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# RELATIONSHIPS the Feminist Way

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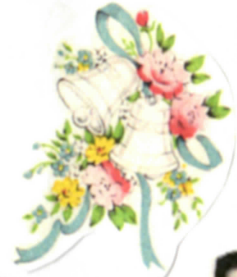
# RELATIONSHIPS

the Feminist way

an exploration of relationships,  
romantic and professional, and  
some suggestions for remaining a  
Feminist in these situations

CREATED BY: Grace Henderson,  
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# LOVE &



# MARRIAGE



order:  
 marriage +  
 weddings - Grace Henderson

dating - Maddie Fabricant

professional - Elizabeth Rebellio

# POPPING



## SOME

I asked some fellow college students their thoughts on marriage and weddings.

here is the result:

# QUESTIONS

Q. Do you want to get married? Why or why not?

Yes, I want to get married because I believe that love is important in life.

Jordan (M), Chapman Freshman

I want to get married! I want to be able to start a family and start a life with someone that I love and care about, and that I know will keep me grounded and happy the rest of my life!

Ellie (F), Chapman Freshman

According to Emma Goldman, the popular understand that love and marriage are synonymous is a MYTH. To her, marriage promotes unhealthy dependence and prevents the progression and advancement of women. My peers see it conversely

Q. Whose last name should a married couple have

A married couple should always have the man's last name.

Alex (M), Chapman Freshman

My mom kept her maiden name and I have her maiden name on my birth certificate, so personally I want both last names in a marriage.

Sierra (F), Chapman Freshman

Isn't it great to be mine?



The matter of who takes who's name did not surface in England until the 9th century, when lawmakers began to consider legalities around families and marriage. Women began to be considered "one" with their husbands, therefore they assume the man's name. The daughter is no longer her father's, she is her husband's. Women had no legal authority or identity apart from their spouse - the tradition and ideals persisted.

# THE Trophy WIFE



"I don't get me wrong. We think it was important they got an education, but they were really there for their Mrs. degrees."

women attend college to "grab" an affluent husband. Find security in a man rather than their own career aspirations and goals.



starched, ironed, pretty

## debutante ball

young women are formally presented to society, used to find a potential suitor for these young women, kind of like an auction.

women are groomed to believe that MARRIAGE is the only acceptable and desirable career.

housework rules!

## the housewife

well, what's a girl to do when she marries her "dream guy" but has no career of her own? She puts on some gloves and gets to work in her sphere! Just as she's been socialized to, a lifetime of cooking, cleaning and tending the 2.5 kid... this is not to discount the women who actively choose this. It only becomes dangerous when pressure is applied



# FEMINIST

## Wedding

### Patriarchal traditions

• Father "giving" daughter away and giving his blessing

• bride's family pays for all / most of the wedding (modern day dowery)

• only allowing virgins to wear white / white symbolizing innocence and purity

• changing your last name

make it feminist!

### NEW

traditions

• get the blessing of any/all parents, and have both walk the bride down... or walk yourself!

• split the costs between the families or pay for it yourself

• wear whatever color you feel expresses who you are, "alter ego" wedding dress (themed)

• hyphenate name, or come up with a new one for your new family

after the "I DOs"...

Keep your relationship successful by adopting feminist ideas!

**ALWAYS** stay true to yourself

**ALWAYS** put yourself and your safety first

**ALWAYS** stand up for yourself and your ideas

**ALWAYS** respect yourself

remember, you are an individual before a wife.

# VIRGIN EXPECTATIONS

"save yourself for your husband!"



