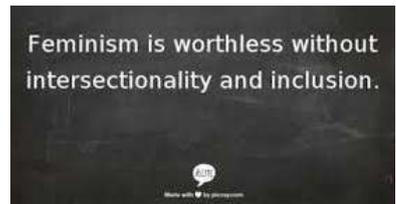


Feminism – An Evolving debate

Part 1 Intersectional Feminism

by Chelsea White MYP for Sedgemoor & Mendip



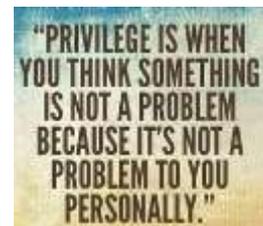
As a Feminist, I recognise the march of progress in the equality of the sexes- seen by change in social policy. Yet there is still progress to be made, especially with every day social inequality and within the workplace.

As an Intersectional Feminist (a belief that recognised identities such as; gender, race, class, ability, sexual orientation, religion and age for example should be explored and respected. Ignoring these factors can purposefully- or by default, contribute to the oppression of women and undermine feminism) I believe we all have multi- layered identities and characteristics which provoke inequality and discrimination and should therefore give rise to multi-faceted feminism. For example we are rarely dealing with sexism alone – but rather a combination of racism, sexuality and sexism for example.



Sexism isn't the primary purpose of inequality in society today and Intersectional Feminist's recognise this, especially in terms of race. However it's still an underlying cause which is recognised particularly by movements such as Women of Colour who combat both sexism *and* racism which in turn reinforces and magnifies resulting oppression, even from other women *and* feminists.

The majority of feminists believe in a society which should be equal- but a small minority don't. Just like other movements and religions a few small groups and individuals can give us a bad name, sabotaging and undermining good intentions. Radical Feminists for example want a matriarchal society which I don't agree with and is considered extreme– yet it's generally accepted that there are men and women who believe in a patriarchal society, or the maintenance of one. This is considered rational and normal – except by feminists.



For interesting reading, here a just a few links to check out:

<https://leftfootforward.org/2016/03/women-of-colour-deserve-more-from-the-political-system/>

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/todays-feminist-problem-black-women-are-still-invisible/article29082375/>

<http://www.blackgirldangerous.org/2015/09/how-can-white-women-include-women-of-color-in-feminism-is-a-bad-question-heres-why/>

<https://www.facebook.com/WomenAgainstFeminism/>

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/feminism>

Part 2 A worldwide perspective

by Chelsea White MYP for Sedgemoor & Mendip



Feminism has relevance worldwide. With numerous exceptions, the majority of us still don't realise how lucky we are to have access to education. Many girls are deprived of this across the world because of their gender. Either through neglect, culture, poverty, laws, religion or violence millions of women struggle to get an education. The active denial of education for women is highlighted perfectly by Malala Yousafzai's story.

Whilst improvements have been made comparative statistics are hard to quantify when there are recognised 'missing' girls and women so it's hard to say just how many are vulnerable and oppressed. According to a recent report by ABC news, over 70 million children across the world can't access a basic education and way over half of those are girls. 70% of the world's poorest people are women and two thirds of them can't read or write. Instead of an education girls are often forced to marry young, have children against their will- even as young as 10 in some cases. They are simply expected to take on the expressive role and are often not allowed to work. A shocking two million girls aged between 5 and 15yrs are introduced into the commercial sex market each year! The sex market which is primarily driven by men

Feminisms allows for the liberation of girls and highlights these inequalities – both for boys who are themselves victims of such male abuse and oppression as well girls

For more reading check out these links:

<https://www.dailyworth.com/posts/3014-10-fast-facts-about-malala-yousafzai>

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/education/brief/girls-education>

<http://ukfeminista.org.uk/take-action/facts-and-statistics-on-gender-inequality/>



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Part 3 Gender inequality in the UK and Ireland

by Chelsea White MYP for Sedgemoor & Mendip

Under the current Irish Protection of Life During Pregnancy Act 2013, abortion is illegal unless the mother's life is at risk. Even 21st century women from a more economically developed country (MEDC) do not always have the freedom to make choices about what they do with their body. Enabling women to do what they please with their bodies is exactly why we need Feminism.



