

Feminism and Poverty

Feminism as defined in the Webster Online Dictionary is “a set of social theories and political practices that are critical of past and current social relations and primarily motivated and informed by the experience of women. Most generally, it involves a critique of gender inequality; more specifically, it involves the promotion of women's rights and interests. Feminist theorists question such issues as the relationship between sex, sexuality, and power in social, political, and economic relationships.



Feminist political activists advocate such issues as women's suffrage, salary equivalency, and control over reproduction.” The point is that when you claim something, there will be of course consequences. The main consequence that comes out of the feminist movement is poverty. Poverty literally is the decrease of one’s situation both financially and health wise. In today’s society, it is easier to link feminism with poverty.

The first element to highlight is how marriage breakups influence the poverty of women. When families split up, the children often go to live with their mother. When a parent is left alone to take care of the children, they spend more money. When judges make the decision to give women the care of their

children, they are increasing their burden. Economically having a child implies many expenses: clothes, food, school material and many other fees. Of course many husbands pay some money to help the mother with childcare but often it is not enough. Sometimes women need to work more hours just to ensure their child will not miss out on anything. The burden is not only economical but it decreases the time spent with the child. Poverty then becomes a social issue at this point. The result of this whole situation is that poverty may have an adverse effect on the future of these children.

Feminism also claims that there is a patriarchal way of excluding females from the education buildings.



By excluding them, it is impossible for many women to obtain positions that involve power. The power of words or either the power over other employees that is involved with good education, to influence their thoughts and evolution towards a specific issue. This issue might be social or economical. This intellectual poverty is something that many feminists pointed out during their lifetime. According to Sojourner Truth a feminist activist, “In public, men showed difference and helped women to show weaknesses, Women abilities are limited in public. Show ownership.” This explain how to show other females in society that having a strong identity might be the key for escaping poverty, and that they need to take action. A movement that has an influence politically and again this feminist movement is in a poverty relationship compare to other lobbies. This exclusion

is easy to see in every aspect of a patriarchal society, in hospitals, in finance or even in education, where mostly deans are male. This intellectual poverty is claim by feminists. A woman running for president is not something we will see soon. Imagine having a woman as the most powerful human being in the world.

Just to do a little scaffolding, throughout the ages, men have always paid for their

wife's expenses. This way of decreasing the power of female identity, can be viewed as showing poverty. Many women writers wrote about having their own identity stolen, they felt denuded of their power. Such poverty on this aspect of society can only show how a patriarchal society makes women poorer in regards to finance, power and social relationships.

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