

# What type of society do we live in: Patriarchal or Gynocentrist?

May 2, 2021 | 10 upvotes | by [TheLWMA](#)

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You guys are probably gonna go with the latter, but I want to hear differing opinions.

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## Comments

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a-man-from-earth[M] [score hidden] 3 May, 2021 02:04 AM stickied comment

If you're going to say patriarchal, then please define what the term means for you. Evidence would also be good.

Powerful-Building833 • 20 points • 3 May, 2021 08:02 AM\*

They are not even mutually exclusive. I think a gynocentric patriarchy would be a society where men have power and control over women but they prioritize the safety and well-being of women over that of men. That's basically what the past was like, women were more limited in their life choices but men did the brunt of the hard and dangerous work and sacrificed themselves in wars to provide for and protect women and children. The opposite of gynocentrism would be androcentrism and that would mean men are seen as more valuable and their needs would be prioritized while in a matriarchy women would hold power over men. I think today we have neither a patriarchy nor a matriarchy, but society is still pretty biased towards gynocentrism because female suffering receives much more attention and support than that of men.

RedSandman • 3 points • 3 May, 2021 10:22 AM

Yeah, this pretty much sums up the way I see it, too. Nicely put.

twice\_punished\_janny • 7 points • 3 May, 2021 09:29 AM

Capitalist.

purebredginger\_ • 3 points • 4 May, 2021 05:51 AM

Yup. Capitalism is, in my opinion, the entire reason that sexism and gender roles exist, for everyone, male female or nb.

Capitalists used to value men and women in different roles because of the differences biologically, men could work hard labor easier, and women could raise the next generation of workers easier. It was efficient. Still morally wrong to force people into these boxes, but they were capitalists, they didn't care.

But after the industrial revolution and into the modern age there's less and less reason to have gender roles at all, even for efficiency's sake. Women can operate machinery just the same way men can, and men can just buy formula to raise children, boobs aren't a necessity anymore. That's the reason that gender roles are starting to go away.

But capitalists don't want *male* gender roles to go away. Women entering the workforce makes capitalists money, but men leaving it loses them money. So men are still expected to cling to sexism against them like their life depends on it. It's been getting better recently but there's a reason why feminism happened before men's activism, it's capitalism.

(As for sexism against nbs, capitalists force nbs to pretend that they're either male or female, because people lying outside the gender binary also decreases efficiency for them.)

a-man-from-earth • 2 points • 5 May, 2021 12:03 AM

Capitalism is, in my opinion, the entire reason that sexism and gender roles exist

Gender roles have existed way, way longer than capitalism. We even inherited those from our non-human ancestors. Unless you want to argue that mammals in general have capitalism, that argument is invalid.

I would agree tho that feminism is a tool used by the capitalists in power to divide the poorer masses.

MeasurementRealistic • 6 points • 3 May, 2021 01:38 PM

I think were in both if "Patriarchal" is defined as "relating to or denoting a system of society or government controlled by men" and "Gynocentrist" defined as "a dominant focus on women".

Most governments are ran by men and are quite focused on solving womens issues. Not solely but rather dominantly.

Actually not quite sure if I could say the government is controlled by men since it's really controlled by the voter and the average voter is apparently female. They just keep voting men in.

Personally I don't quite understand what a feminist means by "patriarchy" because they use it to imply things that it can't really do. I also think that they think a government filled with men benefits men because they are projecting their own in-group bias on to men.

They're basically thinking "Well if women (They're really thinking "I" instead of "Women") were running society we would run it solely for the benefit of women so *obviously* that's what men would do too."

a-man-from-earth • 2 points • 4 May, 2021 11:57 PM

I think were in both if "Patriarchal" is defined as "relating to or denoting a system of society or government controlled by men"

But our society isn't controlled by men. Women have equal votes and opportunities.

McNultyLikesJameson • 6 points • 3 May, 2021 03:38 PM

Neither.

Although there's definitely aspects of society that skew in either direction.

I do think there's a general view in society that women are more precious, so problems that affect them are intolerable, while problems that affect men are just life.

On the other side, women are less involved in the higher status and powerful positions in society than men.

Thor496 • 4 points • 3 May, 2021 06:16 AM

Patriarchy is a joke.

Gynocentrism is the truth no one wants to acknowledge. They say *feminism* means equality. What else can I say?