The Madonna/Whore complex the assumption that the traits we value as stereotypically "feminine" are at odds with embracing one's sexuality, and that you can't be "kind, understanding, composed and also sexually empowered". It offers an "explanation" as to why guys will always talk about how much they love their wives. They have been taught that you marry the "good girl" and fuck the "bad girl." Wives are supposed to be pure, gifted to them in virginal white. Therefore, you find sex elsewhere. This dichotomy severely limits the sexual expression of women and it strips women of their right to enjoy pleasure the same way men do. But who's to say that a Madonna and a Whore cannot live within the same woman? Why can't we all be both?

reaffirms the idea that women exist for and only in relation to men

## THE MADONNA/WHORE COMPLEX

be both or neither.  
be whatever the fuck you want

be anything as long as is for you and you only



1820

excludes and everyone and anyone who does not fit in the mold

"Wifey Material" - a term used in popular culture to discern whether or not a woman is worth one night or the rest of your life. According to Urban Dictionary, it is a phrase often used to describe a girl whom you (men) feel possesses certain qualities the qualifies her to be a model wife for you. Some of these include: kind, sweet, caring and compassionate - trademarks of the submissive little housewife trope. LovePanky.com also sets some criteria down to let you know if you should "put a ring out in." Things like "she fits right into any crowd" and "she likes your friends" reinforce the idea of the "Cool Girl." As defined by the movie *Gone Girl*, the Cool Girl is the ultimate wife - she's the one.

what about you being a model husband for you? why are these standards only applied to women? chit's fucked

yeah, if you live in FANTASY LAND or want an obedient slave!

common characteristics of a "wife"

"the most beautiful girl you've ever scene"

"can hang out with the guys"

"fun"

all of which add to the male of experience of love, rather than a mutual relationship



# WIFE MATERIAL

gone girl monologue

your Per



"Men always say that as the defining compliment, don't they? She's a cool girl. Being the Cool Girl means I am a hot, brilliant, funny woman who adores football, poker, dirty jokes, and burping who plays video games, drinks cheap beer, loves threesomes and anal sex, and jams hot dogs and hamburgers into her mouth like she's hosting the world's biggest culinary gang bang while somehow maintaining a size 2, because Cool Girls are above all hot. Hot and understanding. Cool Girls never get angry; they only smile in a chagrined, loving manner and let their men do whatever they want. Go ahead, shit on me, I don't mind, I'm the Cool Girl."

doesn't have feelings, only there to make you feel good!

if you want another you, either

- a) Fuck your best friend Brad
- b) go fuck yourself

Men actually think this girl exists. Maybe they're fooled because so many women are willing to pretend to be this girl. For a long time Cool Girl offended me. I used to see men - friends, coworkers, strangers - giddy over these awful pretender women, and I'd want to sit these men down and calmly say: You are not dating a woman, you are dating a woman who has watched too many movies written by socially awkward men who'd like to believe that this kind of woman exists and might kiss them. I'd want to grab the poor guy by his lapels or messenger bag and say: The bitch doesn't really love chili dogs that much - no one loves chili dogs that much! And the Cool Girls are even more pathetic: They're not even pretending to be the woman they want to be, they're pretending to be the woman a man wants them to be.

"JUST ONE of the GUYS"



Oh, and if you're not a Cool Girl, I beg you not to believe that your man doesn't want the Cool Girl. It may be a slightly different version - maybe he's a vegetarian, so Cool Girl loves seitan and is great with dogs; or maybe he's a hipster artist, so Cool Girl is a tattooed, bespectacled nerd who loves comics. There are variations to the window dressing, but believe me, he wants Cool Girl, who is basically the girl who likes every fucking thing he likes and doesn't ever complain. (How do you know you're not Cool Girl? Because he says things like: "I like strong women." If he says that to you, he will at some point fuck someone else. Because "I like strong women" is code for "I hate strong women.")



"cool girls" reap the benefits of feminism but act against it. BITCH!! Live life for you, be yourself, love yourself



# Dating Violence

Is...

NOT OK SCARY UNWELCOME  
UNACCEPTABLE INHUMAINE ATROCIOUS  
COMMON INVALIDATING  
DEMORALIZING SAD



And most importantly:  
NOT YOUR  
FAULT!





