

Gender Relations Dialogue

1) To emancipate woman is to refuse to confine her to the relations she bears to man, not to deny them to her; let her have her independent existence and she will continue none the less to exist to him also; mutually recognizing each other as subject, each will yet remain for the other an other. - Simone de Beauvoir

2) We've got a generation now who were born with semiequality. They don't know how it was before, so they think, this isn't too bad. We're working. We have our attaché' cases and our three-piece suits. I get very disgusted with the younger generation of women. We had a torch to pass, and they are just sitting there. They don't realize it can be taken away. Things are going to have to get worse before they join in fighting the battle. Erma Bombeck

3) No one sex can govern alone. I believe that one of the reasons why civilization has failed so lamentably is that it has had one-sided government. Nancy Astor

4) There's this arrogance that masculinity isn't something that we need anymore--this is the Gloria Steinem line: Masculinity is something that is pernicious and is the cause of all wars and destruction and violence and battering against women, and slowly we're going to be programming it out of our youth.
Camille Paglia

5) The other thing, more traditional feminist issue, is probably the double-shift. As women, we're doing a lot of things men traditionally did; they're not doing what we traditionally did. And so women do bear more responsibility at home. But if we're going to solve that problem, I think we have to approach men as friends -- in a spirit of respect instead of calling them proto-rapists and harassers.
Christina Sommers

6) If divorce has increased by one thousand percent, don't blame the women's movement. Blame the obsolete sex roles on which our marriages were based. Betty Friedan: speech, New York City, January 20, 1974

7) Gloria Steinem:

“But the problem is that when I go around and speak on campuses, I still don't get young men standing up and saying, 'How can I combine career and family?’”

“We have to come full circle, to go where we haven't gone. A critical mass of men need to develop the qualities necessary to raise children, these same qualities of nurturing and patience that men are encouraged to suppress. We need to give full humanity to our sons and daughters, and not continue to replicate old gender roles....Those old gender roles are the deepest cause of violence in the world”

Gloria Steinem, 2003 at age 69