

- **‘Identity Politics’** – Rights over one’s body
 - Feminism: NEEDS to account for Different Bodies = Basis of Inequality
 - *How did we arrive at various views of body and identity?*
- **Theories of Body and Self (personal ID)**
 - Simple: 1 Body ↔ 1 Self
 - Body = Identity
 - Complex: **Mind/Body Distinction** **Cartesian Dualism**
 - Body: Finite material substance
 - Divisible
 - Extended in space
 - Body = **Female** = Sexuality
 - Mind: Finite intellectual substance
 - Indivisible
 - Thought – Subjective consciousness
 - Mind = **Male** = Rationality
 - Conflated: **Embodiment**
 - Body = Experience → Identity
- **Feminist Sexual Difference Theorists**
 - **Mind > Body**: Early Feminism (17th-18th c.)
 - Focus: Rational Female Mind
 - Self = Reason (NOT Body)
 - Body = Objects for others → Vulnerable (Risk: Pregnancy)
 - **Body Rights**: 19th c. Feminism
 - Focus: Individual Body Rights
 - Issues: Rape, sexual violence, birth control, abortion, & slavery
 - **Self > Body**: 20th c. Feminism
 - Body = Mark of difference (e.g., Sex, Race)
 - Bodies = Controlled → Oppression
 - Bodies ≠ Rights Self = Rights

- ALL THEORIES: Accept **Cartesian Dualism**
 - Acknowledge bodily differences
 - Place different significance on BODY
- **Problem:** HOW to discuss bodies & acknowledge BOTH FLUIDITY + MATERIALITY
- **Feminist Critiques of the Body**
 - **Problem:** Body Focus (Women = Body)
 - **Solution: Reject Cartesian Dualism**
 - Link Bodies & Selves (don't separate Mind & Body)
 - **Phenomenology** = Captures embodied experiences
 - **'Lived Body'** = Situation = Nature (physical state) & Culture (social context)
 - **Problem:** Women's embodied experience = Not been very positive
- **Feminist Phenomenology**
 - Women's Embodied Experience = **ONLY Perceived Limitation** (NOT biological)
 - Embodied Experience = VISIBLE ID (Perception by oneself & others)
 - Contemporary Feminism: Bodies = Only gain Meaning through Perception
 - Biology (in itself) ≠ Significant Attach meaning = Significant
 - **Problem:** WANT to celebrate bodies WITHOUT being restricted by them
 - **Goal:** Positive Account of Female Phenomenology [2 Approaches]
- **Anglo-American Radical Feminism (1970's-1980's): Celebrates Females' Bodies**
 - Sexuality = Power = Escape from Submission
 - Capacity to give birth = Value = Care & Interconnectedness
 - Problem: Homogenized Female Experience
- **Psychoanalytic Feminism (1990's): Criticized Masculinity**
 - Recognizes Sexual Difference – MIND as well as Body
 - Bodies = Imaginary/Socially Constructed = Reflect Norms [controlled by Individual]
 - **'Body projects'** = "Mind over matter" = Allows Control over Bodies

- **Problems:** Experience ≠ Universal
 - Performative Accounts
 - Bundle Theory: Body ≠ Identity
 - *How about minimizing the significance of the body?*
- **Problems:** Fails to account for biology
 - Disability: Body = intrudes on daily life
 - Body Disharmony = Rules out Transsexuality/Seek Body Modification
 - Matter = Materializing (Body = process of living)
 - *How about the extreme incorporation of the material?*
- **Technoscience & Cyborgs**
 - New Challenge to “heteronormativity”: Science & Technology
 - Gendered Embodiment = Socially Constructed
 - Society → Skeleton
 - No Distinction: Animal = Human = Machine
 - “Normal” = Biotechnology + Technoscience (overcoming limitations)
 - **Conflated Theories:** Poststructuralism/Postmodernism
 - **Cyborg + Bodies:** Natural (bodily reality) + Constructed (individuals & society)
 - BOTH resist categories