Bambaleila • 5 points • 3 May, 2021 11:50 AM

We live in a capitalist society, it does not care about both men and women, even more - it encourages hate between us, and such question being asked is an example of system working perfect.

bkrugby78 • 2 points • 3 May, 2021 06:43 PM

I think it's more of a feminized patriarchy. Like, men still hold the top positions in companies and government, overwhelmingly. But, access for women has been broadened, to the point where there are fewer and fewer barriers for women to achieve those positions. Hence, women governors, representatives, judges, cops, CEOs, etc.

Society struggles to catch up with these changes though. While women have more agency than they used to, it's still perfectly understandable for a woman to get married, quit her job and be a housewife/mom, etc. While there have been changes in offering support for women, men are mostly ignored. Since, the view of "patriarchy" is

that men hold the power, and for those top men it is true, for the rest of men, it's like they are forgotten/ignored.

purebredginger\_ • 2 points • 4 May, 2021 05:53 AM

It's a gynocentrist patriarchy. We should get rid of both aspects of that.

a-man-from-earth • 2 points • 5 May, 2021 12:05 AM

How is our society a patriarchy?

-Metaethics • 2 points • 5 May, 2021 01:47 AM

Patriarchy definition according to Merriam-webster: "control by men of a disproportionately large share of power:

Literally, every president ever has been a male, most of congress is male and most judges are also men. Most CEOs are men...

Granted, men suffer at the bottom but that still doesn't change the fact that we live in a patriarchy.

a-man-from-earth • 2 points • 5 May, 2021 02:07 AM

Women can vote, can run for all political offices, and can become CEOs. These things are not *controlled* by men in our society. As such, we do not live in a patriarchy.

-Metaethics • 2 points • 5 May, 2021 03:01 AM\*

A patriarchy is solely defined by a disproportionate control by men, whether or not women are allowed to do the same is irrelevant.

a-man-from-earth • 2 points • 5 May, 2021 03:07 AM

But that means men do not *control* it. Women are not excluded.

HP Unicorn • 1 point • 5 May, 2021 05:14 PM

You just posted the definition and it doesn't say disproportionate control by men.

-Metaethics • 2 points • 5 May, 2021 05:27 PM

Patriarchy definition according to Merriam-webster: "control by men of a **disproportionately** large share of power:

Except, I literally did..?

HP Unicorn • 1 point • 5 May, 2021 06:42 PM

I think I misread your post, sorry.

-Metaethics • 1 point • 5 May, 2021 06:59 PM

no problem :)

HP Unicorn • 1 point • 5 May, 2021 05:13 PM

So if you added up ALL the men you just mentioned presidents, congress, judges and CEOs (talking in the US here) you would have maybe a couple thousand, now on the other side you have a couple hundred million men who have virtually no real power, that sure doesn't sound like men have a LARGE share of power as a group.

CoffeehasSentence • 0 points • 5 May, 2021 07:54 AM

Yeah, even if those men in power did everything they could for women and didn't give a shit about men, it'd still be Patriarchy.

I actually think because it is a Patriarchy and men are more competitive (thus, men help men less than men help women or women help women) it makes a case for men being left out.

-Metaethics • 1 point • 5 May, 2021 08:24 AM\*

I think a lot of men's rights activists have trouble admitting this is because feminists have popularized a totally different meaning of the word 'patriarchy'

It's a really good rhetorical trick.

a-man-from-earth • 2 points • 5 May, 2021 04:31 PM

It is exactly the motte-and-bailey switcheroo that feminists often deploy that forms the reason why this sub discourages use of the term patriarchy.

-Metaethics • 1 point • 5 May, 2021 05:29 PM

Understandable!

BitsAndBobs304 • 2 points • 4 May, 2021 08:01 AM

Both. But while it could be different, patriarchal gynocentrism is the state of most animals

Butt\_Chug\_Brother2 points 3 May, 2021 05:01 AM\* **[recovered]**

I'd suggest that our culture had elements of both in it.

a-man-from-earth • 4 points • 3 May, 2021 06:14 AM

Please expand.

Justice\_is\_a\_scam • 1 point • 4 May, 2021 06:42 AM

Which society?

If you think the society I live in here in Australia is comparable to the society that I lived in Colombia, so much so that we can categorize them into a dichotomy, we live different realities.

adam-1 • 1 point • 4 May, 2021 08:47 PM

Women are happier and live longer.

That's the criteria.