Name

Professor

Course

Date

**Patriarchy and hegemonic masculinity**

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Patriarchy. The idea of patriarchy brings in the image that the male gender has certain powers and the male gender dominates in issues to do with politics and leadership, morals, ownership of properties as well as having certain privileges in the society. It is also evident in some communities that the male gender has the right to inherit properties whereas the female sex does not have a claim to an inheritance. Patriarchy has a set of concepts that are set to explain or justify why men are dominant drawing references from the biological differences that exist between women and men. Patriarchy has been witnessed in the society in the social, economic, religious, political and legal aspects of life where men have certain dominance over women.

Hegemonic masculinity. The concept of hegemonic masculinity has its traces back in the 1980s and it mainly focusses on the idea about men, the social hierarchy as well as the gender. The research extends to finding the links that exist between the hegemonic masculinity to men’s critical studies. The study has found its application in the fields of education, as well as fields of antiviolence practices and further to counseling and matters to do with health. The hegemonic masculinity concept was first witnessed in reports that were presented by high school students in Australia. In those reports, it was evident that there exist hierarchies that are associated with a certain gender in Australian labor politics. Hegemonic masculinity has also increased the rates of involvement of men in crimes compared to that of women (Connell, Robert & Messerschmidt, 2005).

Both patriarchy and hegemonic masculinity cannot be justified from the physical differences evident in males and the female gender and their emergence is a result of the social perception of human beings. The two practices try to justify women's subordination to men and therefore if this was to be enacted, then it would mean that women could be deprived of certain positions as well as privileges in the society. However, since both patriarchy and hegemonic masculinity are social creation, they can be destroyed by society in an attempt to bring a balance between the two genders.

Work Cited

Connell, Robert W., and James W. Messerschmidt. "Hegemonic masculinity: Rethinking the concept." *Gender & society* 19.6 (2005): 829-859.