Women’s World

Now that women are achieving equality, a man is apt to discover that the girl he left behind is ahead of him. *(Maurice Seitter, in Reader’s Digest)*

**Because we live in the modern age, women now have many choices: They can have a job or not have a job. They can be married or unmarried, married with children, married with children and a job, unmarried with children and no job, unmarried with children who themselves have jobs, etc. “Men, unfortunately, have the same choice we’ve always had: we can work or we can go to jail.” *(Tim Allen, in Don’t Stand Too Close to a Naked Man)***

**It’s utterly ridiculous that powerful, resilient women are portrayed as dangerous, whereas in my experience it’s the predatory men who are the real threat. *(Joan Collins)***

**The pioneering scientist Marie Curie was not allowed to become a member of the prestigious French Academy because she was a woman. *(Noel Botham, in The World’s Greatest Book of Useless Information, p. 144)***

**I myself have never been able to find out precisely what feminism is. I only know that people call me a feminist when I express sentiments that differentiate me from a doormat or a prostitute. *(Dame Rebecca West)***

Higher living standards and rising levels of women’s education have dramatically cut fertility rates in the developing world, with the average number of children dropping from six or more per family to between two and three. If current trends continue, says the U.N., the world’s population will level off at 9 billion by 2050. *(The Economist, as it appeared in The Week magazine, November 13, 2009)*

**One day, three men were hiking and unexpectedly came upon a large raging, violent river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea of how to do so. The first man prayed to God, saying, “Please God, give me the strength to cross this river.” Poof! God gave him big arms and strong legs, and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours, after almost drowning a couple of times. Seeing this, the second man prayed to God, saying, “Please God, give me the strength and the tools to cross this river.” Poof! God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river in about an hour, after almost capsizing the boat a couple of times. The third man had seen how this worked out for the other two, so he also prayed to God saying, “Please God, give me the strength and the tools and the intelligence to cross this river.” And poof! God turned him into a woman. She looked at the map, hiked upstream a couple of hundred yards, then walked across the bridge. *(From the Internet)***

There’s no doubt about it. Women are here to say. *(Earl Wilson, in Reader’s Digest)*

**Some women choose to follow men, and some women choose to follow their dreams. If you’re wondering which way to go, remember that your career will never wake up and tell you that it doesn’t love you anymore. *(Lady Gaga)***

One thing the women’s movement means is that more women will be taking up the law instead of living it down. *(Anna Herbert, in The Wall Street Journal)*

**It is time to leave this question up to Mother Nature – a difficult lady to fool. You have only to give women the same opportunities as men, and you will soon find out what is or is not in their nature. What is in women’s nature to do they will do, and you won’t be able to stop them. But you will also find, and so will they, that what is not in their nature, even if they are given every opportunity, they will not do, and you won’t be able to make them do it. *(Clare Boothe Luce, on the role of women in society, from a speech at Claremont Men’s College)***

**The Women’s Movement has been responsible for altering or changing the wording for many common titles, such as chairman to chairperson, etc. The latest casualty is Gingerbread Man. Betty Crocker now has a new recipe for “Gingerbread People”. *(Bits & Pieces)***

**When religion diminishes women: Religion, at its best, offers an “ethical compass” for how to treat our fellow human beings, said Nicholas Kristof. Why, then “do so many faiths help perpetuate the oppression of women?” Religious leaders who take the Bible and the Koran’s ancient texts literally7 still teach, in the 21st century, that “women are inferior beings in the eyes of God.” The New Testament quotes St. Paul as saying that women “must be silent,” which Deuteronomy declares that if a woman proves not to be a virgin on her wedding night, “the men of her town shall stone her to death.” An Orthodox Jewish prayer thanks God, “who hast not made me a woman.” The Koran says that a woman’s testimony shall count for half a man’s. Emboldened by this “theology of discrimination,” some religious men condone the brutal oppression of women, ranging from the Taliban’s attack on girls who dare to go to school to Hindu men who beat their wives. The onus is on religion to stand for a simple ethical principle: “Any person’s human rights should be sacred, and not depend on something as earthly as their genitals.” *(The Week magazine, January 22, 2010)***

**J. K. Rowling had wanted the first Harry Potter novel published using her real name – Joanne Rowling. Her publisher felt that the target audience of young boys might not go for a book written by a woman, so she used her first initial and that of her paternal grandmother’s first name “K” for Kathleen). (Don Voorhees, in *The Perfectly Useless Book of Useless Information, p. 180)***

**If I were asked to what the singular prosperity and growing strength of the Americans ought to be attributed, I should reply: To the superiority of their women. *(Alexis de Tocqueville, mid-1800s)***

**Womanly truisms:**

* **Blessed are those who hunger and thirst, for they are sticking to their diet.**
* **Life is an endless struggle full of frustrations and challenges, but eventually you find a hairstyle you like.**
* **I finally got my head together and my body fell apart.**
* **The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting time.**
* **Time may be a great healer, but it’s a lousy beautician.**
* **If at first you don’t succeed, see whether the loser gets anything. *(Rocky Mountain News, from the Internet)***

**For most of history, “Anonymous” was a woman. *(Virginia Woolf)***

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