JOIN THE MOVEMENT
Sierra College & AAUW
Present:
GENDER
STEREOTYPES
A to Z
April 27-30th

#SexismStopsHereAtoZ
Sponsored by the Gender Equity Committee
APATHY:

Disinterested or *unconcerned* with global concerns.

We created this project to challenge apathy because *apathy leads to inaction*. We need action to challenge sexism and achieve equity on all levels.

Do you know of these global leaders?:

President Ellen Johnsoni-Sirleaf?
President Park Geun-hye?
President Michelle Bachelet?
Malala Yousafzai?

Do you know these global leaders?:

Barack Obama?
Kim Jong Un?
Vladimir Putin?

Bitch:

*Slang. A malicious, unpleasant, selfish person, especially a woman.*

Call a woman a bitch, a slut, bossy or a dyke as a form of “baiting.” Use the derogatory term in an attempt to *get her to behave* in response with a *gender-compliant standard*.

What do you mean by *Bitch*? Do you use *Bitch* to claim women? Is *Bitch* a powerful word or one to assert power over women? Does *Bitch* mean something different when you use the word to address men than when used to address women?
**CAT-CALLING:**

*Unwanted* advances or comments made by a passing stranger, typically sexual in nature.

65% of women report experiencing street **harassment**. 23% had been **sexually touched**. 20% had been followed. 9% had been **forced to do something sexual**.*

**Catcalls are not compliments.** If you witness someone being harassed by a catcaller, help them out. Walk them to their destination or call out the harasser:

*http://www.stopstreetharassment.org/ourwork/national study/Stop Street Harassment (SSH) Report, 2014

**DISABILITY:**

“Disabled” directly translates to “not able,” a **negative** and **demeaning** definition.

Change your vocabulary. Use **person first language**. Switch “disabled” or “handicapped” for “differently abled” or “person with a disability.” **Change the focus**— make it so the person owns the disability and not the disability owning the person.

The word “retard” is an outdated term and **should not continue to be used in any way.**
**EDUCATION:**

**Equity in education,** through Title IX, includes addressing the needs of pregnant and parenting students. In a 2013 survey done at Sierra College, an estimated 56% of student parents of children under the age of 17, dropped or withdrew from classes due to **lack of adequate childcare.** And 80% reported a lack of childcare as **negatively impacting success in college.**

Education is the key to self-determination. **Should destitution be the price of education?** Should parents be barred from access to education, thus prohibiting their ability to grow financially and build their career path? 84% of California Community Colleges have on-site child care centers*, what are the resources at Sierra College?

*AAUW, 2014 [http://www.aauw.org/2014/05/06/child-care-on-cc-campus/](http://www.aauw.org/2014/05/06/child-care-on-cc-campus/)

---

**FATTIE:**

*Calling someone “fattie” is fat shaming.*

Fat shaming is **discrimination** and **prejudice.** People with larger bodies are often viewed as irresponsible and lazy. As a result their needs are less likely to be accommodated and they are more likely to have limited opportunities. Body size does not necessarily indicate health.

Challenge the Size 0-00-000 Standard.

Challenge “Going Hoggin”

Join the Size Acceptance & Health at Every Size (HAES) Movements.

Physical beauty standards have varied throughout history and culture...

LOVE YOUR BODY
**GENITAL MUTILATION:**

The *ritual cutting* of female *genitalia* through means of FGM (also known as Female Circumcision) in many parts of the world **AND through unwanted episiotomies in American society.**

It is estimated that over 130 million women in the world have undergone FGM and another 2 million join them every year.*

According to the National Listening to Mothers II Survey (2006), “The great majority of mothers who had experienced episiotomy (73%) stated that they did not have a choice in this decision.”**

** http://www.childbirthconnection.org/pdfs/LTMII_report.pdf

**HETERONORMATIVITY:**

*A worldview that promotes heterosexuality as the normal or preferred sexual orientation*

The belief that heterosexuality is the *default/normal* sexual orientation of society, thus the only one deserving **basic human rights**

What do YOU see when you picture the “typical” American family in your mind?

What was the sexual orientation of the couple in the last romantic comedy you saw?

Do you make note of the couple holding hands if they are perceived to be **opposite genders**? What if they appear to be the **same gender**?
INFANTICIDE:

*Routine killing* of female babies due to the desire of male babies. This has long-term and wide reaching effects, beyond those who are killed.

Female Infanticide, sometimes called Gendercide, happens when women and girls aren’t valued. These deaths are related to pressures of dowry, the cultural value of men, patrilineal lineage, and poverty.

Encourage a world that values the lives of women and girls.

Current practices in China, in the first year of life, girls are twice as likely to be killed than boys. As a result, today “Twenty-five million men in China currently can’t find brides because there is a shortage of women,” according to Steven Mosher, president of the Population Research Institute in Washington, D.C.*

The United Nations has deemed India the most deadly country for girl children; girls aged 1-5 are 75% more likely to die than boy children.**

* http://womennewsnetwork.net/2012/02/07/indiagirlinfantsmurderfemicide/

JEALOUSY:

Social pressure for all women and girls to get along while simultaneously competing with one another, which results in judging and shaming.

