

D.A. Simmons

THE DEGREE OF GENDER EQUALITY IN THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTED IN THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

In the 17th century, Dutch philosopher Baruch Spinoza argued, «Women are apt to seduce men into making irrational political decisions. Never forget that». Two centuries later Charles Darwin claimed there is a «chief distinction in the intellectual powers of the two sexes is shown by man attaining to a higher eminence.»

Neither of these renowned minds received prominent backlash for such comments and many would agree that their statements represented the common assumptions of the populous in their own times. However, in the 21st century, norms of political correctness in regards to gender have evolved and such statements would be considered blasphemy today. At least, one would like to think so. However, the recent emergence of offensive gender rhetoric in current politics begs the question, has progress actually been achieved? While America is on the verge of making history with the election of the first female president, her counterpart is the source of arguably some of the most sexist comments seen in modern day politics.

With the passage of the long fought battle for women's suffrage in 1920, a momental moment in gender equality in the United States was achieved. But this marked only the start of an ongoing evolution of development to represent women equally in not only elections and ballot boxes, but also in the workplace and society as well. In fact, recent studies have shown that women actually hold a higher percentage of mid-level managerial positions in the United States. However, it seems that just above middle-management is the current level of the glass ceiling as only 20 (or 4%) of the S&P 500 companies are female CEO [1]. Workplace conduct between men and woman continues to improve as well as the mid-20th century practice of bosses slapping their female colleagues on the derriere – as seen in the 1964 James Bond Goldfinger film – is no longer acceptable in American society and would never find its way respectably into modern day films. Nonetheless, recent statistics still show that 42% of women have received some form of sexual harassment in the workplace [2].

In recent decades, work to tear down traditional divisions between boys and girls in high school sports has also been made. Title IX, as part of the 1972 United States Education Amendments Equality, requires equal athletic opportunities for both male and female students in proportion to the institution's enrollment and sports program expansion for the underrepresented sex – most usually female. As a result, high schools saw a dramatic increase in the number of female sports teams. Furthermore, male dominated sports, such as football and wrestling, now commonly see female participants. In 2015, 5,000 high school girls participated on their school's wrestling team, almost five times the level of female participation seen 10 years prior [3]. At the intercollegiate level, Katherine Anne «Katie» Hnida became the first woman to score in a NCAA Division 1 – a football game in 2003 [4]. Unfortunately, such advances in gender equality in the sports arena have not come without conflict. In several high school co-ed wrestling matches, male athletes opt to forfeit rather than wrestle their female counterparts. And after years of silence, Katie Hnida came out about having been raped by one of her football teammates while an athlete at the University of Colorado. While change and progress in regards to gender equality in the United States have been made in the workplace, school, and sports, there is no doubt that there are still pressing issues to address in the realm of equal opportunity and respect for women in American society.

A monumental achievement in the fight for gender equality in the United States would be the election of Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential election, which would make her the first-ever elected female president. Her opponent, ironically enough, is the source of some of these centuries most anti-feministic rhetoric. With statements such as, «It really doesn't matter what the media writes as long as you've got a young and beautiful piece of ass,» and «Women, you have to treat 'em like shit», Donald Trump solidifies himself as an inhibitor to gender equality. With that being said, how is it that Trump has made so far in the election?

The current upheaval of anti-feministic rhetoric in politics is not a step backwards in society's development, rather a result of growing pains in the society's evolution. In an election year where the two major political parties have nearly, if not entirely, busted at their seams from intra-party dissatisfaction and disagreement, it indicates that this is the dawning of a new era in American politics. On the Democrat's side, a politician as far left and socialist as Bernie Sanders saw success in the primaries to a level never seen before in recent American history. On the Republican's side, the extremist right views supporting mass deportation and universal travel bans against particular nationalities and religious groups is represented by the face of a former reality TV star lacking any previous political qualifications. With candidates in both parties from complete opposite political extremes receiving so much support and success in this year's election, it's clear that the Democratic and Republican political parties as we know them are no longer those that we know. They are both changing in their standpoints and changing in a direction further away from one another. This new era of American politics will see more contending political parties than the traditional red and blue. An era in which simply saying that one is a

Republican or Democrat will no longer clearly represent one's political viewpoints, as the traditional values and demographics of the both parties have evolved from what they have represented for more than 30 years.

The 2016 election looks to be the first election in recent history where the Democrats will win the vote of college-educated whites. The reason: Women. This expands the democratic party's demographic domination beyond just the 18-25 year old Millennials, the demographic powerhouse of Obama's success in both the 2008 and 2012 elections. But this trend is represented across the board of all racial demographics. Since the early 1990's the white voting population has seen a decline while the Latino and Asian demographics have seen a tremendous influx in voting participation. The Democratic party has adopted to this change and become more diverse in its representation and liberal in its politics. As Domenico Montanaro put it, «The country is changing – it's getting browner,» and so are the Democrats [5].

In the mean time, the Republican party's attempts to gain traction in the Latino vote were lost from the start with Donald Trump labeling Mexicans as «murders and rapists» in his announcement speech for his bid for presidency. His later calls for mass deportation and the construction of an even greater wall only further distanced the Republican party's dismal hopes of gaining ground in the Latino vote. The democratic party has also looked to improve upon its biggest weakness: The southern white vote. Please enter, Hillary Clinton; a white woman from the south with more qualifications to be president than arguably any other previous candidate in the history of U.S. elections and set to make history by being the first female American president.

As people literally make livings off of scrutinizing and picking apart politicians with a fine-toothed comb, there is no doubt that both presidential candidates have their own shortcomings. But there is one fundamental flaw in the Republican party's message that fails to not only accurately depict American history but also fails to acknowledge the growth and evolution this country has made in the last half-a-century. Trump's call for making America great again is simply the dying cry of a 1950's white male dominated society. This type of America no longer exists and America is greater as a country for it. In fact, the world has never been better and women's rights and gender equality is at the heart of this improvement. Today there are more women in the workplace, more women in sports, more women have access to healthcare and the legal right to safe abortions.

