# IT IAS Toppers

## **Toxic femininity**

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## **Toxic femininity**

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

## IT IAS Toppers

Turning healthy feminine traits to unhealthy extremes. For example: Expressiveness becomes manipulation, suportiveness becomes codependency, etc.

## TOXIC FEMININITY

Expressing feminine traits such as empathy or tenderness that result in them ignoring their mental or physical needs to sustain those around them. Encouraging silent acceptance of violence and domination in order to survive. It's a thing women do to maintain value, which the patriarchy has told them is conditional upon their ability to bear violent domination.

The Feminista @thefeministashop

[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.