<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-23277590>

Women are also blocked unable to compete with men in Job/ career opportunities. I believe there is a 'glass ceiling' barrier women have to contend with at all levels of employment. (*the unseen yet unbreakable barrier that keeps one from rising to upper rungs of the corporate ladder, regardless of their qualifications or achievements*

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glass_ceiling) Women are still unable to reach the top positions of organisations due to sexual discrimination in the workplace. The fact that there are more John CEO's than female CEO's proves this in itself.

Below some famous British male feminists



“Women are responsible for two-thirds of the work done worldwide, yet earn only 10 per cent of the total income and own one per cent of the property... So, are we equals? Until the answer is yes, we must never stop asking.” **Daniel Craig, actor**



Women are at a disadvantage in other influential positions and acknowledgements of achievements . For example the audit of the Art World shows that every artist in the top 100 auction sales last year was a man. Even more surprising is that only 8% of public art in central London was created by women! Even in the creative world most of us would assume diversity and equality are core to the industry and it is gender neutral

Painting by Sophie Bristol – Battersea Power Station Joggers

<http://gender.bitc.org.uk/research-insight/WomenWorkFactsheet>

Part 4 – Domestic abuse and violence Gender

by Chelsea White MYP for Sedgemoor & Mendip

The average figures show that 1 in 4 women still suffer from domestic abuse at some point in their lives and 1 in 5 are raped. This is not saying that men don't suffer rape as clearly they do and rape has no gender. Feminists like myself campaign and speak for male and female sufferers but we can't ignore the fact that male violence against women makes up 85% of **reported** domestic violence incidents. There are still people who believe rape in marriage is ok and that rape should be legal on private property such as Roosh V and with over 1 million individuals viewing his website last year alone, it again emphasises exactly why we need feminism.

According to Rape Crisis (<http://rapecrisis.org.uk/>) 85,000 women and 12,000 men are raped each year in England and Wales

I heard police or ambulance men, standing in our house, say, 'She must have provoked him,' or, 'Mrs Stewart, it takes two to make a fight.' They had no idea. The truth is my mother did nothing to deserve the violence she endured. "

"She did not provoke my father, and even if she had, violence is an unacceptable way of dealing with conflict. Violence is a choice a man makes and he alone is responsible for it." Patrick Stuart, Actor



"Rape is one of the most terrible crimes on earth and it happens every few minutes. The problem with groups who deal with rape is that they try to educate women about how to defend themselves. What really needs to be done is teaching men not to rape. Go to the source and start there." The late Kurt Cobain, Musician

To conclude feminists do not hate men and they recognise that men are victims of rape and domestic abuse. The majority of abusers of men and women are men. Feminists primarily want equality for men and women in every sense of the word. We want Black and Minority Ethnic women, with disabilities and different sexualities to be treated exactly the same in regards to everything as with white middle class men.

More reading:

<http://www.helpguide.org/articles/abuse/domestic-violence-and-abuse.htm>

<http://www.refuge.org.uk/about-domestic-violence/domestic-violence-and-gender/>

<http://www.rooshv.com/how-to-stop-rape>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roosh_V

