

Spring 2017

## Women: In Power and Politics

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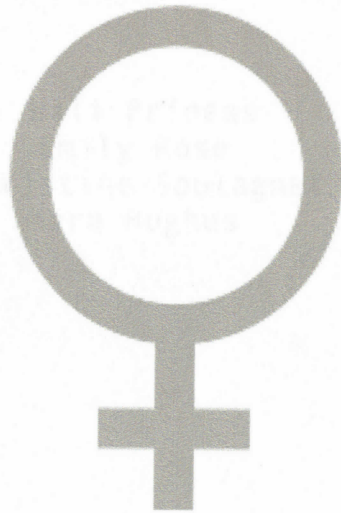
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WOMEN:  
In Power  
And  
Politics



Women: In Power & Politics

WMST 101  
Zine Project  
Spring 2017  
Chapman University

Hali Prineas  
Emily Rose  
Christine Soulagnet  
Mara Hughes

## Historical Female Legends

By: Hali Prineas

Women have been and still are a leading contribution to the change of the world. Ranging from politically, socially, and economically. Women do not just stand for women's rights they have stood up to empower many types of people regardless of gender. These women have had set backs based on gender, disability, race and religion. Women have not been given enough credit for the discoveries and movements they have taken on. **WOMEN HAVE CHANGED THE WORLD** and are continuing to change it.

### HELEN KELLER (1880-1968)

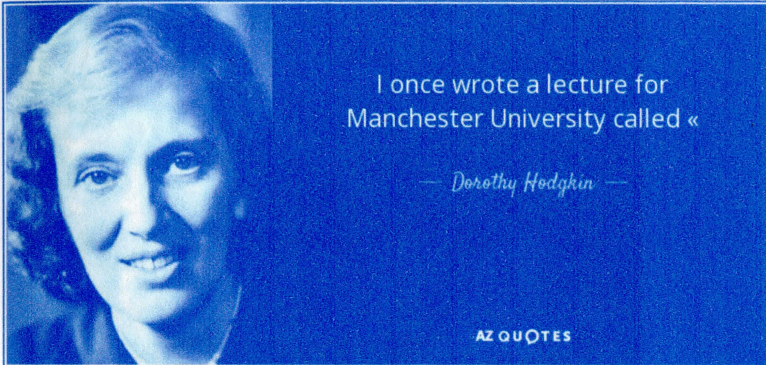
Helen Keller was an American social activist. She became deaf and blind at the age of 19 months. Helen Keller tackled social and political issues including women's suffrage, pacifism and birth control. She testified to Congress advocating to improve the welfare of blind people. In 1920 she was a critical part of the founding of the American Civil Liberties Union. She raised awareness and money in support of the blind.



**BE HAPPY WITH  
WHAT YOU HAVE  
WHILE WORKING FOR  
WHAT YOU WANT.  
- HELEN KELLER -**

## DOROTHY HODGKIN (1910-1994)

Dorothy Hodgkin was a British biochemist who had to fight her way into a chemistry class was only for boys. Because she was a woman she was not taken seriously by fellow classmates or faculty. Later she pursued to structure penicillin, insulin and the vitamin B-12 and the methods of X-ray crystallography. .



Women are not nearly recognized enough or seen as the most powerful people in the world. They always assume men rule the world because they are generally seen politically as overpowering and the "man of the house". Women have come up with ways to save the world such as Helen Keller and Dorothy Hodgkin creating ways to empower the blind and come up with ways to save people's health.

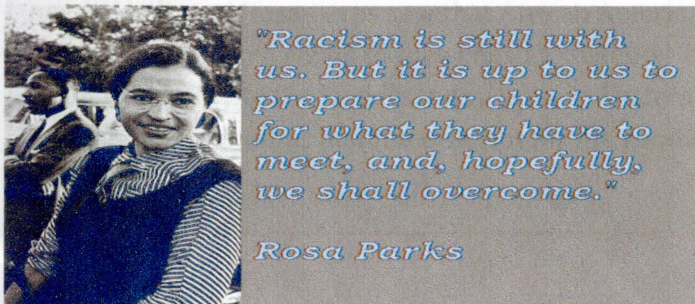
## MOTHER TERESA (1910-1997)

Mother Teresa was a Roman Catholic Nun who devoted her life to helping the poor and destitute globally. She created homes for the dying and her teachings and care spread over the world. There were over 700 missions operating in 130 different countries by 2013 in the spread of Mother Teresa's work.