# What Is Dating Violence?

The CDC Defines "teen dating violence" as: "the physical, sexual, psychological, or emotional aggression within a dating relationship, including stalking."

It can be in person or online.

"12% of US Females have reported physical violence & 16% have reported sexual violence from a partner in 12 months" - The 2013 National Youth Risk Behavior Survey

"23% of females & 14% of males experience violence from a partner before 18." - CDC Report

## Why does this happen?

- Learning behaviors from parents, relatives, peers & the media
- Teens believe this is acceptable
- Depression in teens, anxiety in teens, trauma in teens
- Aggression in teens towards other teens
- Illegal drug/alcohol use
- Early sexual behavior
- Partners having conflicts
- Witness violence at home or seeing it among peers
- (the CDC)

## What do I do if I experience dating violence?

- TELL SOMEONE
- TELL AN ADULT YOU TRUST

## What do I do if my friend is experiencing dating violence?

- TALK TO THEM
- TELL SOMEONE
- TELL AN ADULT YOU TRUST

## Do you know of any online resources?

- LoveIsRespect.org
- Break the Cycle
- Help line's 24/7 chat, phone, & text

# HARASSMENT

## Statistics

**94%**

of women surveyed by USA TODAY, state that they've experienced a form of sexual assault while working in the entertainment industry.

ROBERT "R" KELLY

"We're finally hearing each other, and seeing each other, and now locking arms in solidarity with each other, and in solidarity for every woman who doesn't feel seen, to finally be heard."  
-Reese Witherspoon regarding the #MeToo Movement

ROBERT KNEPPER

## What is the "Me Too" Movement?

A term originally coined in 2006, Tarana Burke, another victim of sexual assault, wanted to give other victims the opportunity to be heard. After a vast amount of women came out saying they had been sexually assaulted, this movement went viral. Women from all around the world were posting with #MeToo to come together and abolish this heinous crime.

ED WESTWICK  
GEORGE TAKEI  
JON HEELY  
PHILLIP BERK

#MeToo  
BEN AFFLECK  
JOHN LASSETER

RICK DAY  
BRETT RATNER  
RON JEREMY  
#METOO

NICK CARTER

PETER MARTINS

ROY PRICE

## HOLLYWOOD

T.J. MILLER  
BEN VEREEN

MURRAY MILLER

## Introduction

On October 5, 2017, the New York Times published the first story detailing the sexual abuse scandal accusing famous director, Harvey Weinstein, of sexually abusing actress Ashley Judd. Since then, millions of women have come out on social media creating the "Me Too" movement.

