

PATRIARCHAL STEREOTYPES AND THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN RUSSIAN
SOVIET-ERA NOVELS

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.19382806>

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada 1920–1950-yillardagi sovet davri rus romanlarida patriarxal stereotiplarning aks etishi va ularning ayollar mavqeiga ta'siri tahlil qilinadi. Rasmiy ravishda gender tengligi e'lon qilinganiga qaramay, sovet jamiyatida ayollarning ijtimoiy va oilaviy rolga doir an'anaviy qarashlar katta darajada saqlanib qolgan. Mazkur davr adabiyoti mafkuraviy tamoyillar bilan ayollarning real hayot tajribasi o'rtasidagi ziddiyatni ochib beradi.

Tadqiqot markazida ayol obrazi ijtimoiy nazorat va patriarxal kutishlar obyekt sifatida ko'rib chiqiladi. Ayollarning bo'ysundirilish shakllari sifatida oilaviy qaramlik, psixologik bosim va shaxsiy tanlovning cheklanishi alohida tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqotning metodologik asosi badiiy matnni tahlil qilishda gender va sotsiokultural yondashuvlarga tayangan. Maqolada nikoh va oila patriarxal stereotiplarni qayta ishlab chiqaruvchi asosiy mexanizmlar sifatida ko'rib chiqiladi.

Shuningdek, ayol qahramonlarning ichki ziddiyatlari va mavjud tizimga qarshi yashirin qarshilik shakllari tahlil etiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: gender tengsizlik; patriarxal stereotiplar; ayollarning mavqei; sovet davri adabiyoti; ayol obrazi; patriarxal jamiyat.

Annotation. This article analyzes the representation of patriarchal stereotypes and their influence on the status of women in Russian Soviet-era novels of the 1920s–1950s. Despite the officially proclaimed gender equality, Soviet society largely preserved traditional views on women's social and familial roles. Literature of this period reveals a clear contradiction between ideological principles and women's lived experiences. The study focuses on the image of women as objects of social control and patriarchal expectations. Particular attention is paid to such forms of women's subordination as familial dependence, psychological pressure, and restrictions on personal choice. The methodological framework of the research is based on gender-oriented and socio-cultural approaches to literary analysis. The article examines marriage and family as key mechanisms for the reproduction of patriarchal stereotypes. It also analyzes the inner conflicts of female characters and their latent forms of resistance to the existing system.

Key words: gender inequality; patriarchal stereotypes; women's status; Soviet literature; female representation; patriarchal society.

Аннотация. В статье анализируется отражение патриархальных стереотипов и их влияние на положение женщины в русских романах советского периода 1920–1950-х годов. Несмотря на официально провозглашённое равноправие полов, советское общество во многом сохраняло традиционные представления о социальной и семейной роли женщины. Литература данного периода позволяет выявить противоречие между идеологическими установками и реальным женским опытом. В центре исследования находится образ женщины как объекта социального контроля и патриархальных ожиданий.

Особое внимание уделяется таким формам женского подчинения, как семейная зависимость, психологическое давление и ограничение личного выбора. Методологической основой работы являются гендерный и социокультурный подходы к анализу художественного текста. Рассматривается роль брака и семьи как ключевых механизмов воспроизводства патриархальных стереотипов. Также анализируются внутренние конфликты героинь и скрытые формы их сопротивления сложившейся системе.

Ключевые слова: *гендерное неравенство; патриархальные стереотипы; положение женщины; советская литература; женский образ; патриархальное общество.*

Patriarchal stereotypes in Soviet society were not eliminated with the proclamation of gender equality but continued to function as a deep-rooted mechanism of social regulation adapted to new ideological conditions [1]. The formal recognition of women as equal participants in public life was not accompanied by a reconsideration of traditional perceptions of their social and familial roles. As a result, gender hierarchy was reproduced through stable behavioral norms, social expectations, and value systems that defined the acceptable boundaries of women's self-realization. Women were viewed primarily as bearers of familial and service-oriented functions, which significantly limited their social agency and personal autonomy.

The social status of women during the Soviet period was shaped by an internal contradiction between declared emancipation and actual dependence on patriarchal norms [2].

Women's participation in public production did not imply liberation from traditional responsibilities related to household management and childrearing. On the contrary, this inclusion intensified the dual burden placed upon women and generated latent psychological pressure.

Female activity was predominantly evaluated in terms of its social usefulness, while personal interests and individual aspirations were often relegated to a secondary position.

Consequently, the expansion of social roles was not accompanied by a genuine expansion of freedom of choice.

Russian Soviet-era novels make it possible to identify aspects of women's experiences that remained outside the boundaries of official ideological discourse [3]. Literary texts capture hidden forms of social control, most clearly manifested in familial and marital relationships. Female characters are often portrayed as being dependent on external circumstances, with their life trajectories shaped not by inner aspirations but by social prescriptions. Marriage and family within the literary space function not as spheres of personal intimacy but as institutions that reproduce patriarchal stereotypes [4]. In these works, women are depicted as being embedded in a system of relationships in which their value is determined by conformity to prescribed behavioral models.

Authors devote particular attention to the inner worlds of female characters, who exist in a state of persistent conflict between personal desires and imposed roles. Psychological withdrawal, silence, and the refusal of open protest acquire the meaning of latent forms of resistance to the existing system. The absence of active opposition does not indicate passivity but rather reflects the limited means of self-expression available to women. Through such representations, literature demonstrates the destructive impact of patriarchal pressure on the formation of female identity and personal integrity.

The artistic form of the Soviet novel allows for the implicit expression of a critical attitude toward patriarchal stereotypes, without resorting to direct declarations [5]. Psychological depth, attention to inner monologue, and symbolism become the primary means of articulating women's experiences. The female narrative perspective shifts the focus from external events to inner emotional states, thereby undermining the normative character of traditional gender roles. In this context, literature functions as a space of reflection in which the patriarchal model of society is not affirmed but critically examined and reinterpreted.

The conducted study demonstrates that patriarchal stereotypes retained a system-forming role in Soviet society despite the officially established rhetoric of gender equality. An analysis of Russian Soviet-era novels reveals a persistent contradiction between ideologically prescribed norms and the actual status of women, manifested in social practice, family relations, and the psychological experiences of female characters.

Female images in literary prose are shaped within a framework of rigidly regulated expectations, in which individual autonomy and freedom of choice are significantly constrained.

Particular importance is attached to the authors' focus on the inner world of female characters, which makes it possible to reveal the profound consequences of patriarchal pressure on the formation of identity. Silence, inner distancing, and the refusal of open confrontation are interpreted not as signs of passivity but as strategies of adaptation and latent resistance under conditions of social control. Through the use of psychological depth, symbolic imagery, and a narrative focus on women's experiences, Soviet novelistic prose offers an implicit critique of persistent gender models. Thus, Russian Soviet-era novels constitute an important cultural space for interpreting women's destinies and for gaining deeper insight into the mechanisms through which patriarchal stereotypes were reproduced and transformed within an ideologically regulated society.

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