

Manifesto for the Conscious Woman

As a woman to men:

I respect and honor you for providing strength, stability and protection for our well-being, generation after generation.

I respect and honor your intelligence, leadership and willingness to provide.

My sisters and I deeply appreciate your unique gifts. And, throughout time we owe you a few apologies. Together we'd like to acknowledge the ways we've taken advantage of your generosity, flexibility and ingenuity. As we've fought for greater equality, independence and our "sense of self," we've eroded our sacred relationships with you – and in many ways eroded some of the foundations of civilization. I recognize not all of my sisters have wronged you, and we can't turn back the hands of time. Yet collectively, as conscious women, we can apologize, make new promises and recommit to respecting and honoring you.

I honor you for providing for my children, taking responsibility, even when they were not your own. I apologize for deceiving men about paternity since the beginning of time, a fraud by which all of history's frauds shrink to insignificance.¹ I apologize for getting impregnated by the alpha bad boy and then, knowing he will not stick around to raise his progeny, lying to a nice, reliable beta provider about his paternity in order to get him to support me.

I honor you for providing for women before you provide for yourself. I honor you for the endless hours you've toiled in labs, so that I may live a long and healthy life. I apologize for demanding that all the developed countries of the world spend far more on cures for women's diseases, while practically ignoring diseases that strike and kill men at higher rates.²

I honor you for remaining steadfast through my often irrational and emotional storms.

I honor you for being a gentleman. I apologize for demanding that men act like gentlemen while exempting myself from acting like a lady³. I apologize for being more violent than men in dating and interpersonal relationships. I apologize for keeping up the pretense of being sugar and spice and everything nice while I am more often the one to initiate physical violence in dating and relationships.⁴

I honor you for giving me the freedom to make my own choices about what I do with my body. I take responsibility for our epidemic of out of wedlock births. I apologize for socializing the costs of my undisciplined sons and emotionally damaged daughters, while fulfilling my own desires – and minimizing the importance of the role of the father.⁵

I apologize for gladly taking a seat in the lifeboat while thousands of men went to an icewater grave that April night. I apologize for forgetting all the other times throughout history that men have sacrificed their lives for women.⁶

I apologize for making an issue out of the rare practice of female genital mutilation, while remaining silent regarding the common practice of circumcision.⁷

I apologize for allowing my instincts for security over freedom to dictate my voting preferences. I apologize for destroying America's freedom by pushing socialist policies that are bankrupting this country.⁸

I honor you for your risk-taking, pushing boundaries and competitive nature, so essential for progress. I apologize for contributing to a suffocating nanny state, complete with helmet laws and prohibitions on dodge ball, where everyone is a winner and has high self-esteem.

I honor you for creating millions of jobs through enterprise, ingenuity and hard work. Thank you for inviting me to work beside you. I apologize for disrupting the workplace. I apologize for bringing my hypergamous instincts and provocative dress into the workplace, thereby disordering what was once a well functioning and highly productive male hierarchy. I apologize for introducing sexual harassment policies that destroy workplace cohesion. I acknowledge that if I now find it financially impossible to stay home with my children and live on my husband's income, it is in large part because of the wage-depressing effects of my mass entry into the workplace.⁹ I apologize for eroding the status of once high-status professions.¹⁰

I respect and honor all the soldiers, police and firemen who have sacrificed their lives to keep me, and my family, free and safe. I apologize for pushing crippling double standards into the military and first responder agencies. I apologize for demanding that as a "soldier" I can pass physical fitness tests at levels that would constitute a failure for man and then demanding to be treated with equal respect. I apologize for the deaths I have caused by forcing myself into fire departments when I could not pull the victims out of the burning building.¹¹

I honor you for wanting to fully develop your mind so you can maximize your contribution to humanity. I acknowledge that boys and girls have different learning styles and we have radically shifted education to support girls. I realize how important men are as teachers and I apologize for driving men out of the teaching industry on fears of pedophilia accusations. I apologize to little boys for subjecting them to a feminized education experience that impedes learning, denigrates men and drives them out of higher education. I apologize for watering down the high-stakes, high-abstraction, high difficulty standards boys thrive on in exchange for the low difficulty continuous assessment that favors girls. I apologize for all the boys that would be valedictorians if intelligence mattered rather than the ability to perform mind-numbing tasks.¹²

