

Patriarchy

PATRIARCHY is a social system that positions men as dominant and grants them power over others, especially women, often upheld through control and various forms of violence. Alda Facio describes it as:

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A system where societal, economic, and political structures are shaped by sex-based power dynamics, institutionalized to reinforce the lesser value of women.

These systems work together to maintain male dominance and exclude or oppress based on perceived differences, benefiting a few powerful men.

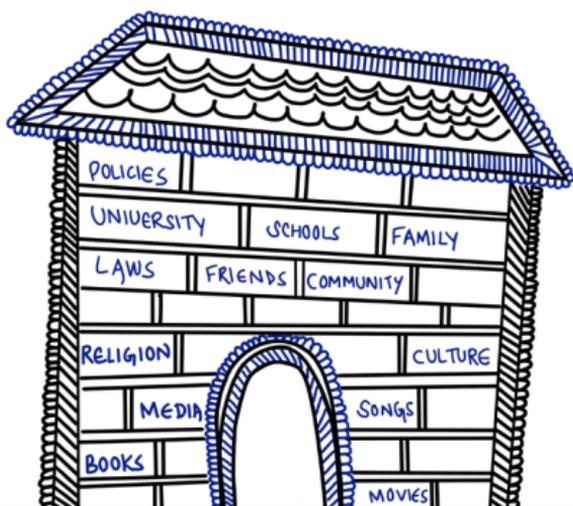
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**BY UNDERSTANDING HOW PATRIARCHY
SHAPES US, WE GAIN THE POWER
TO CHALLENGE IT.**





TOOL TO ANALYZE PATRIARCHY



HOUSE OF PATRIARCHY

It is a tool that **visually breaks down how patriarchy operates across systems.**

It helps groups explore the societal conditioning of gender roles, analyze the patriarchy system, and reflect on how both large and small actions contribute to maintaining it.



HOW

DOES IT WORK?

- 1** **Reflect** as a group: Where do we learn about the world and gender roles? Which institutions shape these messages?
- 2** **Identify** key patriarchal institutions (e.g., family, religion, education, media) as pillars in the house of patriarchy.
- 3** **Examine** the “rules” each institution enforces about gender behavior, and how they shape what women and men can or cannot do.
- 4** **Discuss:** What do these institutions say about gender roles? How are behaviors enforced, and what happens when they’re challenged?
- 5** **Analyze** how these institutions are interconnected and their impact on our lives.



TIPS ON PATRIARCHY



RECOGNIZE DIVERSITY

Women's experiences vary by class, race, and more, but patterns remain.



UNDERSTAND THE SYSTEM

See how institutions reinforce patriarchy as a system.



QUESTION CHANGE

Patriarchy exists in both traditional and modern societies—don't assume it fades with change.



ACKNOWLEDGE SHARED IMPACT

Patriarchy affects both men
and women.



CHALLENGE EVERYWHERE

Patriarchy exists in both traditional
and modern societies—don't assume
it fades with change.

[https://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=H-9fTS5cAiA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-9fTS5cAiA)

READINGS AND VIDEOS



**The problem with our
patriarchal society**
by Joana Flores



What is Patriarchy
by Alda Facio