HARVEY WEINSTEIN

JESSE LACEY MATT LAUER



DAVID BLAINE  
NOLLY  
ADAM VENIT  
CHARIE ROSE

#MeToo

JAMES FRANCO

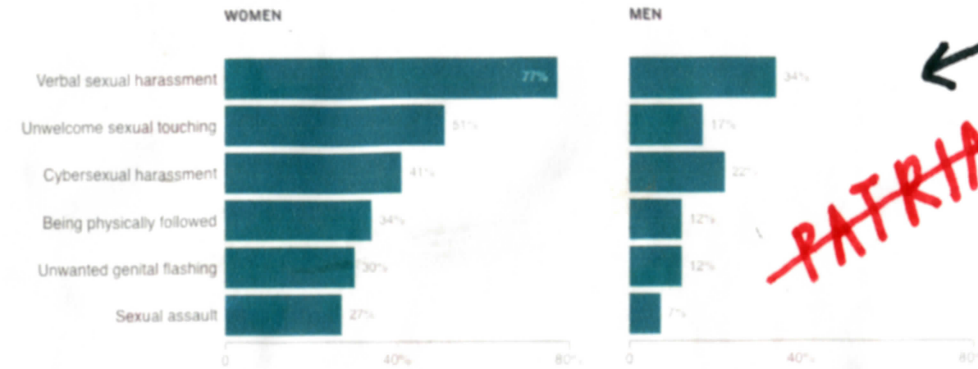


KATH  
ETHAN

BRYAN SINGER  
LOUIS CK

3 OUT OF 4 WOMEN HAVE BEEN

Verbally Harassed



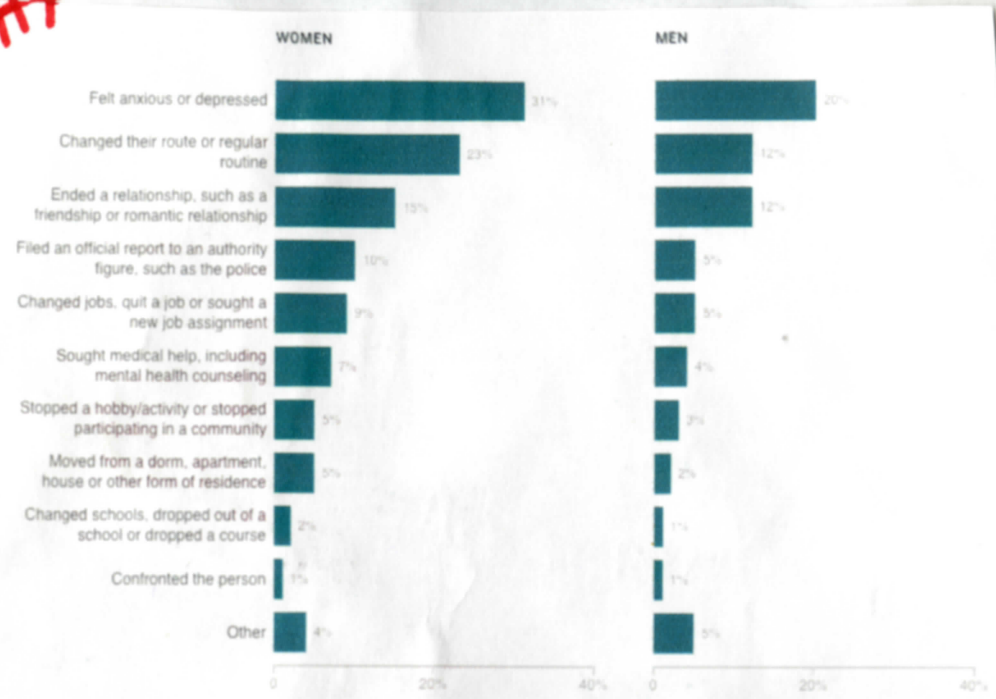
~~PATRIARCHY~~

Source: Stop Street Harassment  
Credit: Hilary Fung/NPR

"[FEMINISM] ISN'T SAYING THIS IS WRONG AND THIS IS RIGHT. IT'S HAVING THE POWER TO DO WHATEVER THE F- YOU WANT. IT'S ABOUT HAVING YOUR OWN BELIEFS AND STAYING TRUE TO THEM. I LOVE HAVING EVERY RIGHT TO BE OUTSPOKEN AS I AM, AS ANY MAN WOULD BE"  
- CHRISSEY TEIGEN

**How can we avoid this abuse in professional environments?**

Due to the underlying patriarchy we face in our world today, women are always lower on the job scale than men. This "glass escalator" system helps men accelerate through job positions while women seem to be stuck in the same position for years to come. Some job qualifications are also very specific to men, and certain stereotypes of women can cause them to not qualify. If all occupations incorporated a more feminist outlook, women and men would not be unequal in the workplace. It wouldn't matter what gender you were, you could uphold any job, and get paid the same amount as the people around you. If we stop believing that men should uphold more power, we could eliminate this overbearing nature for men to take control and assert their dominance against women. This, then, could help abolish sexual harassment in our world today.



Source: Stop Street Harassment  
Credit: Hilary Fung/NPR

EMOTIONAL AND PHYSICAL DANGER