I appreciate men for creating room for me in higher education. I apologize for destroying higher education by squandering society's scarce higher education resources. I apologize for using affirmative action laws to exclude a better-qualified man from the first-rate graduate program and then quitting my "career" after only a few years in business. I apologize to American industry for eroding the talent pool it desperately needs. I apologize for crippling taxpayer funded medical systems around the world by forcing taxpayers to put me through medical school and then quitting my "career" after 10 years to have a family. I apologize for all the people sitting for hours in squalid hospital waiting rooms as a result.¹³

I honor and respect men for providing the safety net that I know is always there should I need it. I apologize for bitching and moaning about how we need better facilities for homeless women while 90% of the homeless are men. I apologize for complaining about how good men have it when men do all the dirty jobs and suffer 95% of all work-related deaths.¹⁴

I honor you for creating a legal system that protects my rights. I apologize for creating a police state built around a self-serving domestic violence industry. I apologize for using family courts to strip men of their children and fortunes because I lied about how he hit me or because I wanted out of the marriage because I did not feel "fulfilled," choices the courts never allow men to make. I apologize for refusing to acknowledge that half of all domestic violence incidents are started by women and that the vast majority of child abuse is caused by women. I apologize for calling men "deadbeat dads" while using family courts to estrange honorable men from their own children.¹⁵

I honor you for the long-standing practice of taking my word over one of your brothers, while protecting me, and my anonymity. I apologize for destroying the lives of innocent men with false rape accusations. I apologize for not letting the media tell the truth about how rare rape really is.¹⁶

I appreciate you for taking on the "honey-do's" while still putting in long days at work. I apologize for complaining about how men do not do their fair share of the work around the house when studies show that when work outside and inside the home are taken collectively, men do more work.¹⁷

I honor your stamina and drive to provide for our family and me. I apologize for complaining about how men make more money while I choose to study English instead of engineering and while I choose to take "career breaks" and not to work late and on weekends.¹⁸

I honor you for creating so many means to spread information and entertainment around the world. I am saddened this tool often denigrates men. I apologize for creating commercials that make fun of men getting punched and kicked in the balls while holding such behavior to women as unacceptable. I apologize for

making virtually every show on TV portray men as bumbling idiots and women as brilliant while the facts show much the opposite.¹⁹

I honor your strength and athletic ability. Thank you for giving me an opportunity to enjoy participating in sports too. I apologize for eroding America's standing in sports. I apologize for demanding that freakish girls be allowed to play on the boys teams but refusing to let boys on girls teams. I apologize for destroying collegiate sports by threatening Title IX lawsuits wherever men are over-represented in athletics. I apologize to all the male athletes who will never have a chance to live their dream. I apologize to America for all the Americans who will not be standing on the Olympic winners podium as a result.²⁰

I honor you for the world's greatest religions, which have provided me hope, meaning and a guiding philosophy in life. I acknowledge that true religion is a pure and good abstraction created by men, not because they excluded women, but because the female mind rarely dwells in abstraction and almost never creates it. It's simply less interesting to most of us.²¹

I appreciate the great gift men gave to women – civilization. I apologize for refusing to acknowledge just how nasty, brutish and short my life would be without this gift.²² I apologize for not acknowledging that men created civilization because women are incapable of doing so because of our limited capability for and general aversion to abstraction. I promise to remember that without men, civilization would grind to a halt in short order. I promise to remember that men build houses and women live in them.

I honor you for your fighting spirit and recognize how essential it was to our survival as a species. I promise to stop complaining about how violent men are and to acknowledge that I am here today because of battles fought by men, while I stood on the sidelines cheering them on. I promise to remember that I am the product of an experiment that had a one-in-a-million chance of success; that not long ago, humanity clung to survival in tiny numbers and then in a flash went from this miserable condition to master of the planet, walking the moon, surveying planets and penetrating interstellar space. I promise to remember that we got here through strife and competition - nature's Supreme Court, from whose verdict there is no appeal.²³ Strong men culled weak ones so that I, bereft of the genes of the vanquished, may be strong. This is the reproductive function of the male and I promise to respect where that has taken us.