Jealousy is the little secret of patriarchy that prevents female solidarity.

Challenge the “mean girl” mentality.
Make a commitment to support all women.
KYRIARCHY:

A social system or set of systems built around oppression, domination, and submission

A kyriarchical system acknowledges that there are many forms of oppression, and also realizes that one may benefit from and be oppressed by the same system. Knowledge of kyriarchy is integral to intersectionality and the commitment to ending all oppression.

A competition of oppressions does not solve oppression. People want to be heard and have their experiences valued. The voices of one oppressed group are not more or less important than another. If you want equity, create a space that models equity; a space for experiences to be shared and efforts combined to fight all oppressions.

LABOR:

Work, particularly hard physical work. Girls and women perform 2/3 of the world’s working hours, however 70% of those living in poverty are girls and women.

Do you know how gender and race impact what you earn in your lifetime?

For every dollar a white man earns:
- Asian American women earn $0.90
- Caucasian women earn $0.77
- African American women earn $0.67
- Latina women earn $0.58.**

* We don’t keep reliable statistics for Native American women, which is a problem in itself.

Hold Congress responsible for ensuring equal pay. Support work and family policies. Find out the policies at your workplace. Support efforts for pay equity.

**MISOGYNY:**

Dislike of, contempt for, or ingrained prejudice against women. A form of control which limits women’s access to valued resources - education, financial independence, control over their bodies, even the right to drive!

Not a fan of misogyny? Why not try FEMINISM?

Feminists believe that all genders should be equal in all spheres, including political, social, and economic realms.

Do you believe that a woman has a right to her own checking account? If you answered yes, then **YOU too are a feminist!**

**NORMAL:**

The idea of “normal” embodies multiple biases establishing the white, able-bodied heterosexual man as the standard that all others should compare themselves to.

For example, t-shirts are usually labeled either “adult” or “ladies” thus genderizing one and normalizing the other.

In what ways do **you** break the concept of being normal?

**OWNERSHIP:**

The state of, or right to possess women, their movement or their belongings. Many countries across the globe have laws against women having a bank account, accepting a job, riding a bike or leaving the house without the consent of a father or husband.

Approximately 100 **women are killed** every week in India over dowry disputes*

All over Africa, The Middle East and Southern Asia laws are in place to prevent women from owning property

**Fathers sell their daughters** into the sex trade in many parts of the world

PATRIARCHY:

“Rule of the Father” meaning a system of society in which the men hold the power and women are often excluded; valuing of men's contributions over those of women; establishing power in the family and in society through the male bloodline; reinforces & limits traditional gender roles.

The standard practice in our society for heterosexual marriages is that women take their husband’s family name. Why is this?

Often the expectation is that women will stay home, or assume primary child rearing responsibilities, thus delaying, stopping or impeding their careers. Why don’t we assume this of men?

QUEER:

The word queer is often used as a derogatory term toward people that don’t meet heteronormative standards i.e, queer, fag, poof, pansy, pussy, fairy...

In truth, queer has been reclaimed by many to mean someone intentionally outside societal norms of gender and sexuality.

Reclaiming includes, but is not limited to, someone proudly identifying as gay, lesbian, trans, bi, intersex, asexual, etc...

Queer can be a term of empowerment.

Listen. Let others define themselves. Be open-minded. Be respectful. Challenge homophobic comments, ‘jokes,’ and behaviors. Challenge the phrase “that’s so gay”
RAPE:

Forced or non-consensual sexual contact

- **1/4 women** in college today has been the victim of rape*
- **1/10 rape victims are men**
- Approximately **1/8 lesbian women** and nearly **half of bisexual women** experience rape in their lifetime**
- A staggering **64% of transgender people** have experienced sexual assault in their lifetime***


**https://www.rainn.org/getinformation/statistics/sexualassault-victims


Yes means Yes-
In California, the law **requires** an “affirmative consent” in order to participate in sexual activities and must be ongoing throughout a sexual activity and can be revoked at any time.*

*http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140SB967

SEX TRAFFICKING:

The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act where such an act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion.

Trafficking occurs across the globe, even in the United States.

Sacramento is among the top 5 cities in the United States experiencing an epidemic of child trafficking.*

Evidence of trafficking is in most every neighborhood.**

*http://www.polarisproject.org/humantrafficking/sextraffickingintheus

**http://sharedhope.org/learn/whatissextrafficking/w
TERROR:

A constant, and almost instinctive feeling that causes one to be cautious, prepared, and always ready to defend yourself against an attack. Experienced globally by victims of systematic bias.

Acts of terror are multifaceted no matter where you live. The experience of terror is often associated with war but terror also includes individual acts of social, racial, and sexual hatred.