## ROSA PARKS (1913-2005)

Rosa Parks was an African American civil rights activist. She led one of the most successful mass movements against racial segregation in history. Her actions have left a lasting legacy for civil rights movements globally.



## WANGARI MAATHAI (1940-2011)

Wangari Maathai was a Kenyan environmental activist. She founded the Green Belt Movement. She promoted environmental conservation in Kenya and Africa. Because of the degradation on social and economic fortunes of Kenya people starting fighting for resources. She started her movement to prevent this social and economic problems. This led to global motivation for caring about environmental and humanitarian issues.

African women in general need to know that it's OK for them to be the way they are as a strength, and to be liberated from fear and from silence.

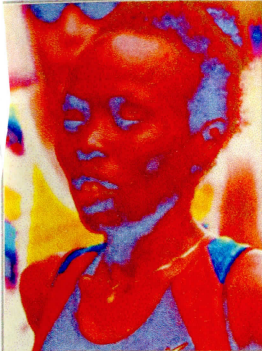
...Wangari Maathai  
Kenyan Environmentalist & Political Activist



“People become leaders by internalizing a leadership identity and developing a sense of purpose”, when comparing male leaders and historical legends to female ones, there is a distinct difference how and why they became those leaders. Hundreds of the female leaders whether historic or in modern day made their change for society based on helping for the better- not because they wanted a leader title. Mother Teresa saw that the poor needed help and Rosa Parks saw that African Americans needed to have civil rights to they began to make a change. Majority of the leaders today become leaders based on bias opinions and the title, not for the good of the people.

## TEGLA LOROUE (1973-)

Tegla Loroupe is a Kenyan long distance track runner who was the first African American to win the NYC marathon. She devotes her time to humanitarian and peace activities advocating for world peace and better rights for women and men globally.



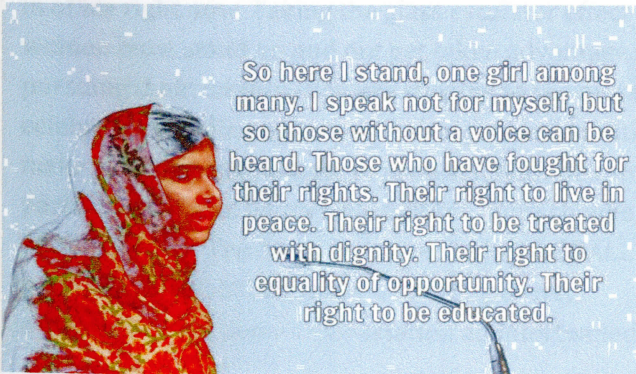
In a country where only men are encouraged, one must be one's own inspiration.

— Tegla Loroupe —

AZ QUOTES

## MALA YOUSAFZAI (1997-)

Mala Yousafzai is Pakistani school pupil and spokesperson for women's right to education. She has gone on to be an activist for human rights, education and women's rights. She has continuously campaigned the right to education. Being a global advocate and even enduring a gunshot to the head and surviving due to her activism.

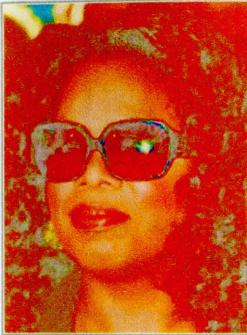


So here I stand, one girl among many. I speak not for myself, but so those without a voice can be heard. Those who have fought for their rights. Their right to live in peace. Their right to be treated with dignity. Their right to equality of opportunity. Their right to be educated.



## OPRAH WINFREY (1954-)

Oprah Winfrey has played a key role in modern American life. She has shaped cultural trends and endorsed several liberal causes. Oprah Winfrey was the first woman to own her own talk show and one of the first African American women to play such a crucial role in modern America's entertainment industry. Oprah has given WOC and all women in general the confidence to speak up and not be afraid of pursuing their dreams.



I was raised to believe that excellence is the best deterrent to racism or sexism. And that's how I operate my life.