I appreciate the grandeur of what has been wrought by men. I promise, the next time I find myself high atop a skyscraper or crossing a great suspension bridge, to take in its majesty and appreciate the men who took it from imagination to reality. I promise, that when I go to my computer to write an angry ad-hominim attack on the author of this Manifesto, that I will take a minute to appreciate what a miracle that machine is, and to honor the giants who conceived of the science behind it. I promise to remember that nature, to be commanded, must be

obeyed.²⁴ I honor men for having the intellect and drive to so painstakingly bring her laws, so mysterious and profound, into the human consciousness so that I may enjoy these wonderful things.

I honor you for giving me my reproductive rights. I apologize for demanding of men responsibility where I have yielded no control. I apologize for stripping men of all reproductive rights and excluding them from one of the foundations of all civilized legal systems – that one cannot be held responsible for what one has no control over. I apologize for telling men that they have no right to tell me what I do with my body and then forcing them into 18 years of indentured servitude as a result of my choice to have sex and my choice to have the baby.²⁵

I honor you for your integrity and unwavering sense of responsibility. As much as I don't like to admit it, I see how my sisters and I demand rights while avoiding responsibility when it comes to evolving civilization. I acknowledge that never before in the history of humanity has such a spoiled and privileged group existed as the Western woman. I apologize for demanding that I be given the opportunity to have a "soldier experience" while fighting legislation that would subject me to forcible conscription as men are. I promise to remember that rights must always be commensurate with responsibilities and that women throughout history were not denied anything that they were not held responsible for; they were denied the vote because no civic responsibilities were demanded of them.

I honor you for creating a system of justice that makes the world a safer place. I apologize for fomenting and taking advantage of the rampant bias against men in the criminal justice system.²⁶

I honor you for your commitment and respect for the environment. I apologize for accusing men of destroying the world. I promise to remember that as a result of the genius of men, we now live in a world that is safer and cleaner than ever before and that the planet is not in danger, but thriving.²⁷

I honor your commitment to the institution of marriage, even when it means sacrificing. I apologize for eroding this key foundation of civilization. I apologize for listening to all those shrill lesbian feminists years ago that told me that a woman needs a man like a fish needs a bicycle,²⁸ that gender is a social construct, and that a woman can have the sexual freedom of a man with no consequences. I admit that I was a fool for pushing for no-fault divorce laws and using those laws to create an epidemic of divorce theft. I apologize for bitching that men will not commit when it was I who made marriage toxic for men. I vow not to complain as I grow old and miserable alone with my cats watching *Eat, Pray, Love*.²⁹

I promise to honor men for their intellect. I promise to remember that it is ideas that have civilized us and lifted humanity to the top of the food chain, and that by nature men dwell in the realm of ideas far more than women do. While I

acknowledge that there are many very intelligent women, I also acknowledge that humanity's highest intellect resides mainly in men, not because of discrimination or education, but because that is how nature made us.³⁰

I promise that when I see men dominating at the top I will also look down, where I will see men concentrated at the bottom. I promise to remember that the men I see at the top are there not because of good-ol-boy networks but because they are the brightest, most ambitious and most driven members of the human race and that the men I see at the bottom, the homeless, the unemployed, the incarcerated, and the hopeless, are there because it is men and men alone that we allow to fall through the cracks.

I promise to remember that one cannot rise to great heights without sinking occasionally to great depths. I promise to remember that the Hitlers and Stalins that men have produced only serve to shine the light on the greatness that men have produced. I promise to read the works of the great writers and listen the music of the great composers to remind myself of that.

I promise not to confuse honoring women with denigrating men. I promise not to think less of myself for acknowledging men. We all have gifts and strengths to give and no one deserves preferential worship.

ENDNOTES

¹ Regarding alphas and betas: Human males can be divided generally into alphas – those that have status - and betas, who have lower status. Women are instinctively drawn to the “bad boy” nature that most alphas display and are repulsed by the unconfident behavior most betas display.