<https://www.southernct.edu/sexual-misconduct/facts.html>

	<p><i>"If I had the opportunity to squeeze Nigella Lawson, her throat wouldn't be my first choice."</i></p> <p>Nick Griffin's tweet about Nigella Lawson's husband choking her in a restaurant</p>
	<p><i>"A good wife doesn't disagree with her master in public and a good little girl doesn't lie about why she quit politics."</i></p> <p>Labour MP Austin Mitchell, 2012</p>
	<p><i>"When a politician says yes, he means maybe, when he says maybe, he means no, and if he says no, he's not a politician. When a lady says no, she means maybe, when she says maybe, she means yes, and if she says yes, she's not a lady."</i></p> <p>Former Chilean president Sebastián Piñera, 2010</p>
	<p><i>"While I think men and women are equal, they are also different and I think it's inevitable and I don't think it's a bad thing at all that we always have, say, more women doing things like physiotherapy and an enormous number of women simply doing housework."</i></p> <p>Current Australian prime minister Tony Abbott, 2010</p>
	<p><i>"If it's a legitimate rape, the female body has ways to try to shut that whole thing down."</i></p> <p>Former Republican Congressman Todd Akin, 2012</p>
	<p><i>"Money is more important for men. Take a hypothetical husband and wife who are both lawyers. But the husband is working 50 or 60 hours a week, going all out, making 200 grand a year. The woman takes time off, raises kids, is not 'go go go'. Now they're 50 years old. The husband is making 200 grand a year, the woman is making 40 grand a year. It wasn't discrimination. There was a different sense of urgency in each person."</i></p> <p>Republican Senator Glenn Grothman, 2012</p>



"She says she is on a diet and then helps herself to a second helping of cheese."

Nicolas Sarkozy on Angela Merkel, 2011



"Regulation in protection of women is all well and good in academic and government circles. If you're a small business, you'd be a lunatic to hire a woman of child bearing age."

Former UKIP MEP Godfrey Bloom, 2004



"I would just like to challenge the idea that it is necessary to have a lot of women, or a particular number, on a board. Business is very, very competitive and you should take the performance of women in another competitive area, which is sport where [men] have no strength advantage."

UKIP treasurer Stuart Wheeler , 2013



"It's better not to argue with women... When people push boundaries too far, it's not because they are strong but because they are weak. But maybe weakness is not the worst quality for a woman."

Vladimir Putin on Hillary Clinton, 2014



"Calm down, dear"

David Cameron to Angela Eagle MP, 2011



"If she didn't want us to take an interest in her, then she shouldn't have changed her look."

French MP Patrick Balkany on wolf-whistling the housing minister, 2013



"Feminists are now amongst the most obnoxious bigots."

Dominic Raab, Tory MP, 2011



"Just because India achieved freedom at midnight does not mean that women can venture out after dark. They should ensure that they do not board buses with few passengers. The woman should have thought twice before boarding the suspicious private bus that night. Though the incident was condemnable, she should also have behaved keeping in mind the situation."

Indian politician Botsa Satyanarayana on the Delhi rape case, 2012. 23-year-old physiotherapy intern, Jyoti Singh was beaten, gang raped, and tortured in a private bus in which she was traveling with her friend six people on the bus, including the driver took part and beat her friend. Jyoti died from her injuries 2 weeks later.



"A debate between a man and woman is very complicated because if you abuse your intellectual superiority, or whatever it may be, you end up looking like a machista [chauvinist] who is cornering a defenceless woman."

Spanish politician Miguel Arias Cañete, 2014



"I wouldn't want to stay with daughters who are not getting married. Because that in itself is a problem in society. I know that people today think being single is nice. It's actually not right. That's a distortion. You've got to have kids. Kids are important to a woman because they actually give an extra training to a woman, to be a mother."

South African president Jacob Zuma, 2012



"People will vote for Daniela Santanchè because she is a beautiful babe."

Former Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi, 2008



**"I encourage everyone to help take a stand against domestic violence." --
Gordon Ramsey,**

Celeb chef Gordon Ramsay is an ambassador for the charity Women's Aid, which aims to end domestic violence against women and children. It's a topic close to his heart, as he grew up with an abusive father.

Describing his mother, he says: ***"The reason she seemed so weak was because she was defending our arses. You have to admire the loyalty of a woman who puts her children first. And that's where I get my determination from. From her, without a doubt."***



"how evil that is for one man to think that he's actually more valuable than a woman, because as a human being your worth is immeasurable."

