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FEMINISM AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

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ABSTRACT

Reductionism and the mechanism were introduced simultaneously during the scientific revolution. These ideas were interwoven with many of the history of philosophy and science which resulted in study methods focusing on the tiniest parts of the nature. This combination of ideas is subject to strong feminist critique since it promotes biological determinism, restricts the options of researchers about issues and techniques and enables researchers to overlook the contextual characteristics of the phenomena they study. I suggest that the historical relationship between mechanism and reductionism is not essential, that this connection should be separated and in many instances already broken. The mechanical perspective of science should explain how things function without dictating techniques and approaches that limit the subjects of scientific research to their simplest components may be held by separating reductionism from a mechanism. Mechanism without reductionism emphasizes decent ways, thus creating conceptual room for a multitude of methods that may engage the world at a wide range of organizational levels. This diversity provides the door to a broad range of research methods, including feminist and gender-sensitive science.

KEYWORDS: Diversity, Feminism, Feminist, Nature, Reductionism.

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