Regarding hypergamy: One of the most powerful of human instincts is the drive in women to mate with the highest status male she can attract. The behaviour is not learned; we see it emerge early in development. The tendency, this driving need to “marry up” and the inborn contempt for low status men, almost universal in women, is called hypergamy.

Regarding paternity fraud: The true extent of this fraud is unknown, but as we conduct more and more DNA testing as part of medial procedures we are finding out that it is very common. In middle and upper class socio-economic groups the rate of paternity fraud may be as high as 10%. In lower SE groups it is as high as 30%. In the distant past it was probably just as high or higher. This effectively means that you are wasting your time if you try to discover your genealogy. Back more than a few generations the male line is uncertain. This is implicitly understood in many cultures that try to conserve blood lines. In the Jewish culture for example, the religious title of children passes down the maternal line. Given that the cost of raising a child to 18 is about \$360,000 (<http://www.babycenter.com/cost-of-raising-child-calculator>), this is fraud on a grand scale.

² In the budget of every federal health agency, more money is spent on women’s health than on men’s. There are seven federal health agencies specifically for women. Not one for men. 39 of the 50 states have an office of women’s health, only six have one for men. A search of more than 3,000 medical journals listed in Index Medicus found that 23 articles were written on women’s health for each one written on men’s. Although a woman is only 14 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than a man is from prostate cancer, funding for breast cancer research is 660 percent greater than funding for prostate cancer research. The National Cancer Institute has spent more than three times more money on breast cancer research than on prostate cancer (www.nci.nih.gov/public/factbk97/varican.htm). (In the UK breast cancer currently receives 10 times more NHS funding than prostate cancer. Even accounting for the older age of most prostate cancer patients, the statistics do not appear to support this inequity. There are 41,700 new cases of breast cancer diagnosed per year, compared to 32,000 of prostate cancer. Breast cancer kills 12,400 women per year while prostate cancer kills 10,000 men.) Even the post office has gotten into the act: there is only one disease for which you can buy a postage stamp and the profits will go to research to cure the disease: breast cancer, even though heart disease kills millions more men prematurely. Before the age of 65, men die of heart attacks at three times the rate of women. The bias against men is not limited to government-funded efforts. Even though men die younger, and men’s last decade is spent in worse health than women’s, most media and private sector attention goes to women’s health: features on menopause on CNN, articles on osteoporosis in the Kaiser Permanente newsletter, and nonstop corporate-sponsored fundraisers for breast cancer: runs for breast cancer, walks for breast cancer, even go to an A’s game for breast cancer. Baseball, a game played by and watched primarily by men, has a Breast Cancer Day, but not a Heart Attack Day, even though millions more people—primarily men—die prematurely of heart disease. Yet when the media pays attention to heart disease, most of it is focused on women, even though women get heart disease long after the average man is dead.

³ No sooner had sociologists discovered what they dubbed female alternative aggression --the unpleasant, but one would think obvious fact that pubertal girls snub, exclude and spread vicious rumors about one other -- than these findings were made inconsequential by another shocker: that when it comes to plain, old-fashioned physical brutality, girls are quickly catching up (and in