In a 2015 speech at Fortune's Most Powerful Women conference Warren Buffet agreed, «America's great now – it's never been greater» [6].

Sadly, Trump has insulted many more groups than just women while on his pursuit to become President of the United States. In November 2015, he mocked the disabled while on stage at a rally when he threw his hands in the air to describe reporter Serge Kovalski's condition of arthrogryposis. Throughout his campaign Trump has encouraged Islamophobia by calling for the complete ban of Muslims from entering the United States [7]. He has also insulted the black community with tweets promoting false statistics that 81% percent of homicides against whites are by black people. The Federal Bureau of Investigation reports the actual number at 15% [8]. On top of that, Trump labeled Mexican immigrants as «criminals» and «rapists» in his presidential bid announcement speech and pledged to deport 11 million people back to Mexico [9].

Despite all of these blatant and public discriminations against numerous demographics, Donald Trump continued to be successful and pull in support for his run for the presidency. That was until a private conversation was leaked in which Trump bragged about his ability to force himself upon women and grab them by the genitals because of his celebrity status [10]. It was only then that Trump's campaign began to tank. In the days after this disclosure, numbers prominent members of his own republican party dropped their long and hardened support. Even Trump's running mate Mike Pence stated, «I do not condone his remarks and cannot defend them» [11]. These actions show the importance of gender equality to the American people, regardless of what political party they support. The other insults Trump has made may have been just as offensive to other demographic groups, but it's clear that such discrimination is still acceptable to some extent by Trump supporters and the parts of the American society. While by no means a majority, there were, however, still enough people who supported the chauvinism previously administered by Trump. But when it came to sexism, the American public showed it would absolutely not stand for this. There is no longer any acceptance for such sexist behavior in the United States and the Republican party members who renounced their support for Trump knew that if they stood behind a man who objectifies women that they would destroy any chance for a future in politics. In the week after the release of Trump's «locker room talk» tape, his polling in all but one swing state dropped below that of Hillary Clinton [12]. These immediate responses and sudden downfall of the Trump presidential campaign shows that America values a society in which gender equality and the treatment of women are held at a high standard. This change hasn't come easy and it is evident that is more progress still to be made, but America has made its stance for gender equality clear. The anti-feministic and racist rants of Donald Trump are simply a final battle cry from a dying, out-dated, under-evolved ideology of America's past. Trump may call for «Making America Great Again», but the greatness of America comes from the fact that women are given equal rights, respect and opportunities in education, healthcare, athletics and the workplace. The liberation of women no longer being confined to the duties of the household

Гендерные исследования в истории, антропологии, социологии, экономике, политологии

but rather being represented equally at all levels the workplace, including position of Commander in Chief of the United States of America, is what truly makes America great.

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А.П. Соловей

ИСТОРИЯ И КОНТЕКСТ ВОЗНИКНОВЕНИЯ ГЕНДЕРНЫХ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЙ В НАУКЕ

Женщины-ученые существовали в каждой культуре на протяжении всей истории развития общества, однако успеха они могли добиваться только в той среде, где позитивно относились к научным занятиям, как в целом, так и к научной деятельности конкретно женщин, в частности.

Внутри области, посвященной изучению женщин в науке, выделяют четыре основных направления, представители которых по-своему стремятся определить причины относительно скромной роли женщин в производстве научного знания. К первому направлению относятся работы, которые анализируют реальный вклад женщин в развитие науки, показывают, что научные достижения женщин преуменьшены, а имена многих женщин незаслуженно забыты историками науки. Второе направление дополняет первое и рассматривает историю участия женщин в научных институтах, а также их статус в качестве профессиональных ученых. Третье направление связано с изучением биологических и психологических особенностей женщин, с выявлением социокультурных факторов, определяющих маргинальное положение женщин в науке. Четвертое направление более радикальное: анализирует саму природу науки, те искажения в нормах и методах научного исследования, которые явились результатом практически-го неучастия женщин в становлении науки [1, с. 5-6].

Говоря об исторических исследованиях, посвященных женщинам-ученым прошлого, следует упомянуть имя Кристины де Пизан, которая еще в 1405 г., защищая права женщин на образование, попыталась рассказать о том вкладе, который внесли женщины в развитие науки. И только в конце XVIII в. появились первые издания, которые посвящены исключительно достижениям женщин в естественных и медицинских науках. Данная проблема интересовала и французских энциклопедистов. Они стремились утвердить равноправие женщин, доказывая равенство их интеллектуальных возможностей с мужчинами. Последователи Сен-Симона в 1984 г. провели в Париже первую конференцию, посвященную выдающимся женщинам-ученым прошлого.

Сторонники европейского и американского движений за эмансипацию женщин стали уделять основное внимание не столько достижениям женщин в науке, сколько препятствиям, которые стоят на пути женщин и мешают им добиваться успеха в науке. К примеру, М. Россистер, изучавшая борьбу американских женщин-исследователей за свои права, выделяет две основные формы половой дискриминации, которые долгое время существовали в научном сообществе и до сих пор полностью не изжиты. Первая – вынуждает женщин выполнять так называемые строго определенные «женские виды работ», к примеру, вычисление астрономических данных или каталогизация коллекций по естественной истории. Вторая – принуждает одаренных и талантливых женщин оставаться на положении помощников, которые получают небольшое денежное вознаграждение. Не случайно первые женщины, которые стали лауреатами Нобелевской премии (Мария Складовская-Кюри, Ирен-Жолио-Кюри, Герт Ф. Кори), работали со своими