

Good example of how toxic and cult-like feminism can be

January 20, 2020 | 13 upvotes | by [thereslcjg2000](#)

<https://www.hercampus.com/sex-relationships/relationships/how-deal-when-your-boyfriend-s-not-feminist>

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thereslcjg2000[S] • 12 points • 20 January, 2020 02:14 PM

This is an article that I think sums up why I find modern feminism can be problematic. It's trying to teach women how to "deal" with a boyfriend who isn't a feminist, and how to essentially manipulate him into changing his identity. It comes from the classic "any non-feminist viewpoint is misguided" argument and tries to explain how to convert anyone into seeing the world the same way you do. That kind of pettiness isn't what rational, ready-to-be-challenged people do. It's what cults do.

Aaod • 6 points • 20 January, 2020 07:41 PM

Does this remind anyone else of the old ideas of educating the savage and civilizing them Europeans and Americans pulled on Natives? It also has elements of paternalism father knows best style which makes their claims of patriarchy seem like one of projection.

InitiatePenguin • 4 points • 20 January, 2020 04:48 PM

My best advice for discovering your partner doesn't share your values is to cut your losses.

Ignoring whatever motives the author actually has, the advice of how to change your partner seems to be a second order of advice under the assumption of "you like what you have except this one thing" and you'd like to keep it, "how do I get to keep it?" And that completely sidesteps the point that *you shouldn't keep him* if this is such a major requirement.

That is in reference to any set of values you discover your partner doesn't share.

[deleted] • 10 points • 20 January, 2020 04:22 PM*

A guy might insist on paying for your dinner to show you he cares, but not accept that you pay for the same reasons. In this case he means well, but it might make you uncomfortable, as was the case for Naomi*, a recent graduate from Northwestern University.

"The guy I'm dating is super into paying for everything, and it took a while for him to come around," Naomi says. "He would assure me that wanting to pay was just how he liked to take care of the women he dated and an important way, for him, to show that he cared."

Naomi's partner identifies as a feminist, but apparently not in this way. "He'd say things like paying for our dates had everything to do with being the man he wanted to be and nothing to do with the woman he thought I should be, and insisted that he didn't want me to feel any pressure," Naomi explains.

Although Naomi felt uncomfortable, this guy clearly respected her as a person and as a feminist. However, there are instances when your SO could follow an unacceptable double standard, such as always wanting to know your whereabouts without disclosing his, getting jealous of you talking to other guys but flirting with other girls himself or thinking your sexual number says more about you than his says about him.

Interesting how the one example they give of an acceptable double standard is one of benevolent sexism benefiting the woman. LOL (btw I condone none of the double standards named)

The harsh reality is that if you try to educate your boyfriend about feminism and he continues to subscribe to sexist ideals, he probably isn't worth having in your life. In this case, you should probably break things off.

It's how a cult operates: isolate the target by asking them to break off ties with people who are not 100% on board.

I do agree that sexism is unacceptable, but seeing how I've seen feminists call innocuous stuff sexist when it happens to be directed at a woman while accepting gross double standards targeting men, I really question what the author understands under 'sexist'.

GingerRazz • 1 point • 24 January, 2020 08:46 AM

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Honestly, the one double standard I accept is the one of benevolent sexism because it is different than all the others in that it is him holding himself to a standard he doesn't hold others to. All the other double standards are someone holding another to higher standards than they hold themselves.

I'm far more ok with people holding themselves to higher standards than I am with people holding others to higher standards. Most feminist double standards are holding men to standards they don't expect women to keep, and that might be my biggest issue with feminism.

LacklustreFriend • 6 points • 21 January, 2020 04:54 PM

I don't really have anything substantial to add but I just find this paragraph hilariously ironic:

There are two problems with Emily's situation: First, her boyfriend undermined entirely legitimate facts and research findings. Second, he was unwilling to support his partner in an area that was so central to her whole belief system.