— Oprah Winfrey —

AZ QUOTES

As the time passes, we must focus on the more and more women that are starting to speak up for their rights and for change. In 2013, 98 women were in the house and senate and now in 2017, 104 women hold seats in the U.S. Congress. And currently there are 15 female world leaders in office right now. Taking the glass escalator effect to mind, women must stand up and not get taken advantage of while pursuing their careers. You are starting to see more female celebrities standing up to women's rights and wanting to make a change and partake in protests. With this continuous participation from women we will see more change for the better globally. The focus does need to be GLOBALLY because with globalization you see the poverty, mistreatment, economic devastation all intertwined.

## Powerful female U.S. political leaders who advocate for social justice and the environment

### California Senator *Kamala Harris*



Spoke at the Women's March, regularly tweets and demonstrates her support of social justice causes and has consistently advocated against Trump and the rest of his administration since his election. Certainly, she is part of the establishment, but she seems to be making her position within the establishment an outlet for critiquing it. She may be considering a run for President in 2020.

### U.S. Representative for Hawaii's 2nd congressional district *Tulsi Gabbard*



A veteran and a tactician admired by right-wing and left-wing politicians alike, she was formerly the DNC vice-chair but stepped down to support Bernie Sanders' 2016 campaign. Again, somewhat establishment-associated and she isn't flawless, but is advocating good things. She may also be considering a 2020 presidential run.

### Activist and former Green Party presidential candidate *Jill Stein*



In 2012, she became the most-voted-for female presidential candidate in a general election before Hillary Clinton's record-breaking run (and received even more votes in 2016). She is an advocate for the environment, against war, and against corporate control, as well as being a supporter of other social justice-related causes.

Women's March Organizers *Tamika D. Mallory, Linda Sarsour, Chloë Bland, and Carmen Perez*



Organizers of the January 21<sup>st</sup> Women's March and related organization, advocating racial justice, feminism, LGBTQIA+ rights, environmental justice, immigration rights, and other issues throughout the intersections of social justice. All four were arrested at their "A Day Without a Woman protest" outside a New York city Trump Hotel and later released. They continue to organize against systemic oppression and injustice.

Note: while it is exciting to see more women in power advocating for causes we care about, it is important that we never see those in power as above corruption or wrongdoing. No person is perfect, and politicians in general are decidedly less so.

## On “Bossy”

The screenshot shows a Google search for the word "bossy". The search results are as follows:

**bossy**<sup>1</sup>  
/ bōsē, bāsē/  
*adjective* *informal*  
*adjective*: bossy, comparative adjective: bossier, superlative adjective: bossiest  
**fond of giving people orders; domineering**  
"she was headlong bossy, scared of nobody, and full of vinegar"  
*synonyms*: domineering, pushy, overbearing, imperious, officious, high-handed, authoritarian  
**dictatorial** controlling, informal high and mighty  
"we're hiding from his bossy sister"  
*antonyms*: **submissive**

**bossy**<sup>2</sup>  
/ bōsē/  
*noun* *us*: *informal*  
*noun*: bossy, plural noun: bossies  
a cow or calf.

**Origin**  
mid 19th century, of unknown origin.

Translate bossy to

Use over time for: bossy

1800 1850 1900 1950 2010

Show less

Feedback

One Google search for the word “bossy” reveals its associations with women, with femininity. As you can see, both of the example uses in sentences refer to girls; and not just any girls; fearless, feckful sisters of brothers. Additionally, the term refers to a “cow or calf”; what do you know, another word used as an insult for women. And notice that the listed antonym of “bossy” is “submissive”. Hmm, where does this come up? Oh yes, the main thing women and girls are taught to be;

submissive. And look at when its use increased; perhaps in line with conservative backlash against 2<sup>nd</sup> wave feminism.

"Bossy" is a word that almost no one would imagine using for a man or boy, yet it seems that most women have been called "bossy" as little girls. We can't all be control freaks, can we? I don't think so. "Bossy" has been substituted for "stubborn", "free", "opinionated", "assertive", "organized", and "being a leader"; coincidentally, the exact traits that patriarchy would like to see eliminated in women and girls. Girls are rarely complemented for their leadership; rather, gifted young girls are shut down for "bossiness" which is actually simply taking an active role in leadership in the vast majority of cases.

I say we put an end to that. Call things for what they really are. Before you use the term "bossy", think; is this individual showing an excess of commanding or demanding things from others, or an aptitude for respectfully organizing and leading, or even just a lack of passivity? In any case, "bossy" is the wrong word. Try "excessively controlling/demanding" or "a leader" or "powerful". I would argue that "bossy" as a phenomenon simply doesn't exist and should not be legitimized as such by use of the term.

