



Antifeminism in a New Nationalist Discourse



In recent years, **anti-gender** discourses that are overtly **ultra-nationalist**, and ideas disguised as **"progressive"** or **"left"** have become particularly relevant in Georgia. Various political groups use their media platforms to create distorted, oppressive views of women and queer groups in society. This is often done at the expense of overshadowing the dire social conditions in the country by diverting public attention to the "enemy", this is used to strengthen political their own positions.

At first glance, there are significant differences between the **"progressive"**, **pseudo-left**, and **far-right** forces, but **anti-feminist ideas are a common trend among them.**

ALT-INFO

IT IS RADICALLY ANTI-FEMINIST AND AIMS TO NORMALIZE RIGHT-WING, FASCIST RHETORIC. THEY OFTEN APPEAL TO THE CONCEPT OF "FAMILY PURITY" AND STRIVE TO CREATE HOSTILE ATTITUDES TOWARDS WOMEN AND QUEER LIBERATORY MOVEMENTS

GIRCHI

STANDS ON RIGHT-WING LIBERTARIAN POSITIONS, WHERE FREEDOM IS VIEWED FROM A STRICTLY INDIVIDUALISTIC PERSPECTIVE AND DOES NOT RECOGNIZE VARIOUS FORMS OF SYSTEMIC OPPRESSION (SEXISM, MISOGYNY, QUEERPHOBIA). "FREEDOM OF SPEECH" AND "DIVERSITY OF OPINION" ARE PROMOTED, BUT ATTENTION IS ALWAYS FOCUSED ON THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH OF ONLY ONE GROUP AND DOES NOT INCLUDE THE VOICE OF OPPRESSED GROUPS.

POSTV

IT IS A MEDIA PLATFORM FUNDED BY THE RULING PARTY, WHICH AIMS TO PACKAGE REGRESSIVE POLICIES WITH VAGUE INTELLECTUAL AND LEFT-WING SOCIALIST POSITIONS AND TO FORM A SUSTAINABLE IDEOLOGICAL GROUP OF SUPPORTERS. "GURISMS" PRESENTS THE LIBERATION STRUGGLES OF FEMINIST AND MINORITY GROUPS AS GAMES OF THE "LIBERAL ELITE".

ANTI-FEMINISM

Antifeminism, which is deliberately directed against women's movements and their fundamental values, occurs mainly in societies where the superiority and power of men are pronounced, while the pursuit of women's freedom and the idea of equality threatens these privileges.

To discredit the feminist movement, anti-feminist groups use the following arguments and approaches:

- ▼ They argue that feminism has gone too far because equality already exists in society;
- ▼ They oppose different social and political systems and are focused on upholding existing, dominant values.
- ▼ They create additional pressures and barriers to feminist policies. Which fight not only for gender, but for all types of equality, and serve to eliminate systemic oppression;

FUNDAMENTAL VALUES OF FEMINISM:

- WOMAN'S BODILY AUTONOMY
- SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS
- FAIR SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT
- ELIMINATION OF GENDER DISCRIMINATION
- ELIMINATION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Regressive attitudes in these anti-feminist groups revolve around several key issues. As part of the research, we analyzed the media platforms of Girchi, Alt-info, and Postv and these are their positions:

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- ▼ Talking about facts of sexual violence is repression of men and forms basis for slander;
- ▼ "If you don't want to be harrassed, you should work in a place where there is less risk of violence";
- ▼ The struggle against violence and femicide is aimed at eradicating the institution of the family;
- ▼ The murder of 11 women a year is not a catastrophic figure;
- ▼ Abortion is murder at any stage and under any circumstances and should be prohibited;
- ▼ Educating children about sexual and reproductive health and rights in school will have a negative psycho-social impact on them and increase the number of LGBTQ + people;
- ▼ Aggressive national-conservative troops should be formed against the LGBTQ + group.

- ▼ Does not acknowledge violence if it does not involve direct physical contact;
- ▼ Against to the Law on Sexual Harassment (which provides for the punishment of sexual misconduct, violation of human dignity, and abusive behavior);
- ▼ Against abortion. Offers to have a child, and put them up for adoption in
- ▼ There are no marginalized and oppressed groups, there are only marginalized and oppressed individuals;
- ▼ Transgenderism is the result of the unacceptance of one's own homosexuality;
- ▼ Property rights are more important than the equality of marginalized groups and the fight against their oppression.

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- ▼ Talking about sexual harassment is an artificially created problem;
- ▼ Because of old sins, namely violence and sexual harassment, people should not be hindered from pursuing a full life;
- ▼ Introducing inclusive language is a game of absurd political correctness that creates confusion and fails to describe reality;
- ▼ Opposes gender quotas.