some instances have caught up) with boys. In her 2002 best-seller *Odd Girl Out: The Hidden Culture of Aggression in Girls*, author Rachel Simmons was taken aback to find that our little princesses were not all sugar and spice, and could in fact behave with such malice as to make Pfc. Lynndie England cringe. But while Ms. Simmons was enthusiastically blaming girls' "alternative aggression" on a Western patriarchic system that discourages the gentler sex from loudly or physically expressing (or even acknowledging) its anger and petty jealousies, rates of female violence were skyrocketing. Had she known, Ms. Simmons doubtless would have cheered the fact that girls were finally openly and honestly expressing their feelings, just like the boys, ala fisticuffs. Throughout her book, Ms. Simmons and the little vixens she interviewed lamented that - - unlike their male counterparts -- society would not allow them to blow off their anger quickly with a few blows to the snout and a jab to the solar plexus. Proponents of open and honest aggression might also celebrate news that the FBI's Crime Index for violent crimes shows that the arrest rate for American girls soared 103 percent between 1981 and 1997. During that same period the arrest rate for boys rose a mere 27 percent. Reporter Marisa Trevino found that during the last decade the rate of girls under 18-years-old arrested for aggravated assault rose by 7 percent. Among boys such arrests fell 29 percent. The most dismaying finding, Trevino suggests, was a 46 percent rise of females who were a party to forcible rape. Among males, the figure fell by 28 percent. More recently, Richard Heikes, a principal for a Texas alternative education center, told Women's E-News, that he began noticing this shift in gender dynamics in middle school two years ago. "Right now, in my (alternative) middle school we are 50-50, males and females. It used to be 70-30 or 80-20. The girls are offending just as badly as the boys." Another study from the November 1999 *Psychology Today* involving 460 female murderers and all but ignored by the alternative aggression researchers, showed that women are growing more stereotypically male in their reasons for murdering, and concludes that for the first time in recorded history girls are altering their pattern of aggression from the traditional female form of hidden aggression to the ass-whopping male variety, the inevitable result being that more and more of America's sweethearts are beginning to resemble Jerry Springer's butt-kicking trailer brides. FEMINISTS ARE UNDERSTANDABLY reluctant to acknowledge that study after study have shown that women are not only as potentially violent as men, but they are potentially more violent, partly because they expect not to be punished for their actions. *Psychology Today* reported that two National Family Violence Surveys, conducted in 1975 and 1985 with a total of 8,145 married and cohabiting couples, concluded that 12.4 percent of women have assaulted their spouses, compared to 12.2 percent of men. In severe assaults, the numbers were 4.6 percent for women and 5 percent for men. Across the pond the numbers are similar. A 1999 British Home Office study found 4.2 percent of both men and women had been assaulted by a partner the previous year. True, assaults by women often result in less serious injury, but apparently not for lack of trying. Meanwhile Irene Frieze, professor of psychology and women's studies at the University of Pittsburgh, undertook yet another study to disprove the absurd notion that girls were more violent than men in dating situations. Frieze, according to *Psychology Today*, was dumbfounded to learn that of the college students she surveyed, 58 percent of women had assaulted their dates, compared to 55 percent of men. And yet despite such findings it is male students alone that are forced to attend date rape seminars and sensitivity training sessions, while across campus at the Tri Delta House the sorority sisters smugly plot their next act of alternative aggression. Surprisingly, outside of radical feminist circles society and the patriarchic culture are not being blamed for the skyrocketing increase in female violence. More often than not scholars are fingering the influence of feminism and something called the "liberation hypothesis," which briefly states that fifty years ago if a young woman wanted to be bad she had relatively few opportunities to do so. Equal rights have given women more economic opportunities, but also more opportunities to be bad. Feminism is a significant factor in girls becoming more violent. "You see females modeling more male behavior, whether it's women in the military, or construction, hunting -- traditional male activities -- I think that some of the spillover is that male aggression is picked up [by girls] more than has been ever witnessed before." Our generation has witnessed the percentage of girls in juvenile jails soar from 5 percent to 20, and it is still rising. In 10 or 20 years there will be as many females as males in prison, Coramae Ritchey Mann, Ph.D., professor emeritus of criminal justice at Indiana University told *Psychology Today*. One thing hasn't

changed. Most youth violence still occurs among poor working class and blue-collar kids, the large majority of these coming from broken homes with all the attendant drug, alcohol and sex abuse. In contrast, upper class girls will continue to successfully hide their alternative aggression from clueless parents and teachers. But it will be the lower class girls who will continue to get the most "benefit" from open and honest displays of aggression, largely in the form of permanent records and time served.

-From *Our Girls* by Christopher Orlet (2004)

⁴ Here is an excerpt from a survey of >140 academic studies of dating and relationship violence:

Aizenman, M., & Kelley, G. (1988). The incidence of violence and acquaintance rape in dating relationships among college men and women. *Journal of College Student Development*, 29, 305–311. (A sample of actively dating college students responded to a survey examining courtship violence. Authors report that there were no significant differences between the sexes in self reported perpetration of physical abuse.)