**Gender**
In the U.S. women are more likely to be raped than be diagnosed with breast cancer and nearly 1 in 2 women have experienced sexual violence other than rape in their lifetime.*

**Race**
Young black men in this country have a 21% greater chance of being shot dead by police than young white men.**

**Sexuality**
In 2014, Eisha Love, a trans woman of color, successfully defended herself against a hate crime with fatal intentions but was then arrested and charged with attempted murder.***


**http://www.huffingtonpost.com/joshsgarmann/murderatefor-blackame_b_4702228.html

***http://www.huffingtonpost.com/addisonrosevincent/stateof-emergencyfortr_b_5792722.html
UTERUS:

Women are taught from an early age to be ashamed of their bodies and disconnected from their reproductive anatomy, discouraged from seeing or touching their vaginas and vulva and to dread their menstruation.

Women’s reproductive lives are a political battleground: from the history of forced sterilization in African American, Native American, and Latina communities to the current 87% of counties in the U.S. that have no abortion provider to emergency contraception being held behind pharmacist counters and often denied based on pharmacists’ personal objection.*

There are no such barriers for heterosexual men’s health; consider the accessibility of Viagra.

*http://www.acog.org/ResourcesAndPublications/Committee-Opinions/CommitteeOnHealthCareForUnderservedWomen/Access-to-EmergencyContraception

VAGINA:

Once seen as the most sacred part of Woman, the giver of life (both through birth and agricultural nourishment), now objectified and renamed with double meaning words - pussy (weak), snatch (dirty, slutty), cunt (ultra angry/mean)

Findings from Bangladesh, where 80% of factory workers are women, show that 60% of them were using rags from the factory floor for menstrual cloths. These are highly chemically charged and often freshly dyed. Infections are common, leading to 73% of women missing work for an average of six days a month.*

WAR:

* A state of armed conflict between different nations or states or different groups within a nation or state.

**Sexual violence** as a systematic tool of war has left hundreds of thousands of women raped, brutalized, impregnated, infected with HIV/AIDS and often results in mass genocide.

The rippling effect of war has long term consequences, including generational isolations, the destruction of culture, an increase in sexual trafficking, and greater marginalization of women and girls.

While the consequences of war cause women great suffering, both long and short term, men are not spared the impact of war. For example, PTSD, physical trauma, separation from family, rape, addiction, and other re-entry issues.

XENOPHOBIA:

* Intense and/or irrational dislike or fear of people from other countries; an unreasonable fear or hatred of foreigners or strangers; or of that which is foreign or strange. Expressed through bigotry, name calling, exploitation, stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination.

The intense debate in California alone has created a divide between “American born” and immigrant individuals over job access, terrorism, and college admittance.

This is a feminist issue because it is about social justice. The fear of deportation locks people into low paying jobs; for example, women in domestic and service industries.

Do you think undocumented students should be denied education?

Can a human being be illegal?
**YELL:**

Women who identify as feminists are often accused of being ‘too angry.’ Anger is the catalyst to change, there is much to be angry about, much to change.

Raise your voice for positive change!

Raise your voice against:
- sexism
- racism
- homophobia
- sizism
- ableism
- ageism
- oppression
- discrimination

**RAISE YOUR VOICE**

**ZIPPER:**

The idea that rape is not possible when a woman is wearing constraining clothing, such as jeans. If she assists in its removal, then she must be consenting. This is known as the “Denim Defense”

Rape occurs through physical violence, coercion, manipulation, threat, and force. Assisting the removal of any clothing, under these circumstances, does not equate to consent.

Compliance does not equal consent.
ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES:

American Association of University Women
Stand Up Placer
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking
Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network
Gay, Lesbian, & Straight Education Network
Hollaback
Title IX
National Organization for Men Against Sexism (NOMAS)
HeForShe
Women’s Health Specialists:
A Feminist Women’s Health Center
Smart Girls at the Party
Our Bodies, Ourselves
Feministing
United Nations Women
Emily’s List
National Committee of Pay Equity
Feminist Frequency
Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation
Learn more about gender roles, take a class at Sierra College!

Women and Gender Studies:

WMST 1 - Introduction to Women’s Studies
ANTH 27 - Anthropology of Sex, Gender and Sexuality
ART 1E - History of Women in Art
ENGL 27 - Literature by Women
HIST 27 - Women in American History
PHIL 27 - Introduction to Philosophy of Women in Western Cultures
POLS 27 - Women and Politics in a Global Society
PSYC 127 - Psychology of Women
PSYC 130 - Human Sexuality
SOC 5 - Sociology of Women’s Health
SOC 27 - Sociology of Gender
WMST 2/LGBT 1 - Introduction to LGBT Studies/Queer Theory
WMST 3/HUM 9 - Introduction to Women, Gender and Religion
WMST 4/SOC 10 - Feminism and Social Action

For more information about Women and Gender Studies contact:
Kathleen A. Taylor, Ph.D.  916-660-8065  ktaylor@sierracollege.edu
Keep the conversation going, make a commitment to end global inequality!

#SexismStopsHereAtoZ