Actor Terry Crews



- "I call myself a feminist. Isn't that what you call someone who fights for women's rights?" **The Dalai Lama**
- "I just got asked by another journalist 'Are you a feminist?' and I was just like... Is there a strange thing at the moment where you have to come out as a feminist? I've been asked if I'm a feminist so many times recently, and I'm just like 'Yes, yes, for God's sake, yes! Is there something that I give off that says I'm not?' " **Daniel Radcliffe, actor**
- "Thank you for showing your support for women's rights...We know that when women are empowered, they immeasurably improve the lives of everyone around them – their families, their communities and their countries. This is not just about women. We men need to recognise the part we play, too. Real men treat women with dignity and give them the respect they deserve." **Prince Harry**
- "Men ruled the roost and women played a subservient role [in the 1960s]. Working wives were a rarity, because their place was in the home, bringing up the kids. The women who did work were treated as second-class citizens, because it was a male-dominated society.
"That was a fact of life then. But it wouldn't be tolerated today, and that's quite right in my book...People look back on those days through a thick veil of nostalgia, but life was hard if you were anything other than a rich, powerful, white male."
"[My mother] really was an extraordinary, inspirational, tough, cool, sexy, funny woman. And that's the kind of woman I've always surrounded myself with, my friends and particularly my wife, who is not only smarter than and stronger than I am, but occasionally taller, too. I think it also goes back to my father and my stepfather, because they prized wit and resolve in the women they were with above all things and they were among the rare men who understood that recognising someone else's power doesn't diminish your own." **Joss Whedon, screenwriter**
- "Humankind is made up of two sexes, women and men. Is it possible for humankind to grow by the improvement of only one part while the other part is ignored? Is it possible that if half of a mass is tied to earth with chains that the other half can soar into the skies?" **Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, founder of modern Turkey**
- Billionaire businessman Richard Branson urged men to promise to help end violence against women for the 'Ring the Bell' campaign by Breakthrough.



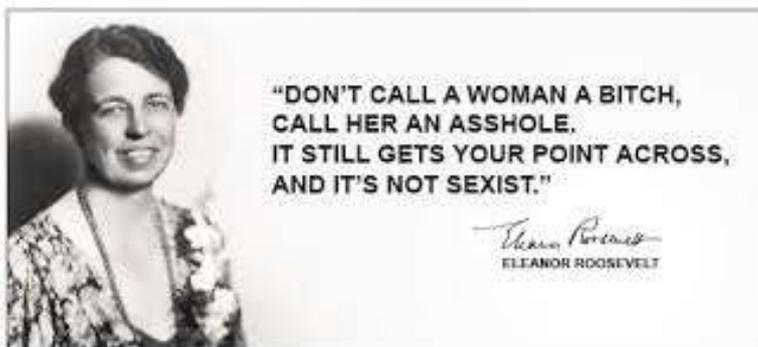
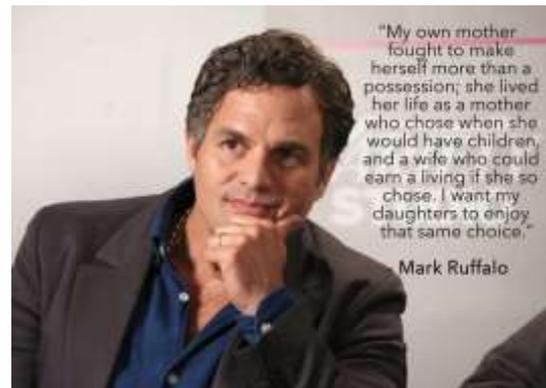
He shot a video where he recounted the following shocking incident: "Yesterday I was at a clinic we run in Africa called Bhubezi Clinic and there were 40 women in the room. Somebody asked the women if any of them had ever been raped, and there

was laughter amongst the women. We asked why they were laughing. The women said, 'Ask the question: Has anybody in this room not been raped?' Not one woman put up her hand.

"As men, we all have something to give. We all have the power to do our own part to stop the global pandemic of violence against women and girls. It is holding us all back."