Archer, J. (2000). Sex differences in aggression between heterosexual partners: A meta-analytic review. *Psychological Bulletin*, In Press. (Meta-analyses of sex differences in physical aggression indicate that women were more likely than men to "use one or more acts of physical aggression and to use such acts more frequently." In terms of injuries, women were somewhat more likely to be injured, and analyses reveal that 62 % of those injured were women.)

Archer, J., & Ray, N. (1989). Dating violence in the United Kingdom: a preliminary study. *Aggressive Behavior*, 15, 337–343. (Twenty three dating couples completed the Conflict Tactics scale. Results indicate that women were significantly more likely than their male partners to express physical violence. Authors also report that, "measures of partner agreement were high" and that the correlation between past and present violence was low.)

Arias, I., Samios, M., & O'Leary, K. D. (1987). Prevalence and correlates of physical aggression during courtship. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 2, 82–90. (Used Conflict Tactics Scale with a sample of 270 undergraduates and found 30% of men and 49% of women reported using some form of aggression in their dating histories with a greater percentage of women engaging in severe physical aggression.)

Arias, I., & Johnson, P. (1989). Evaluations of physical aggression among intimate dyads. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 4, 298–307. (Used Conflict Tactics Scale–CTS– with a sample of 103 male and 99 female undergraduates. Both men and women had similar experience with dating violence, 19% of women and 18% of men admitted being physically aggressive. A significantly greater percentage of women thought self-defense was a legitimate reason for men to be aggressive, while a greater percentage of men thought slapping was a legitimate response for a man or woman if their partner was sexually unfaithful.)

Bernard, M. L., & Bernard, J. L. (1983). Violent intimacy: The family as a model for love relationships. *Family Relations*, 32, 283–286. (Surveyed 461 college students, 168 men, 293 women, with regard to dating violence. Found that 15% of the men admitted to physically abusing their partners, while 21% of women admitted to physically abusing their partners.)

Billingham, R. E., & Sack, A. R. (1986). Courtship violence and the interactive status of the relationship. *Journal of Adolescent Research*, 1, 315–325. (Using CTS with 526 university students found Similar rates of mutual violence but

with women reporting higher rates of violence initiation when partner had not--9% vs. 3%.)

Bland, R., & Orne, H. (1986). Family violence and psychiatric disorder. *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 31, 129-137. (In interviews with 1,200 randomly selected Canadians found that women both engaged in and initiated violence at higher rates than their male partners.)

Bohannon, J. R., Dosser Jr., D. A., & Lindley, S. E. (1995). Using couple data to determine domestic violence rates: An attempt to replicate previous work. *Violence and Victims*, 10, 133-41. (Authors report that in a sample of 94 military couples 11% of wives and 7% of husbands were physically aggressive, as reported by the wives.)

Bookwala, J., Frieze, I. H., Smith, C., & Ryan, K. (1992). Predictors of dating violence: A multi variate analysis. *Violence and Victims*, 7, 297-311. (Used CTS with 305 college students and found that 133 women and 43 men experienced violence in a current or recent dating relationship. Authors reports that "women reported the expression of as much or more violence in their relationships as men." While most violence in relationships appears to be mutual--36% reported by women, 38% by men-- women report initiating violence with non violent partners more frequently than men).

Brinkerhoff, M., & Lupri, E. (1988). Interspousal violence. *Canadian Journal of Sociology*, 13, 407-434. (Examined Interspousal violence in a representative sample of 562 couples in Calgary, Canada. Used Conflict Tactics Scale and found twice as much wife-to-husband as husband-to-wife severe violence . The overall violence rate for husbands was 10.3% while the overall violence rate for wives was 13.2%. Violence was significantly higher in younger and childless couples. Results suggest that male violence decreased with higher educational attainment, while female violence increased.)

