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Quotes about Feminism

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The sadness of the women's movement is that they don't allow the necessity of love. See, I don't personally trust any revolution where love is not allowed.

- Angelou, Maya

The true Republic: men, their rights and nothing more; women, their rights and nothing less.

- Anthony, Susan B.

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- Anthony, Susan B.

Women get more unhappy the more they try to liberate themselves.

- Bardot, Brigitte

When an individual is kept in a situation of inferiority, the fact is that he does become inferior.

- Beauvoir, Simone De

Feminism is an entire world view or gestalt, not just a laundry list of women's issues.

- Bunch, Charlotte

The freedom that women were supposed to have found in the Sixties largely boiled down to easy contraception and abortion; things to make life easier for men, in fact.

- Burchill, Julie

A good part -- and definitely the most fun part -- of being a feminist is about frightening men.

- Burchill, Julie

Just because we're sisters under the skin doesn't mean we've got much in common.

- Carter, Angela

Let us rise in the moral power of womanhood; and give utterance to the voice of outraged mercy, and insulted justice, and eternal truth, and mighty love and holy freedom.

- Chapman, Maria Weston

One of the reasons for the failure of feminism to dislodge deeply held perceptions of male and female behavior was its insistence that women were victims, and men powerful patriarchs, which made a travesty of ordinary people's experience of the mutual interdependence of men and women.

- Coward, Rosalind

The fundamental impulse of the movement is neither masturbatory nor concretely lesbian

-- although it of course offers warm house to both these possibilities; it is an impulse to maidenhood -- to that condition in which a woman might pretend to a false fear or loathing of the penis in order to escape from any responsibility for the pleasure and well-being of the man who possesses it.

- Decter, Midge

The embattled gates to equal rights indeed opened up for modern women, but I sometimes think to myself: That is not what I meant by freedom -- it is only social progress.

- Deutsch, Helene

Feminism is hated because women are hated. Anti-feminism is a direct expression of misogyny; it is the political defense of women hating.

- Dworkin, Andrea

Women have been taught that, for us, the earth is flat, and that if we venture out, we will fall off the edge. Some of us have ventured out nevertheless, and so far we have not fallen off. It is my faith, my feminist faith, that we will not.

- Dworkin, Andrea

Men who want to support women in our struggle for freedom and justice should understand that it is not terrifically important to us that they learn to cry; it is important to us that they stop the crimes of violence against us.

- Dworkin, Andrea

The feminist anti-pornography movement, no less than the feminist movement of a century ago, encourages the assumption that male and female sexuality, and possibly morality, are as unlike as yin and yang.

- Ehrenreich, Barbara

I hate discussions of feminism that end up with who does the dishes, she said. So do I. But at the end, there are always the damned dishes.

- French, Marilyn

Surely women's liberation is a most unpromising panacea. But the movement is working politically, because our sexuality is so confused, our masculinity so uncertain, and our families so beleaguered that no one knows what they are for or how they are sustained.

- Gilder, George

Merely external emancipation has made of the modern woman an artificial being. Now, woman is confronted with the necessity of emancipating herself from emancipation, if she really desires to be free.

- Goldman, Emma

Women's liberation, if it abolishes the patriarchal family, will abolish a necessary substructure of the authoritarian state, and once that withers away Marx will have come true willy-nilly, so let's get on with it.

- Greer, Germaine

There has come into existence, chiefly in America, a breed of men who claim to be feminists. They imagine that they have understood what women want and that they are capable of giving it to them. They help with the dishes at home and make their own coffee in the office, basking the while in the refulgent consciousness of virtue. Such men are apt to think of the true male feminists as utterly chauvinistic.

- Greer, Germaine

The sight of women talking together has always made men uneasy; nowadays it means rank subversion.

- Greer, Germaine

I didn't fight to get women out from behind vacuum cleaners to get them onto the board of Hoover.

- Greer, Germaine

Thou art blind to the danger of marrying a woman who feels and acts out the principle of equal rights.

- Grimke, Angelina

Movements born in hatred very quickly take on the characteristics of the thing they oppose.

- Habgood, J. S.

Ah, I fancy it is just the same with most of what you call your emancipation. You have read yourself into a number of new ideas and opinions. You have got a sort of smattering of recent discoveries in various fields -- discoveries that seem to overthrow certain principles which have hitherto been held impregnable and unassailable. But all this has only been a matter of intellect, Miss West -- superficial acquisition. It has not passed into your blood.

- Ibsen, Henrik

I am blackly bored when they are at large and at work; but somehow I am still more blackly bored when they are shut up in Holloway and we are deprived of them.

- James, Henry

The modern woman is the curse of the universe. A disaster, that's what. She thinks that before her arrival on the scene no woman ever did anything worthwhile before, no woman was ever liberated until her time, no woman really ever amounted to anything.

- Johns, Adela Rogers St.

I am a feminist, and what that means to me is much the same as the meaning of the fact that I am Black: it means that I must undertake to love myself and to respect myself as though my very life depends upon self-love and self-respect.

- Jordan, June

I became a feminist as an alternative to becoming a masochist.

