermore, she underscored the utmost importance of addressing and countering structural racism across both society and the judicial system. Furthermore, Kamala Harris' speech showcased her determination to achieve educational parity and her cognizance of the obstacles encountered by women. Kamala Harris served as a source of inspiration for young women, encouraging them to pursue their aspirations and embrace daring endeavors.

In addition, Kamala Harris highlighted Vice President-elect Joe Biden's exceptional endeavors in overcoming a substantial barrier woman in the United States encountered to gender equality. This message highlights the need to achieve gender equality in leadership positions. Subsequently, Kamala Harris acknowledged the numerous individuals participating in elections to ensure their opinions were recognized. This exemplifies the principles of democracy and the active participation of the community in the decision-making process.

Kamala Harris's message of gender equality and respect for women's roles discreetly emphasized the significance of raising awareness about discrimination and prejudice, although she did not say so explicitly. Kamala Harris's speech exhibited a steadfast dedication to feminist ideals, gender parity, and egalitarianism. Admire the courage and struggle of women to surmount the obstacles in society. Further, this discourse imparts a motivational admonition to the younger cohort, particularly women, encouraging them to pursue their aspirations confidently.

1. Education Equality

Three statements point in that direction according to the obtained data regarding the nature of education equality. At 8:56 minutes into her first address, Kamala Harris stated, "However,

although I may be the first woman to enter this office, I will not be the last because each young girl in attendance tonight will see that this nation is replete with opportunities."

This is consistent with Rosemarie Tong's (1988) theory that everyone is entitled to an equal opportunity to pursue an education to develop their rational and moral capacities and realize their complete human potential. Therefore, all individuals must be afforded equal educational opportunities to become leaders.

Nevertheless, there are instances of educational inequality in the U.S., particularly at Harvard University, where race is considered a criterion for admitting new students in order to promote the inclusion of historically marginalized groups, such as black Americans, in the student body. According to Quintana et al. (2012), the Supreme Court ruled that a person's racial or ethnic background could be considered when admitting new students to achieve a diverse student body.

Therefore, an organization known as Students for Fair Admissions, chaired by Edward Blum and boasting a membership of 20,000 individuals, initiated legal action against Harvard and UNC. The case alleges that the universities' admissions practices, which take race into account, unfairly disadvantage Asian students who are equally qualified. The complaint (Garg et al., 2022) asserts that Asian American students are underrepresented in both universities despite their exceptional academic accomplishments.

2. Gender Equality

The following data were obtained for the type of gender equality, and three utterances lead to the direction of gender equality. One of Kamala Harris's words in her first speech at 09.17 minutes is, "And to the children of our country, regardless of your gender, our country has sent you a clear message."

Kamala Harris reaffirmed this in her inaugural speech, emphasizing that the United States is committed to accepting and attentively considering all individuals, irrespective of their gender, along with their ideas and perspectives. According to Piscopo's (2015) theoretical framework, gender equality refers to a situation in which individuals of all genders, including men, women, transgender individuals, children, and families, possess equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities.

Throughout its history, gender inequality in the United States has decreased, and since the early 1900s, substantial strides have been taken toward achieving equality. Notwithstanding these progressions, gender inequality continues to endure in various manifestations within the United States. These include the unequal distribution of domestic laborers, occupational segregation,

and women's political representation and participation. Since the 1920s, the reduction of gender inequality has been the subject of numerous significant laws and remains an ongoing objective. The United States was positioned 30th out of 149 countries in the World Economic Forum's 2021 gender equality ranking (England et al., 2020). Furthermore, the United States is rife with transgender men and women, in addition to the inequalities, prejudice, and violence observed against men.

3. Rights for Women in a Social Class

The third data obtained for rights for women as a social class shows that four utterances lead to the direction of rights for women as a social class. One of the words Kamala Harris used in her first speech at 08.01 minutes was, *"With a new generation of women in our country who cast their ballots and continued the fight for their fundamental right to vote and be heard."*

According to Dewi et al. (2022), women's legal rights encompass the entitlement to engage in contracts, own property, and exercise the right to vote. They are, furthermore, advocating for women's entitlement to bodily autonomy, including abortion rights and reproductive rights, while opposing any other kind of gender-based discrimination. Kamala Harris is hopeful that the emerging cohort of American women will empower her to persist in advocating for their fundamental rights to vote and have their voices heard.

The 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution granted women suffrage, enabling them to participate in elections. The American Secretary of State, Bainbridge Colby, officially approved the Amendment on August 26, 1920. The Amendment was ratified during a 70-year period when women were deprived of the right to express their opinions. The text consists of two sections that state the following: "The United States or any State cannot deny or reduce the voting rights of U.S. citizens based on their sex," and "Congress has the authority to enforce this article through suitable legislation." In July 1848, because numerous women were disenfranchised, the topic of discussion revolved around women's suffrage. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott conducted this presentation at Seneca Falls, New York. Subsequently, following their consent to provisions upholding women's entitlement to education and access to employment, they adopted a resolution asserting, "It is incumbent upon women in this nation to safeguard their esteemed entitlement to suffrage." The Seneca Falls Convention, which advocated for women's suffrage, faced public mockery and witnessed the withdrawal of support from various women's rights activists. Nevertheless, the resolution initiated the onset of the women's suffrage movement in America (Arif et al., 2022)

4. Prejudice and Discrimination

In the following data obtained for the type of prejudice and discrimination, three utterances lead to the direction of prejudice and discrimination. One of the words of Kamala Harris in her first speech at 07.20 minutes, namely, *"Women who fought and sacrificed so much for equality, liberty and justice for all, including the Black women, who are often, too often overlooked."*

This line (Hannam, 2007) defines discrimination as an individual's unjust or unfavorable treatment based on their membership in a particular class, group, or category. Distinction pertains to conduct, while prejudice concerns one's thoughts and emotions. Prejudice encompasses the negative sentiments directed at another individual or group and denotes the sentiments themselves.