**"What's your favorite position?"**  
**"CEO."**

*By Emily Rose*

## Female CEOs



**The 2016 Fortune 500** list includes just **21** companies with women CEOs, compared to **24** in 2015 and in 2014. Women hold **4.2%** of CEO positions in America's 500 biggest companies. **Why are female positions of leadership in business actually decreasing?**

**Women in the workplace:**

In the workplace, women who are assertive are seen as a bossy bitch, where a man who does the same thing is considered a go getter. Many men are still not comfortable taking direction from women. **What is holding women back?** Sure not their periods, **Women can bleed and lead at the same time.**



Too Emotional, too Bossy, too Nice



Control freak  
Bossy  
Diva  
Bitch

Leader  
Powerful  
Driven  
Successful

“I’m like, 160 pounds  
right now and I  
can catch a dick  
whenever I want.”  
-Amy Schumer

Critique of female leadership:

By Emily Rose

Amy Schumer is a hilarious comedian with a huge platform to address women’s issues, but instead uses her power to make fun of herself and other heavier women. She provides great humor in poking fun at patriarchal society and its effect on women, but she does it constantly in such a self-deprecating way. Why to be funny these days do women have to shit on themselves? It is like you have to be first person to call yourself all of these awful names so it does not matter when other people do. It does matter. No one should be referring to women in this way because that just makes it normalized for other people to say those things about each other. People like Schumer because she is blunt and wild and talks about her struggle living in LA amongst so many thin



beautiful women. She discusses her sexual encounters and how hard it is to get guys to sleep with her because of how she looks. She basically talks about how she considers herself a fat troll and discusses how people treat her because of it.

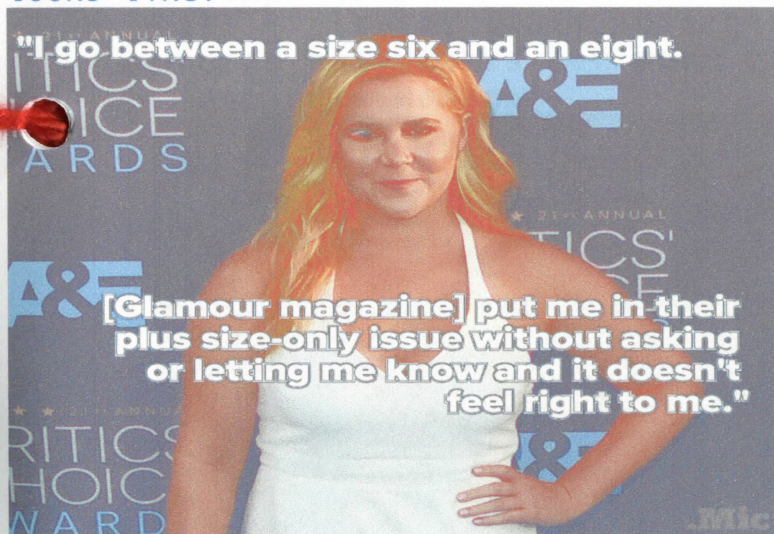
To me this is where Schumer becomes a "loophole woman." She wants to be one of the guys and joke about sex and drinking and profanity. She slut shames herself to get laughs and attention. She is the "loophole woman" who is not offended by catcalling and vulgarity, but instead she welcomes it. She finds it humorous, a comedic opportunity. She talks about her 'gross vagina' and how her vagina smells like a barnyard animal. Women already have enough shame about how their vaginas smell and now she is telling men it is okay to say these things because she is a female and admitting to it. As we already know, **the shaming of vaginas is constantly used as a form of sexual oppression.** Schumer contributing to this problem. She is essentially wanting people to laugh at her loose moral standards, promiscuity, and how she looks. She wants you to laugh at women like her who are sloppy and scattered. While comedy is a way to address many feminist issues, Schumer treats herself like a joke.

Some guys, they wanna sleep with a girl that's, like, a skeleton wrapped in plastic. That's fine if that's what you want.



