

Feminism



Aims: By the end of the session the young people will have an increased understanding of what feminism is and have explored its implications.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the session the participants will:

- Have discussed what feminism is
- Have explored feminist views
- Understand the impact of feminist & anti-feminist views

Group size: 8-10

Time: 1 hour

Venue: Youth club

Materials:

- Celebrity quote cards
- Event slips
- Paper & pens/pencils
- Flip chart & pens
- Fact cards

Time	What	With
5 mins	Welcome & ground rules Explain the aim of the session and agree basic ground rule including respect for each other, listen to who is speaking, only one person to speak at a time etc.	
15 mins	Are you a feminist? Ask the group members if they consider themselves to be feminists. You can either do this publicly, by getting them to raise their hands, or give everyone a piece of paper to write Yes or No on and place it in a box. Keep a note of the number of feminists. Split the celebrity quote cards between the young people and ask them to decide if the celebrity is a feminist or not. Get the whole group to discuss whether they think the decision is correct or could the quote be interpreted differently.	Paper & pens Quote cards
10 mins	The journey to equality Write the following dates on the flip chart and cut out the event slips. Ask the young people to match the events with the dates. Discuss how recently these equalities have happened – all within the last 60 years! 1958 1965 1975 1980 1982 1990 1994	Flip chart & pens Event slips



Time	What	With
15 mins	<p>Current inequality</p> <p>Place the equality fact cards on a table or hold them up. Ask the young people to decide whether they think they are true facts or not. Talk about whether this information is what they expected.</p>	Fact cards
5 mins	<p>What is feminism?</p> <p>Agree a definition of feminism as a group – make notes on the flip chart.</p> <p>One definition of feminism is “<i>the advocacy of women's rights on the ground of the equality of the sexes.</i>”</p> <p>Ensure the group understand that feminism is about equality between men and women and not about women being superior to, or hating, men.</p>	Flip chart & pens
5 mins	Ask the group members again if they consider themselves to be feminists. Compare the numbers to see if anyone has changed their view.	
5 mins	Evaluation and finish session.	

Somerset Youth and Community Service

Feminism – Celebrity Quote Cards



"If I had the opportunity to squeeze Nigella Lawson, her throat wouldn't be my first choice."

Nick Griffins tweet about Nigella Lawson's husband chocking her in a restaurant



"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



"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



"This congress still needs to pass a law that makes sure a woman is paid the same as a man. It's 2015. It's time."

Barack Obama, US President



"We all know that when women are empowered, they immeasurably improve the lives of everyone around them... 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



"Women are responsible for two thirds of the work done worldwide, yet earn only 10 per cent of the total income and own 1 per cent of the property... So, are we equals? Until the answer is yes, we must never stop asking."

Daniel Craig, Actor



"My own mother fought to make herself more than a possession. She lived her life as a mother who chose when she would have children, and a wife who could earn a living if she so chose. I want my daughters to enjoy the same choice."

Mark Ruffalo, Actor



"They have the right to work wherever they want to - as long as they have dinner ready when you get home."

John Wayne, Actor



"I don't really think about things as guys versus girls. I never have. I was raised by parents who brought me up to think if you work as hard as guys, you can go far in life."

Taylor Swift, Singer



"I wouldn't go so far as to say I am a feminist, that can come off as a negative connotation. But I am a strong female."

Carrie Underwood, Singer



"I'm not a feminist. I hail men, I love men. I celebrate American male culture, and beer, and bars and muscle cars..."

Lady Gaga, Artist



"It's about labelling. For me feminism is bra-burning lesbianism. It's very unglamorous. I'd like to see it rebranded. We need to see a celebration of our femininity and softness."

Geri Halliwell, Singer



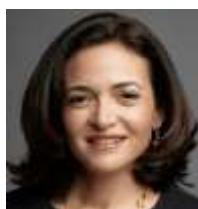
"Feminism isn't about making women strong. Women are already strong. It's about changing the way the world perceives that strength."

G.D. Anderson, Author



"The idea of being a feminist: so many women have come to this idea of it being anti-male and not able to connect with the opposite sex, but what feminism is about is equality and human rights. For me that is just an essential part of my identity."

Lena Dunham, actress



"We need women at all levels, including the top, to change the dynamic, reshape the conversation, to make sure women's voices are heard and heeded, not overlooked and ignored."

Sheryl Sandberg, American Technology Exec



"Why has the word [feminism] become such an uncomfortable one? It is not the word that is important; it's the idea and the ambition behind it."

Emma Watson

Feminism – Events



Women are entitled to sit in the House of Lords for the first time.

First female minister of state is appointed

The Employment Protection Act introduces statutory maternity provision and makes it illegal to sack a woman because she is pregnant

Women can apply for a loan or credit in their own names.

The Court of Appeal decides that bars and pubs are no longer able to refuse to service women at the bar as this constitutes sex discrimination

Independent taxation for women is introduced. For the first time, married women are taxed separately from their husbands.

Rape in marriage is made a crime after 15 years of serious campaigning by women's organisations.

1958	Women are entitled to sit in the House of Lords for the first time.
1965	First female minister of state is appointed
1975	The Employment Protection Act introduces statutory maternity provision and makes it illegal to sack a woman because she is pregnant
1980	Women can apply for a loan or credit in their own names.
1982	The Court of Appeal decides that bars and pubs are no longer able to refuse to service women at the bar as this constitutes sex discrimination.
1990	Independent taxation for women is introduced. For the first time, married women are taxed separately from their husbands.
1994	Rape in marriage is made a crime after 15 years of serious campaigning by women's organisations.



Feminism – Fact cards



Statements:

Women do not earn as much as men

Women are under-represented in politics

Women are rarely bosses of major companies

Less female students leave school with 5 or more GCSEs at A* - C or equivalent than male students

Women have a shorter life expectancy than men

Women are more likely to be portrayed in a sexualised way in movies than men

Facts:

<p>Women do not earn as much as men.</p> <p>Fact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The full time pay gap is 10% & part time is 34.5%• Approximately 70% of people on minimum wage are women.	<p>Women are under-represented in politics.</p> <p>Fact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only 1 in 4 MPs are women• 35% of elected councillors are women• 13% of local authority leaders are women
<p>Women are rarely bosses of major companies</p> <p>Fact</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are actually more men called John leading FTSE 100 companies than there are women! (7% women, 17% men called John).	<p>Less female students leave school with 5 or more GCSEs at A* - C or equivalent than male students.</p> <p>False</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In 2013/14 83.4 % of female students achieved this, compared to 74.1% of male students.
<p>Women have a shorter life expectancy than men</p> <p>False</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Life expectancy for women born in 2011-13 is 82.3 years, compared to 78 years for men.	<p>Women are more likely to be portrayed in a sexualised way in movies than men</p> <p>Fact</p> <p>In movies between 2001-2012:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 28.8 % of women wore sexually revealing clothes, compared to 7% of men.• 26.2% of women get partially naked, compared to 9.4% of men.