⁵ **Regarding the widespread concern about crime, educational failure, drugs, social decay, etc. and the perception that these are connected with family breakdown, in particular with the erosion of the weakest link in the family, the father's role:** Anthropologist Margaret Mead has emphasized that, unlike the mother's role, which is biologically based, the father's role is a social creation. Male dogs and cats have no reproductive importance after their minuscule sexual performance is over. The emergence of a similar male rolelessness in the inner cities was becoming apparent some decades ago and is now becoming obvious in the larger society. At present the law appears to be less concerned with how to strengthen families than with how to provide for ex-families or fatherless families created by illegitimacy. It is becoming better understood that these fatherless families breed most of the criminal and underachieving classes. Many politicians think the problem is one of punishing the male criminals generated by such fatherless families--building more prisons, hiring more police, passing "three-strike" laws, squeezing money out of ex-husbands ("deadbeat dads") for the purpose of subsidizing ex-wives or ex-girlfriends and "their" children. Success in providing for these fatherless families means there will be more of them, that fathers will become still less needed and less motivated, and in consequence there will be further weakening of families and more of the resulting pathology this conference is concerned about. The weakening of male motivation means less male productivity, less male willingness to undertake family responsibilities, more fatherless families, more fatherless children, more crime, less economic growth. A society which cannot motivate its men to be family providers will deteriorate, as ours is doing. A society which threatens husbands with a fifty percent divorce rate combined with virtually automatic loss of children and home and property is forfeiting this motivation. It is too little understood how male motivation is related not only to family and social stability but to the economic growth of society. Thanks to family stability and the male motivation it created, the twenty years following World War II were a period of astonishing, indeed unprecedented, growth. America's industrial plant, already the wonder of the world during

the war, doubled during those twenty years, the GNP grew 250 percent and per capita income increased 35 percent between 1945-1960 —as much as it had during the previous half century. Joseph Satin could say, "Never had so many people been so well off." William Baumol could say, "The future can be left to take care of itself." That was when families were stable — and headed by fathers. America's prosperity was based on growth, not on trying to pinch budgets here and there, to squeeze one program in order to finance another, to borrow from next year's revenues. As family stability eroded, so did the growth. In 1989, "Sixty Minutes" ran a program called "New York Is Falling Apart," showing streets sinking into the ground, bridges collapsing, Mayor Koch closing the Williamsburg Bridge on the grounds that it is "better to be inconvenienced and safe than to be inconvenienced and dead." Judith Wallerstein says only half of the male students she followed in her study of divorced families completed college, forty percent of the young men were drifting--on a downward educational course, out of school, unemployed. When so many of them have seen their fathers expelled from the homes they bought for their families, when they themselves face the same fifty percent chance of divorce and the loss of their children and their role, they wonder why they should work as their fathers and grandfathers did in the years after the War. If you ask a man why he works at his job, he will bring out his wallet and show you pictures of his family. This motivation has been weakened even for the lucky fifty percent who still have families. Males have lost confidence that society wants them to be heads of families rather than providers for ex-families. This is what men hear when President Clinton tells them, "We will find you. We will make you pay." Most men still would like to be fathers, but our society is giving them little assurance that they can have families — that they will be able to spend their own paychecks to provide for their own families rather than to subsidize ex-wives and pay for other things judges and bureaucrats deem proper. A judge will try a divorce case in the morning and place the children in the mother's custody. He will try a criminal case in the afternoon and send a man to prison for robbing a liquor store. The chances are three out of four that the criminal he sends to prison grew up in a female headed household just like the one he himself created that morning when he tried the divorce case. He can't see any connection between the two cases. The reason he can't is the time lag. The children he placed in the mother's custody were perhaps toddlers who would not yet rob liquor stores or breed illegitimate children. But they will grow older. They will become teenagers, boys capable of committing crimes of violence, girls capable of breeding illegitimate children. And then the chickens will come home to roost. In 1980, crime increased by a startling seventeen percent. L.A. Police Chief Daryl Gates was flabbergasted. Nothing in the economy, he said, could account for such an increase. What did account for it was the huge increase in divorce and illegitimacy in the mid-1960s — plus the anti-male bias of the divorce courts which changed the father headed families into female headed families. The judges who placed the children in these families hoped they could force the fathers they exiled to subsidize the families they destroyed — to pay to have their children brought up in female headed households where they were more likely to be abused, neglected, impoverished, delinquent and sexually confused. They would like to blame the fathers for their own inability to create an alternative to the family. The welfare system is equally responsible for subsidizing (therefore creating) female headed households. Like the divorce court judges, welfare bureaucrats would like to make biological fathers pay. They fail to understand what Margaret Mead explained, that fatherhood is not a matter of biology but a social creation. If these (merely) biological fathers are to pay, they must become (or be allowed to remain) real fathers in Mead's sense, men with a role such as that taken away from ex-husbands by the divorce court. They need to be given better motivation than "We will find you. We will make you pay." This latter motivation will not create real fathers. Real fathers must be created, as Mead says, by society. Our society is doing the opposite — destroying millions of fathers through its divorce courts and its welfare system. Much of the social breakdown now going on is the result of the attempt to find taxpayer-funded alternatives and ex-husband-funded alternatives to fatherhood, the creation of which must always be one of society's primary responsibilities. The anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski said that if the family ever ceases to be the pivotal institution of society, we shall be confronted with a social catastrophe compared to which the French Revolution and the Bolshevik Revolution are insignificant. There is no substitute for it. We should stop trying to find one and recognize that the weakness of today's family is the consequence of society's failure to support the father's role, the

