

THE GENDER PERSPECTIVES AND THE SUSTAINABILITY OF
WORK PRACTICES IN ARTESANAL AND SMALL SCALE MINING
OPERATIONS :THE CASE OF WANDERER MINE ,SHURUGWI

By

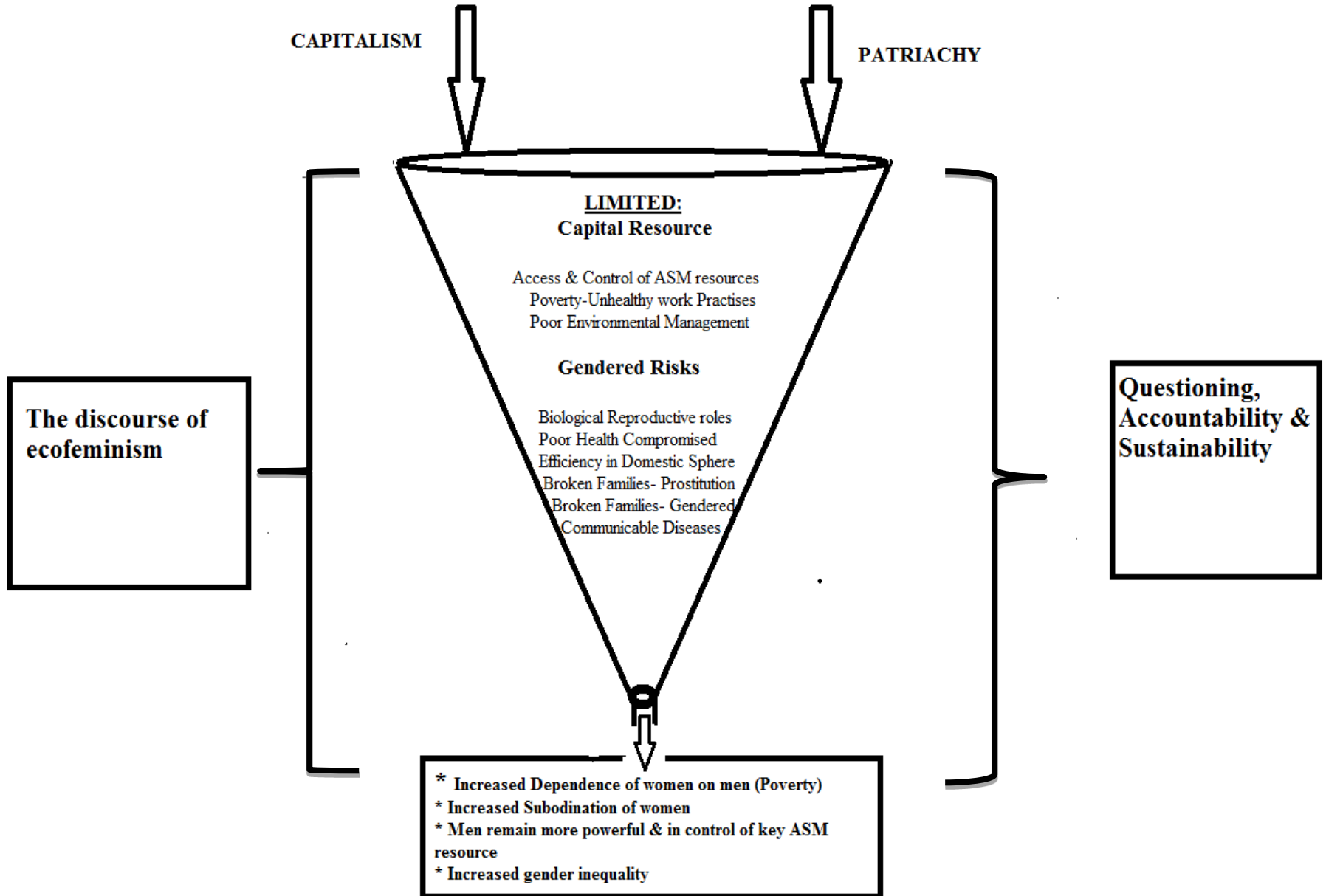
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ABSTRACT

Sustainable development seeks to realise the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. This study aims at evaluating the **sustainability of health, safety and protection practices in artisanal and small-scale mining operations**. The study interrogates the immediate and long-term effects of chemical substances that miners interact with, and the general safety prevailing in mining areas. Guided by a **qualitative research approach**, the study employed interview guides, document review and visual methods for data collection. The study adopted **ecofeminism**, for it establishes the connections that exist between women and the environment. It further unpacks the interconnectedness of patriarchy and capitalism in the oppression of women and the environment. While it is envisaged that the participation of women in the extractive industry leads to improved access and control of the natural resources and improved economic empowerment, health issues in artisanal mining need a thorough review for the achievement of sustainable industrial work practises. The study **recommends increased awareness of all stakeholders on issues relating to the health, safety and protection of miners in small-scale** and artisanal mining activities.

ASM WORK PRACTISES



Conclusions

- There gendered aspects of ASM that need urgent attention as the nation works towards the achievement of sustainable development goals
- There is a need for systematic and well coordinated gender analysis of ASM work practices
- The need to involve relevant experts in gender ,law and health

Implications for policy

- Need for a gender responsive ASM policy
- Voices of females in mining must be taken seriously in the formulation of policy
- More sensitisation on related issues at grassroots level a must (workshops, seminars, campaigns, use of the media among others)



END OF PRESENTATION

THANK YOU