- Kempton, Sally

Women's liberation is the liberation of the feminine in the man and the masculine in the woman.

- Kent, Sister Corita

The emancipation of women is practically the greatest egoistic movement of the nineteenth century, and the most intense affirmation of the right of the self that history has yet seen.

- Key, Ellen

Women who seek to be equal with men lack ambition.

- Leary, Timothy

As a result of the feminist revolution, feminine becomes an abusive epithet.

- Lewis, Wyndham

Feminism was recognized by the average man as a conflict in which it was impossible for a man, as a chivalrous gentleman, as a respecter of the rights of little nations (like little Belgium), as a highly evolved citizen of a highly civilized community, to refuse the claim of this better half to self-determination.

- Lewis, Wyndham

The people I'm furious with are the Women's Liberationists. They keep getting up on soapboxes and proclaiming women are brighter than men. That's true, but it should be kept quiet or it ruins the whole racket.

- Loos, Anita

Male supremacy has kept woman down. It has not knocked her out.

- Luce, Clare Boothe

The suffering of either sex -- of the male who is unable, because of the way in which he was reared, to take the strong initiating or patriarchal role that is still demanded of him, or of the female who has been given too much freedom of movement as a child to stay placidly within the house as an adult -- this suffering, this discrepancy, this sense of failure in an enjoined role, is the point of leverage for social change.

- Mead, Margaret

Women's Liberation is just a lot of foolishness. It's the men who are discriminated against. They can't bear children. And no one's likely to do anything about that.

- Meir, Golda

The most important thing women have to do is to stir up the zeal of women themselves.

- Mill, John Stuart

Everything in woman hath a solution. It is called pregnancy.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

The vote means nothing to women. We should be armed.

- O'Brien, Edna

We need a new kind of feminism, one that stresses personal responsibility and is open to art and sex in all their dark, unconsoling mysteries. The feminist of the fin de siècle will be bawdy, streetwise, and on-the-spot confrontational, in the prankish Sixties way.

- Paglia, Camille

The emancipation of today displays itself mainly in cigarettes and shorts. There is even a reaction from the ideal of an intellectual and emancipated womanhood, for which the pioneers toiled and suffered, to be seen in painted lips and nails, and the return of trailing skirts and other absurdities of dress which betoken the slave-woman's intelligent companionship.

- Pankhurst, Sylvia

I wanted to be the first woman to burn her bra, but it would have taken the fire department four days to put it out.

- Parton, Dolly

Men now monopolize the upper levels depriving women of their rightful share of opportunities for incompetence.

- Peter, Laurence J.

There must be a world revolution which puts an end to all materialistic conditions hindering woman from performing her natural role in life and driving her to carry out man's duties in order to be equal in rights.

- Qaddafi, Colonel Muhammar

The connections between and among women are the most feared, the most problematic, and the most potentially transforming force on the planet.

- Rich, Adrienne

Feminism is a political mistake. Feminism is a mistake made by women's intellect, a mistake which her instinct will recognize.

- Saint-Point, Valentine De

Feminism is doomed to failure because it is based on an attempt to repeal and restructure human nature.

- Schlafly, Phyllis

Once made equal to man, woman becomes his superior.

- Socrates

Liberation is an ever shifting horizon, a total ideology that can never fulfill its promises. It has the therapeutic quality of providing emotionally charged rituals of solidarity in hatred --

it is the amphetamine of its believers.

- Stassinopoulos, Arianna

Whether we regard the Women's Liberation movement as a serious threat, a passing convulsion, or a fashionable idiocy, it is a movement that mounts an attack on practically everything that women value today and introduces the language and sentiments of political confrontation into the area of personal relationships.

- Stassinopoulos, Arianna

A liberated woman is one who has sex before marriage and a job after.

- Steinem, Gloria

Some of us are becoming the men we wanted to marry.

- Steinem, Gloria

I owe nothing to Women's Lib.

- Thatcher, Margaret

If I were a woman, I would never trust men who say they are feminists. Either they are acting out of guilt, trying to establish credentials, or they think they might be able to pick up more girls. If I were a woman, I would say, go away and have your first period. Then come back and tell me you are a feminist.

- Thomas, David

One of the things about equality is not just that you be treated equally to a man, but that you treat yourself equally to the way you treat a man.

- Thomas, Marlo

In the battle of the sexes, woman gains her greatest victory by surrendering.

- Unknown, Source

The Queen is most anxious to enlist everyone who can speak or write to join in checking this mad, wicked folly of Woman's Rights with all its attendant horrors on which her poor, feeble sex is bent, forgetting every sense of womanly feeling and propriety.

- Victoria, Queen

People call me feminist whenever I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat or a prostitute.

- West, Rebecca

If the abstract rights of man will bear discussion and explanation, those of women, by a parity of reasoning, will not shrink from the same test: though a different opinion prevails in this country.

- Wollstonecraft, Mary

The history of men's opposition to women's emancipation is more interesting perhaps than

the story of that emancipation itself.

- Woolf, Virginia

I am a staunch feminist, in spite of all women's magazines.

- Kocher, Gerhard



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