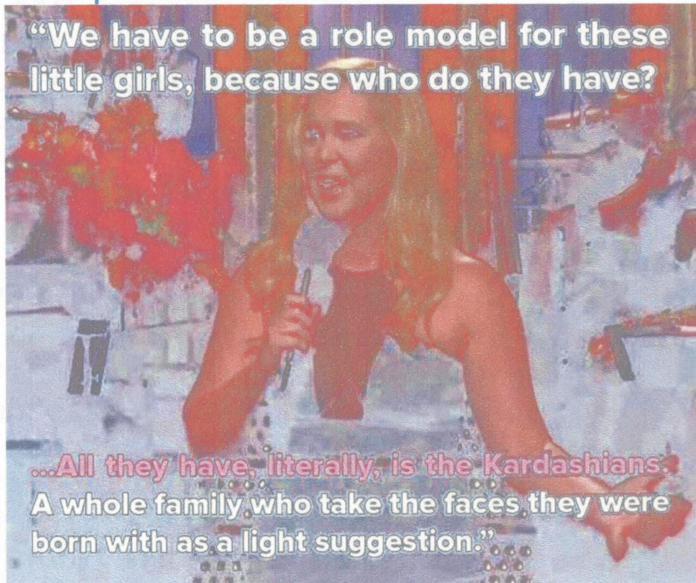
How are women in power supposed to be taken seriously when they use their platform to call themselves fat cows and laugh with other men about how slutty women can be? She has a huge male following, mostly because we already know men like opportunities to point the finger at women and call them names. Also why do we have to pick a body size to get behind? Why can't all women be beautiful instead of making fun of girls who are too skinny and girls who are too fat? Schumer shames women and herself for how they look. It is the idea of being the first person to make fun of yourself so that it softens the blow when other people do. A lot of female comedians do this and I am so tired of it. Being the first to objectify yourself before a man can does not solve any problems. I think this is all part of a role she plays, a comedy bit to get attention.

I appreciate her attention and humor in regard to feminist issues but she has to realize how tiring it is to keep hearing her put herself down. She is telling all the girls out there who have low self-esteem and body problems to just shit on themselves. She is telling girls to practice negative self-talk and just tear yourself to shreds before someone else can. It also adds to the problem that all of her jokes are centered around getting drunk and sleeping with guys. This is not all women care about or want to talk about. This is not what a "cool girl" looks like.



The worst part about it is she does this whole fat bit but when *Glamour* magazine puts Schumer on their list of inspiring plus-sized actresses she calls them out. So she profits off a comedy bit

where she constantly calls herself fat but is offended to be called plus-sized in the media? The annoying part is Schumer is not even fat- she is an average-sized woman. This is very questionable to make a career out of shaming yourself and then get offended when someone calls you plus-sized. This is offensive to all of the plus-sized women out there. Her reaction to being on *Glamour's* list proves she does not practice what she preaches. She gets money playing the fat girl role but in reality does not want to be looked at that way. You cannot have it both ways. This attempt to fit in with the guys and call girls fat sluts, bitches, and whores only makes her more of a "loop-hole woman."

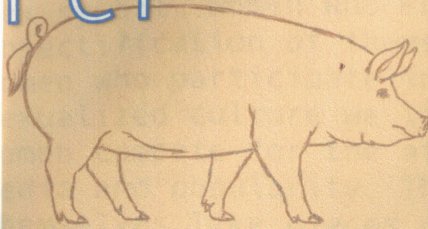


**"We have to be a role model for these little girls, because who do they have?"**

**...All they have, literally, is the Kardashians. A whole family who take the faces they were born with as a light suggestion."**

Critique of female leadership:  
The Kardashian era  
By Emily Rose

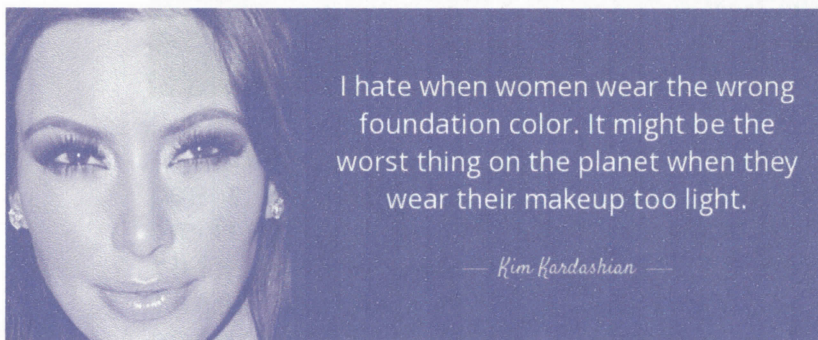
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STOP  
MAKING  
STUPID  
PEOPLE  
FAMOUS

