



## Is "Feminism" still a taboo?

Exclusive from Feminist Society

Google defines Feminism as "the advocacy of womens rights on the basis of the equality of the sexes." This concept of equality for the sexes is neither far-reaching nor radical in its ideology. However, in recent years the term feminism and the movement associated with it has often harboured a new stigma, with negative connotations of the movement itself. Through the growth of online movements and trends, the feminist movement has been thrust under negative light with associations of all feminist as 'man-haters' and feminists being in favour of the oppression of men. Although as a movement we have to acknowledge that some women may harbour these views today, the historical concept and movement of feminism is not to divide and oppress, but to unify and uplift. And the notion of the feminist hatred for men in reality is not a hatred of men themselves but the sustained culture of toxic masculinity, negatively impacting both men and women alike. In the new stigma attached to the Feminism, its original purpose of equality of the sexes has been completely detached and lost in the sea of new online terminology to label how women hate men. This in turn has led to the rise of male anti-feminists, evident through the growing popularization of online misogynistic figures such as Andrew Tate.



Andrew Tate on Big Brother

Clips of Tate sermonizing have amassed more than 11 billion views in a matter of months with his controversial bravado appealing to the masses. Whilst shocking for many to see his openly harmful language and rhetoric,



### Whats next for the future of feminism

Tate has verbally confronted topics that many may secretly align with finding comfort in this male camaraderie. Now banned the popularization of figures such as Tate reveal to us the fragility of progress. Why do people find comfort in characters like Tate? And why are so many turned away from feminism today?

Due to the rise of the internet we have seen the increasing political polarization and the popularization of radical views. For the future of feminism we must combat the internal and external divisions slowly becoming more apparent. Feminism will only be realized and equality achieved, when we de-stigmatize its agenda and purpose. Feminism is a movement built for all genders, races and classes. Through uplifting one cause we are given the power to uplift others.

Not only should feminism benefit everyone through its attempts to dismantle all systems of oppression, but it shouldn't be based on the ideology of binary gender at all - as not only men and women exist and gender is not a binary concept.

For the survival of Feminism there must be a re-connection and re-centering of its purpose and priorities. The internal divisions in the movement preventing its future. However, we must also recognize how feminism has failed in the past. Feminism is not a perfect movement in itself seen in the beginning of its creation. There are ways feminism has failed to meet the needs of people of color, trans and gender non-confirming people, and others. In order to destroy the growing taboo feminism is becoming we must fix the issues and divisions within the movement itself.



Feminism is a positive word! There needs to be a re-association between Feminism and its notions of equality. This equality found in all areas, equality achieved not just for one group of women. We must also emphasize the positive effects feminism will have on men included. Whilst achieving feminism will have a positive affect on women it will have as much of a positive effect on men - destructing the limitations and expectations bound upon them.

### Our aims as Feminist Society over the coming year

We are back, and better then ever. Our aims as a Feminist Society is to be open to everyone. We want to reconfigure our image and spread messages that include and uplift all. Building up confidence and power as a movement which confronts and defeats challenges felt by everyone. Mixing discussions over popular culture, political events and history we aim to confront and unpack feminist issues from all areas of the world.



We want to expand the ideas of Feminism from just the society to throughout Sixth Form. Recognising that Feminist Society can only improve and become more united with the contributions of others. I hope that Feminist Society can retain an image of being a society for all, in positive change a step towards complete equality.

Feminism may be on the rise as a taboo once again. However, I hope that in CSG we can combat the negative labels on Feminism. Anyone can call themselves a feminist if they believe in equality of the sexes. It is NOT a belief in female superiority but in EQUALITY. In this equality we can raise everyone up and strive toward a better future for everyone.

If you have any questions or want to contribute an issue of the Pink Column, come find us on Instagram @csgfeministsociety or come along in S15 at 1:00 on Tuesdays.

Remember Feminism is open to all.