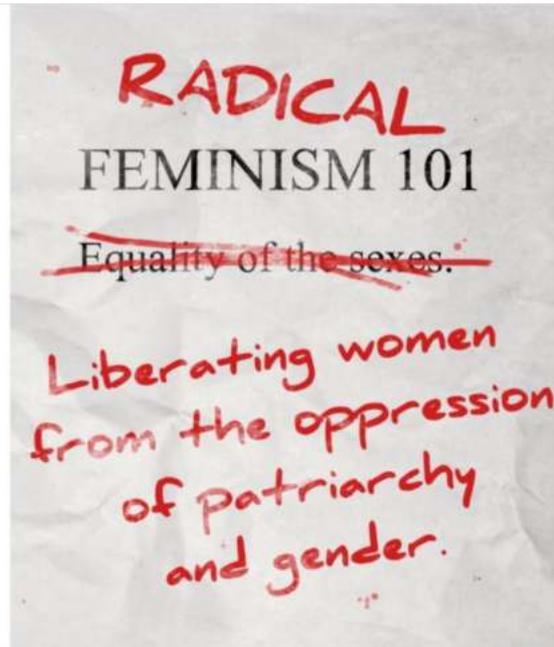


Radical Feminist Wish List 2019



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About a week ago, I started wondering: what would a list of demands for women look like, if contemporary feminism wasn't so thoroughly co-opted by the idea that it must include everyone and fight every struggle? I put an initial list (incorporating 10 items from a thread by Alessandra Asteriti) out on Twitter and in some Facebook groups I'm in, and added more items and made some revisions based on women's feedback. This is the result. I don't pretend that it is final; it's a work in progress and we all have to do that work in our own activist groups. But perhaps this will be one of several useful places to start (another is the Woman's Place UK manifesto).

I. Male violence against women and girls

- 1) An end to Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- 2) An end to female infanticide
- 3) An end to child brides
- 4) An end to forced marriage
- 5) An end to rape and other forms of sexual violence
- 6) An end to domestic violence
- 7) Criminalization of intimate partner strangulation as a separate offence
- 8) No 'sex games gone wrong' defence for men's killing of female sexual partners

- 9) Criminalization of the purchase of sex (the Nordic Model)
- 10) Criminalization of the making of professional pornography
- 11) Freedom from violence for female intersex people
- 12) Freedom from sexual violence for women with disabilities
- 13) Freedom from sexual violence for women living in refugee camps
- 14) Recognition of torture and slavery as domestic (non-state) offences
- 15) Criminalization of all forms of paid surrogacy
- 16) And end to all forms of male violence against women and girls

II. Contributors to male violence against women and girls

- 17) An end to the sexual objectification of women in advertising
- 18) Portrayal of women as whole persons in film and television
- 19) An end to the hypersexualisation of black women
- 20) Education on the tactics used by domestic abusers, to aid in the prevention of women and girls becoming victims of domestic violence
- 21) An end to all enforced modesty of women and girls
- 22) Legal reform to enable police to bring domestic family violence and sexual offence criminal charges without complainants, to alleviate pressure on survivors

III. Women's health & bodily autonomy

- 23) Adequate healthcare to prevent deaths in childbirth
- 24) An end to period poverty
- 25) Increased funding for research into women's health
- 26) A call for all new pharmaceuticals and medical devices to have their effects on women evaluated
- 27) An end to the 'default male' assumption in healthcare research
- 28) Support for the health and safety of prostituted and exited women
- 29) Full reproductive rights for all women, including free and accessible abortions

- 30) Reassertion of the importance of female-only spaces (bathrooms, changing rooms, prisons, etc.)
- 31) Free, accessible vaccination for women and girls against HPV strains 16 & 17 (which cause the bulk of cervical cancer)
- 32) Reassertion of the right of women and girls to request female doctors and healthcare professionals for all intimate examinations and procedures
- 33) More research into the causes of the rise in teenage girls reporting to gender clinics
- 34) In order to avoid creating a market for women's organs, zero funding for research into womb transplants into male bodies
- 35) Support for female survivors of male violence, in particular in housing and mental health services
- 36) Access to midwives for high quality maternity care
- 37) Intrapartum and post partum healthcare to prevent post partum depression, post partum psychosis, PTSD, and maternal suicide
- 38) An end to obstetric violence

IV. Women's freedom of conscience and freedom of thought

- 39) Women-only shortlists to secure the increased participation of women in politics
- 40) Demand for women's equal participation in politics
- 41) Rejection of male people acting as women's officers for any party (regardless of their gender identity)
- 42) Reassertion of the importance of female-only spaces (political groups, women's festivals, etc.)
- 43) A reassertion of the importance of language that refers to female people and articulates political problems affecting female people, including the terms "woman", "female", "lesbian", "mother", and "wife"
- 44) Acceptance of the political choice some women make to refuse to extend female pronouns (she/her/hers) to male people, particularly in cases where those people have engaged in or threatened violence against women and girls, or exemplified toxic masculinity
- 45) Reaffirmation of the sex/gender distinction
- 46) Rejection of concept creep from 'misgendering' to 'accurately referring to sex'
- 47) A rejection of all forms of misogyny perpetrated in the name of religion, in particular against Muslim women

- 48) Reassertion of women's right to organize politically to pursue their interests
- 49) Rejection of all pressure on women to include other causes in their feminism or to prioritize male interests in their feminism
- 50) Education on patriarchal domination, and rejection of all social conditioning that tells women and girls to put boys' and men's needs before their own
- 51) In order to avoid violations of women's bodily autonomy (specifically their reproductive choices) premised on poor science understanding, universal education on pregnancy and the process of gestation

V. Women's access to & full participation in public life

- 52) An end to pregnancy discrimination
- 53) An end to breastfeeding discrimination
- 54) Reassertion of the importance of women's sex-based rights
- 55) Protection from discrimination for lesbian and bisexual women
- 56) Protection from discrimination for gender non-conforming women
- 57) Protection from discrimination for transmen
- 58) Increased incentives for women to enter STEM
- 59) A living wage for all women in all industries
- 60) Generous paid parental leave and affordable childcare
- 61) Generous welfare support for parents who wish to care full-time for children with special needs
- 62) Women's equal pay for equal work
- 63) An end to the 'default male' assumption in product design
- 64) Better education about sexual orientation in teenage years, in particular lesbian and bisexual orientations
- 65) Better support for women's pursuit of criminal proceedings against fathers who fail to pay child maintenance
- 66) Flexible work and paid leave for women in the workplace going through menopause, difficult pregnancies, and painful menstruation
- 67) Protection of female sporting categories, particularly against male people identifying as women

68) Increased recognition and respect for professions dominated by women

69) Respect for women's human rights

70) Consultation with women on all matters that affect them, including reform to laws for who will be housed in the female prison estate, and reform of laws determining who may access single-sex services more generally