role most in need of society's support. The biological weakness of the father's role is not a reason for throwing fathers out of the family but a reason for strengthening their role within it. – from What Happens When Wives Stop Obeying Husbands 'The Father's Role in Society' A Conference Address by Dr. Daniel Amneus Ph. D

This true story illustrates how stupid family court judges are with regard to human nature: A Georgia judge named Robert Noland routinely places children in the mother's custody when he tries a divorce case, and justifies what he does by saying, "I ain't never seen a calf following a bull. They always follow the cow. So I always give custody to the mamas." The reason Judge Noland never saw a calf following a bull is that cattle don't live in two-parent households and don't have civilization. If we want to live like cattle, Judge Noland has the right idea.

⁶ **RMS Titanic** was the largest passenger steamship in the world when she set off on her maiden voyage from Southampton, England to New York City on 10 April 1912. Four days into the crossing, at 23:40 on 14 April 1912, she struck an iceberg and sank at 2:20 the following morning, resulting in the deaths of 1,517 people in one of the deadliest peacetime maritime disasters in history. An *Olympic*-class passenger liner, *RMS Titanic* was owned by the White Star Line and constructed at the Harland and Wolff shipyard in Belfast, Ireland. She set sail for New York City with 2,227 people on board. The high casualty rate when the ship sank was due in part to the fact that, although complying with the regulations of the time, the ship carried lifeboats for only 1,178 people. A disproportionate number of men died due to the **women and children first** protocol that was followed. *Titanic* was designed by some of the most experienced engineers, and used some of the most advanced technologies available at the time. It was a great shock to many that, despite the extensive safety features, *Titanic* sank. The frenzy on the part of the media about *Titanic's* famous victims, the legends about the sinking, the resulting changes to maritime law, and the discovery of the wreck have contributed to the interest in *Titanic*.

⁷ **Articles concerning female genital cutting and circumcision, both from Wikipedia:**

Female genital cutting (FGC), also known as female genital mutilation (FGM), female circumcision, or female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), is any procedure involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs "whether for cultural, religious or other non-therapeutic reasons."^[1] The term is almost exclusively used to describe traditional or religious procedures on a minor, which requires the parents' consent because of the age of the girl. When the procedure is performed on and with the consent of an adult it is generally called clitoridectomy, or it may be part of labiaplasty or vaginoplasty. It also generally does not refer to procedures used in sex reassignment surgery, and the genital modification of intersexuals. FGC is practiced predominantly in North Africa and parts of the Middle East, although it has also been reported to occur in individual tribes in South America and Australia. Opposition is motivated by concerns regarding the consent (or lack thereof, in most cases) of the patient, and subsequently the safety and long-term consequences of the procedures. In the past several decades, there have been many concerted efforts by the World Health Organization (WHO) to end the practice of FGC. The United Nations has also declared February 6 as "International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation".

Male circumcision is the removal of some or all of the foreskin (prepuce) from the penis. The word "circumcision" comes from Latin *circum* (meaning "around") and *cædere* (meaning "to cut"). