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A REMINDER OF WHAT GENDER EQUALISM IS ALL ABOUT

Tim Goldich



ABSTRACT

Gender Equalism proceeds from the premise that the sexes are and have always been equal—not the same, but equal. The male powers that come of being more respected are matched by the female powers that come of being more loved. Our world is not a patriarchy: it is a patrimatrisensus—a male-female consensus. Understanding Woman and Man as equal partners in the human system makes it possible for women to get the respect they're starving for and for men to get the love they're starving for. Gender reality is mirrored. It All Balances Out.

Keywords: consensus, gender equalism, gender politics, man, woman

Long ago, Woman and Man, in unconscious collusion, made up a story—a story so deep in psychic resonance it has stood for millennia. It rules to this day. The Story is rich in romance and sentiment, instinct and chivalry. It is, in its way, an erotic story of empowered Alpha heroes rescuing fair, fragile, innocent damsels in distress. The Story verily crackles with poetry, Eros and instinct, which is why it's infused throughout the myths and the mythos dating all the way back to the mighty Odysseus and the fair Helen of Troy. Men have the power; women are the victims. Men are to be respected; women are to be loved. The Story *feels* right. Contradicting it feels wrong. As a description of gender reality in its entirety, The Story does not hold up under logical scrutiny. But, against such profound psychic resonances, logic doesn't stand a chance. It truly *is* a *great* story, except . . . it isn't true.

Gender Equalism proceeds from the premise that the sexes are and have always been equal—not the *same*, but equal (the two ends of a balance beam need not be identical to weigh the same). Men and women—equal in number, evenly matched, possessing equal overall weaponry and efficacy—are *equal* partners in a vast gender dance. We believe that, through their own separate channels, the sexes ply an *equal* overall force of influence in the human system and are thus *equally* responsible for outcomes. Knowing what men suffer in homelessness, imprisonment, battlefields, hard-and-hazardous labor, parental alienation, and so on, we can confidently say that what Woman has suffered for being less respected has been matched in full by what Man has suffered for being less loved. Likewise, given female sexual leverage and beauty power, Moral Authority, motherhood power, feminism power, the greater powers to elicit empathy and inflict shame; we are equally confident that the male powers that come of being more respected are matched by the female powers that come of being more loved. Our world is not a *patriarchy*: it is a *patrimatrisensus*—a male-female consensus.

Man is more respected but less loved, and Woman is more loved but less respected. Gender reality is mirrored. For every female complaint there is a mirror-opposite male complaint. In short, It All Balances Out (IABO). I'll say that again. In the benefits enjoyed and in the liabilities suffered, in the power and in the victimization, in the freedoms and the constraints, the joys and sorrows, good and bad, light and shadow, It All Balances Out between Woman and Man—and it always has. This is equalism.

It All Balances Out; that is except for one thing: we don't believe that. Instead, we believe what is in accord with instinct and Eros. We believe what we've been taught: our world is a Patriarchy; men have THE power, and women are THE victims. So the one overarching imbalance in the gender system lies in the grossly imbalanced gender *belief* system. But that's no small thing, that's huge with ramifications profound. Belief in the Male-Power and Female-Victimization (MP/FV) paradigm is the source of all our gender-political woes—for *both* sexes.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary defines feminism as: "belief in and advocacy of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes expressed especially through organized activity on behalf of women's rights and interests." Only when we believe that men have the power and women are the victims, can we believe that women have a special need for and unique entitlement to their own special -ism. It is this falsely imbalanced gender belief system that sustains belief in feminism as a righteous corrective whose every effort to empower, protect, and advantage women leads toward the equality of the sexes. And so, in the realms of gender conflict and complaint, gender activism and advocacy, gender ideology, gender defining, gender issues, gender studies, gender politics—gender anything—there is feminism on the one hand and on the other hand there is . . . nothing. Feminism (reinforced by chivalry) officially dictates what is true and what is not true in all gender-related matters (which is to say, all matters pertaining specifically to women). That makes *qender* politics a one-party system and that makes feminism a kind of ideological dictatorship. However righteously it may present itself, feminism is the Male-Power, Female-Victimization half of gender reality—presented, and dictatorially demanded to be accepted, as if it were gender reality in its entirety. The one-sided MP/FV paradigm is foundational to everything feminism is and everything feminism does. A balanced gender belief system exposes feminism as nothing more than *female-ism*, a special interest group that advocates for females and females only. For this reason, if the goal is to bring down the feminist ideological dictatorship and allow admittance of the OTHER half of gender reality, we believe that equalism is far and away the most effective and powerful rhetorical weaponry there is. Equalism, a new gender-neutral gender politics, would continue to address any and all women's issues; it just wouldn't address women's issues exclusively.

Emphasizing the truths of Female Power and Male Victimization may seem contrary to what equalism is all about. But equalism's initial goal is to balance out the gender belief system. To that end, we focus on the facts and truths that go on the OTHER end of the balance beam—the facts and truths that are missing. The difference between equalism and either feminism or masculism is that equalism's goal is to put an end to the contest for the coveted title of MVP (Most Victimized and Powerless), to call it even, and to move on to a new era of inter-sex unity, fairness, and forgiveness. Within equalism there is no moral polarity, no Man is Bad (the overempowered oppressor), and Woman is Good (the *innocent* victim). Within equalism all are welcomed on an equal footing. Gender Equalism takes it as self-evident that, when it comes to the Battle of the *Sexes*, the only win position is a draw.

All men and boys, women and girls, need is what equalism provides: truly equal opportunity on a truly even playing field. Lacking that, men do indeed suffer comparison with women in virtually every measure of wellbeing. But these stats are a consequence of how society responds to the MP/FV/MB/WG gender narrative. So, we reject the idea that men have the power, and women are the victims; and we reject the idea that women have the power, and men are the victims. The Victim Crown is simply useless to men (who, having a deep aversion to victimhood, will reject the the Victim Crown regardless). Women, being more loved, elicit more empathy, so women (but not men) can turn Victim into gender-political power—but only at great cost. Besides, there's plenty of victimhood to go around; neither sex is ennobled to claim exclusive ownership.

"Men have sacrificed for women and children—including their lives—for thousands of years," says Camille Paglia; "This sick portrayal of human history as nothing but male oppression and female victimage, this is a way to permanently ensure the infantilization of women." Feminism doesn't address the truest victimization of women because feminism itself is the primary perpetrator. And it all begins with a withholding of accountability, which is indeed infantilizing. It is a withholding of respect—respect for women's power, efficacy, and equal partnership in the human system. It's drowning women in sympathy. It is relentlessly telling women that they are *the* powerless victims in *all* things, which is emotionally self-fulfilling—*and* it is living a lie. It's telling women that All Fault Is Male, which instills poisonous self-

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righteousness. It's telling women that a Boogey-man hides behind every bush, which is terrifying. It's falsifying women's legacy as nothing more than property and chattel. And it's telling women that their biology only betrays them, causing women to low-prioritize marriage, home, family; limiting women's immersion within roles and realms in which many are at their happiest. It is the world of *women* that feminism has shamed, disparaged and diminished. Given all this poisoning, it's no wonder that every measure of female happiness has plummeted in recent decades. And all over the world, the most-feminist cultures produce the least-happy women.

According to the statistics, it will appear that women are winning, but both sexes are losing. Men are the targets, but the fallout is endemic. In this gender-political fiasco, at least men retain their integrity. By contrast feminist indoctrinated women are so poisoned with rage, hate, vengeful, vindictive victimhood and self-absorbed, self-righteousness as to be rendered spiritually bankrupt. And that's no way to live. So, again, there's plenty of victimhood to go around. The sick portrayal of Man-Bad (the over-empowered oppressor), Woman-Good (the innocent victim) ensures the infantilization of women and the demonization of men. The fight for gender-political balance is a fight on behalf of *both* sexes. If feminine-*ism* is the primary victimizer of the feminine, it should come as no surprise. In terms of certain emotional addictions, each sex often acts as its own worst enemy, primarily responsible for creating its own predicaments and miseries (while the other sex acts as enabler).

Politicizing the Male-Power/Female-Victimization, Man-Bad/Woman-Good narrative has been disastrous—*all around*. For this reason, a *new* gender politics is given a prime opportunity to present something *better*. Men could take leadership and spearhead this new gender-neutral gender politics, but only if men will lead wisely. A truly conscious gender politics will acknowledge Female Power and Male Victimization but without seeking to oust Woman from victimhood's center seat just so Man can sit there instead.

Accountability without compassion is ruthless. It is what we more often direct at men; it is respecting men but not loving them. Compassion without accountability is infantilizing. It is what we more often direct at women. It is loving women but not respecting them. Gender Equalism lends each sex equal love (empathy) and respect (accountability). Under equalism, gender issues are viewed as matters of shared responsibility. It All Balances Out is best understood as an

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outlook, a decision, a leap of faith, an invitation: it's saying, "Hey, we've decided to call it even; come join us!" IABO is not an endpoint; it is a new beginning. It is the light at the end of the tunnel. To the degree that the MP/FV paradigm is the problem, equalists believe that a society wide, default understanding that It All Balances Out is the solution. Having achieved its initial goal, equalism can then shift its focus toward inter-sex unity, fairness, forgiveness, and healthy negotiation with an emphasis on healing the divide and repairing the social fabric. Understanding Woman and Man as equal partners in the human system makes it possible for women to get the respect they're starving for and for men to get the love they're starving for.

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