"One in three women in the world will experience domestic violence or rape within the course of their lifetime. To me, I grew up in a household of women and I feel that all revolutionary causes should start with addressing misogyny."

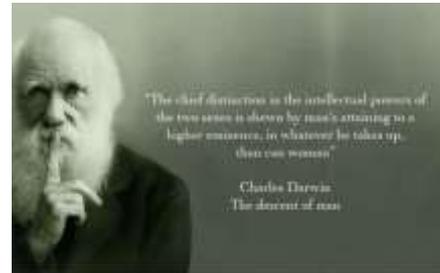
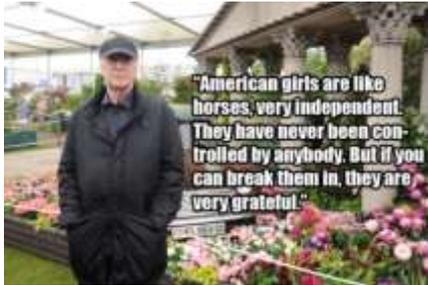
Ezra Miller, actor musician



Steven Seagal



[Seagal's](#) ex-wife Kelly LeBrock has made claims that Seagal was abusive throughout their marriage. Seagal has also been sued for sexual harassment several times as well as for assaulting women on his sets.



[Rolf Harris](#) was an Australian, living in England, working as a successful actor, musician, comedian, and television personality who became a famous children's entertainer. The world was, then, shocked to learn that Harris sexually assaulted four girls between the ages of 7 and 19 over three decades



In the summer of 2014, Rolf was found guilty of twelve counts of sexual assaults at his trial at Southwark Crown Court. The victims came forward after many years of silence to see justice served. One of Harris' victims was the 13-year old daughter of one his friends. Many other women reported sexual harassment, such as inappropriate touching and aggressive physical behaviour.

Sean Penn



In 1987, [Sean Penn](#) infamously [tortured then-wife Madonna](#) for *nine hours*. He tied her to a chair, threatened to cut off her hair, forced her to perform degrading sexual acts, and beat her with a baseball bat. Since then, the 55-year-old actor and director has gone on to star in dozens of critically-acclaimed movies, won two Academy Awards, and become a champion of numerous political and social causes. His violent past is a shocking, but hardly talked about.

Sean Connery thinks beating a woman is “justified” if she’s “a bitch”



“I don’t think there is anything particularly wrong about hitting a woman - although I don’t recommend doing it in the same way that you’d hit a man. An open handed slap is justified - if all other alternatives fail and there has been plenty of warning. If a woman is a bitch, or hysterical, or bloody-minded continually, then I’d do it. I think a man has to be slightly advanced, ahead of the woman. I really do - by virtue of the way a man is built, if nothing

else. But I wouldn’t call myself sadistic.” - Interview for Playboy Magazine in 1965

Donald Trump quotes



“You know, it really doesn’t matter what the media write as long as you’ve got a young, and beautiful, piece of ass.”

“If I were running ‘The View’, I’d fire Rosie O’Donnell. I mean, I’d look at her right in that fat, ugly face of hers, I’d say ‘Rosie, you’re fired.’” Trump has infamously hated on Rosie O’Donnell, making crude, sexist and misogynistic remarks about her on multiple occasions.

“All of the women on The Apprentice flirted with me – consciously or unconsciously. That’s to be expected.”

“You’re disgusting.” - To put this into context, Donald Trump said this to the opposing lawyer during a court case when she asked for a medical break to pump breast milk for her three-month-old daughter.



Tooting councillor [Susan John-Richards](#) quits the Conservative Party after claiming she endured three years of sexual discrimination from the Tory group



Last year, [George Galloway](#) famously retained his job as an MP from the Respect Party, representing Bradford West constituents despite publicly [suggesting](#) that having sex with a sleeping woman who had previously consented was "**not rape as anyone with any sense can possibly recognise it**"; instead, he branded it "**bad sexual etiquette**", despite the law clearly stating otherwise.