Over three centuries, the United States (U.S.) has seen a prolonged history of racial conflict. The incident involving George Floyd, an African American man, in the United States, has generated significant attention from both the American populace and individuals worldwide. This is due to the pervasive nature of racial discrimination perpetrated by white individuals against black individuals. Black individuals face significant challenges in blending into white American culture due to their historical enslavement and forced migration to the country. Consequently, the concept emerged that black individuals are seen as inferior citizens, which has become a fundamental aspect of the social framework in the United States (Roberts et al., 2022).

Despite being recognized as the global leader in innovation and championing human rights, the U.S. Government persists in implementing discriminatory legislation. It has yet to ratify specific laws to eradicate discrimination (Tsani & Ratnadewi, 2022). Racism, racial prejudice, and intolerance present significant dangers to the global community's capacity to progress socially.

5. Equal Liberty to Vote

In the following data obtained for the type of equal liberty, one utterance leads to the direction of equal liberty. The word is in Kamala Harris's first speech at 03.31 minutes: *"Thank you for turning out in record numbers to make your voices heard."*

According to this line of reasoning (Mukrimaa et al., 2016), one of the objectives of liberal feminism is the liberty to speak and act as one pleases. Women often find themselves subject to greater societal expectations and restrictions that restrict their autonomy compared to men. As a result, Kamala Harris is highly appreciative of the ballots that were cast in her favor; in particular, she is pleased that the opinions of the women who spoke were heard broadly, demonstrating that women are unrestrictedly permitted to express themselves.

Currently, in the United States, it is evident that 46 percent of participants expressed a diminished sense of freedom to discuss political matters compared to ten years before. 30% had similar sentiments. Merely 21 percent of individuals acknowledge experiencing a heightened sense of freedom despite the substantial surge in expressing opinions in public domains through social media over the past decade (Cassidy & Liebenow, 2021).

The researchers discovered that Kamala Harris's first speech encompassed various themes: education equality, gender equality, women's rights, the social right to vote, equal liberty, and combating prejudice and discrimination. These aspects collectively demonstrate Kamala Harris's embodiment of the principles of feminism. She presents her address as a contemporary, accomplished, self-reliant woman who achieves leadership in the United States. Her endeavors to protect her community from male subjugation and strive for parity in jobs, opportunities, and rights between genders exemplify her feminist ethos. Nevertheless, Kamala Harris did not address the issue of misogyny in her speech. This demonstrates a lack of feminist ideology in Kamala Harris's initial statement, as she does not exhibit a conscious opposition to misogyny. Kamala Harris' inaugural speech as Vice President of the United States aligns closely with the principles outlined in June Hannam's theory from 2007. According to Hannam, feminism advocates for women's independence, self-defense, and protection of themselves and their community. This philosophy reflects the overall ideology of feminism, which is a continuously evolving concept when women want gender equality with men. Women who advocate for feminism actively oppose violence, exploitation, and injustice.

This has also addressed the identification of the issues presented in chapter one, including Kamala's encounters with racism and discrimination due to her Asian and black immigrant background. Consequently, Kamala encountered skepticism, suspicion, and gender-based discrimination as vice president. Nevertheless, Kamala demonstrated that her gender does not hinder her ability to be an effective leader and has garnered significant admiration from the American populace. In her speech, she expressed her optimism for the emergence of more female leaders in the United States, emphasizing the importance of gender equality in both political and social spheres. This is further reinforced by Joe Biden's decision to select women as U.S. delegates, demonstrating his recognition of women's potential as leaders and their equal opportunity to males in U.S. leadership roles.

CONCLUSION

Ultimately, Kamala Harris' inaugural address as Vice President of the United States dismantled gender and racial obstacles, acknowledged the hardships endured by previous generations,

advocated for harmony, and underscored the significance of female perspectives and inclusivity. The emphasis on leadership in the film exemplified the essence of feminism. Her groundbreaking election serves as a source of motivation for women and girls globally, emphasizing the significance of inclusivity and gender parity in both governance and society. Kamala Harris is set to assume the position of the 49th Vice President of the United States in January 2021. Kamala Harris, a politician, has long been advocating for women's rights in the United States. She has held multiple public roles throughout her career, enabling her to shape policies on specific matters. She prioritizes ensuring access to reproductive health care, achieving wage parity, safeguarding against violence targeting women, and promoting women's empowerment. Kamala Harris' views and activities have undergone a process of development and change since she assumed her formal position.

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