The Kardashian era: an era characterized by the fame and praise of celebrities who are famous for absolutely nothing but their sexual objectification. In this era, women in power are being praised for nothing but their looks. These women quite literally have used their p\*\*y to get fame and fortune. They are vain, self-absorbed narcissists with a platform. A platform based on sexual objectification that has set women even farther back. Our culture is already incredibly desensitized to this objectification and the problem is only getting worse. This era is everything wrong with our society. This generation has an obsession with materialism and being like these women. These women are using their platform for nothing but to be sexually objectified. **Why do women desire and think the ultimate source of power is every man wanting you and**

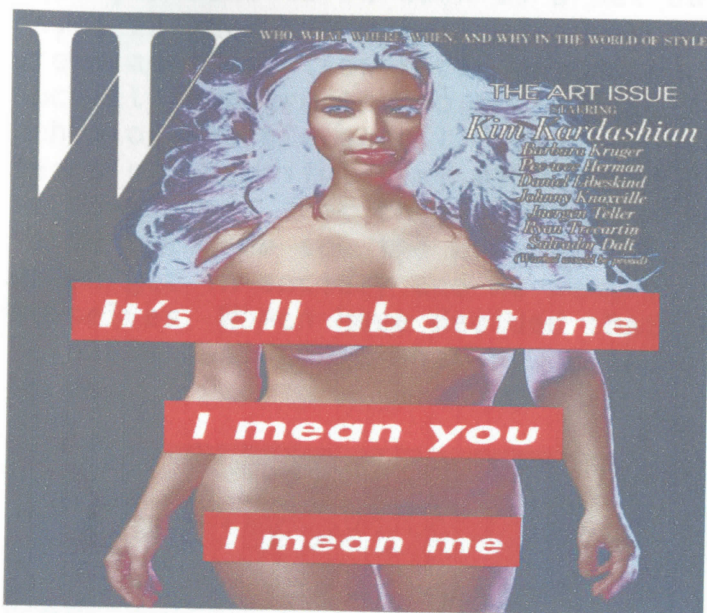
There success is based entirely on misogyny and sexual objectification. This is the clearest example to me of "female chauvinistic pigs." Women who like the attention of being seen as only a sex symbol. Women who encourage the sexual objectification of themselves and others. Women who participate in the highly sexualized culture we live in today. These women compete for the attention of the media and popularity. They treat themselves like pieces of juicy meat to be looked at and wanted. They have wealth and fame that they could be using to stand up for things that matter but instead their attention is focused on looking the part. We are teaching young girls that being attractive and desirable is the only thing that is important. We are teaching them that being praised for your looks is the biggest accomplishment. That young women should focus on this unattainable beauty because that is there place in this world.



I hate when women wear the wrong foundation color. It might be the worst thing on the planet when they wear their makeup too light.

— Kim Kardashian —

every woman wanting to be you? Why do women not aspire to be running companies and making a difference in this world but instead having millions of followers and sexy pictures? Naomi Wolf in "The Beauty Myth" said cosmetic industries want you to worry. This is a tactic to keep women down, so that we focus on unattainable beauty instead of what is important.



Women obsess over these women in power and want to look like them and be desired by men the way they are. Why is this era of women such sell outs? These women cash in at any opportunity, they sexually degrade themselves for male consumption.

The Kardashian era of women in power needs to be stopped because it only supports patriarchal society. This misogyny is justified with women saying that they like the attention and it is their choice, which is all and well. But, **do these women not see how they are role models and figures of power?** The message they are delivering to women is that you want to be seen as a sex object. Any teenager with a cellphone and even grown adults follow these women. We are socially constructed to normalize this behavior. People scroll through Instagram feeds of beautiful sexy models and think to themselves that they would do anything to be them. We see the praise that these women get in society and we want it for ourselves. Women have decided that being sexually desired is what power looks like to us.



**Kim Kardashian West** ✓

@KimKardashian

Follow

And they say I didn't have a talent...try  
balancing a champagne glass on your ass  
LOL #BreakTheInternet #PaperMagazine



"We teach girls to shrink themselves,  
To make themselves smaller.  
We say to girls, you can have ambition,  
But not too much.

