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Feminism Without Illusions: A Fallopian Discourse from a Male Perspective

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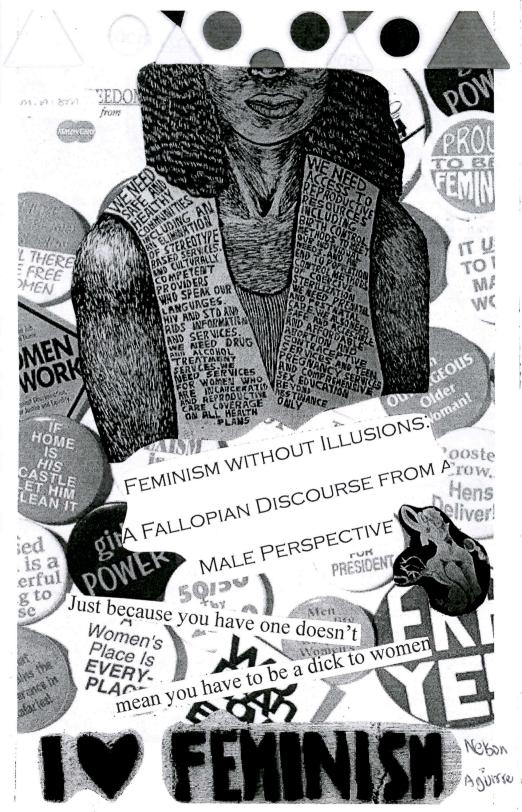
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So You Think You're a Male Feminist.

NOW What!
PLACE IS IN Intro

This zine is intended for men to assist the feminist cause and to bring feminism into their own lives. This zine will only be helpful to those who recognize the forces of privilege and oppression between men and women. Above all, this zine will allow you to open your mind.

Men need to

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APE

As a man, you don't take birth control. You don't need access to affordable pap smears/cervical cancer screenings/breast exams/etc. You don't have the choice to get pregnant or not get pregnant. But you do think that feminism is the radical notion that women are people, and that's what makes you important.

Men and Feminism

Since the 19th century men have played a significant part within the feminist movement. For example, in 1886, John Stuart Mill wrote The Subjection of Women which focused on the institution of marriage, revealing the sacrifices of women which include liberty, rights, and property. Another male feminist is Fredrick Douglass who was one of the thirty-one men who attended the first women's rights convention, the Seneca Falls Convention of 1886. Douglass espoused suffrage as a right and as nothing to do with sex. At the convention Douglass stated, "When I ran away from slavery, it was for myself;" when I advocated for emancipation, it was for my people; but when I stood up for the rights of women, self was out of the question, and I found a little nobility in the act." Therefore as history shows men can be feminists since it furthers the movement. Also, men should be allowed and encouraged to participate in feminism. Interestingly enough, 20 percent of American men consider themselves to be a feminist. Those same men said that feminism had improved their lives.

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It is of no secret that masculinity comes with a range of costs such as becoming the permanent breadwinner, suppressing emotions, shorter life expectancy, losing child custody cases, and maintaining friendships only with men. Feminism makes it possible for men to express their emotions while weakening patriarchy and the culture of masculinity. Therefore, men have a remedy for patriarchy as they can alter their way of life by espousing feminist ideals and by fighting for women's sexual autonomy and access to birth control.

Men are socialized to act and women

are socialized to be acted upon.