You should aim to be successful,  
But not too successful.

Otherwise, you would threaten the man.  
Because I am female, I am expected to  
aspire to marriage.

I am expected to make my life choices  
always keeping in mind that marriage is  
the most important.

Now marriage can be a source of joy and  
love and mutual support but why do we  
teach girls to aspire to marriage

And we don't teach boys the same?

We raise girls to see each other as  
competitors

Not for jobs or accomplishments,  
Which I think can be a good thing,  
But for the attention of men."

-Chimamanda Ngo Adichie,  
"We Should All Be Feminists"

**Hilary Clinton**

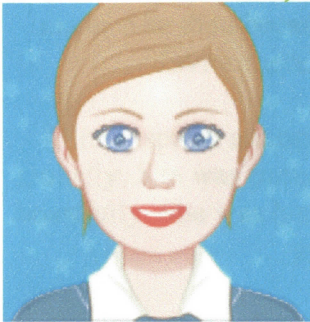
**By Christine Soulagnet**

Although you call me Hilary,  
And may think I just sip tea,  
I was the first woman to top a major presidential ticket,  
So something must be interesting about me.

For more than 40 years I've fought for families and  
children, I've provided healthcare for millions,  
I stand up for LGBTQ rights at home and abroad,  
And yet there are still many who see me as a villain.

You find me scandalous because of some stupid emails,  
Or maybe you just hate me because I'm not male,  
But I've negotiated the toughest sanctions Iran has ever  
faced,  
And you'd rather me go away and sip on a cocktail?

I've said, "women's rights are human rights,"  
I negotiated a ceasefire between Hamas and Israelites,  
I even helped get 9/11 first responders the health care  
they needed,  
And these are just a few of my many highlights.





### Jill Abramson

New York City here she comes,  
Born and raised Jewish, yep, that's Jill Abramson.  
But how did she get here? Why is she important?  
Well she worked really hard in sum

Attending Harvard and Radcliffe and getting her degree,  
She then hopped right in to work at Time Magazine.

That's not all, that's not even half of it,  
She was then Editor in Chief at Legal Times for a bit.

So she was a writer and had great wit,  
Maybe that's why she then wrote a book called Strange Justice.

She started work at New York Times, and was there over a  
decade,

Even though realistically she was making less than what men  
made. She then became the first woman to hold Executive  
Editor there and got a higher pay grade.

She inspired not only women in her office, but women  
globally, She was proud of her work, but never talked about it  
boastfully. She was humble and intelligent, but got eventually  
got fired woefully.

Her impact was large and men couldn't take it, but don't  
worry that won't be the last we see of what she has writ.



### Melinda Gates

Melinda Gates should have just stayed in the background. Her MBA from Duke and her work with Microsoft for nine years could have been drowned.

She was born in Dallas Texas,

Did anyone even know she was around?

She stayed quiet for the first 14 years of marriage,

Bill Gates must have layer down the law,

But then why would he later let her cofound the William H Gates foundation with him and her father in law?

How could we have let her focus on bettering the lives of women and children?

And then we allowed her to be on the board of trustees at Duke amongst men?

Is this because the amount of money she's given to philanthropy and global development is in the billions?

Or maybe it's because the amount she gave in grant payments was also in the billions.

She even is taking over awards that men could have had.

The doctor of humane letters award could have gone to someone's granddad.

Or what about the global leadership award?

She got more than that too, she should stop trying to hoard.

Wait if she's doing all of that, why don't we like her again?

Oh yeah because she's taking back attention from the men.

### Michelle Obama

A woman of power, a woman of strength,  
She made such a huge impact in such a small length.

She created many programs to better society,  
She did so with great variety.

Helping children to end obesity,  
By creating new lunch programs and lower costs to provide  
equality. Adults need help too, so Michelle Obama did so  
gleefully. With many regional grocers lowering costs of  
healthier foods frequently, We can see that lower obesity rates  
could be in our proximity.

She is all about women, and all about families,  
She wants to get rid of some of their agonies,  
So stay in school she says, you all have the capacity,  
The youth has so much more to offer than their profanity.

To be healthier you must stay in shape,  
So don't just eat more grapes,  
Come by one of the many tennis courts that she helps create, its  
one step closer to helping the community lose weight.

She cares about everyone, she cares about all.  
This is why she's a woman of power, in case you don't recall.

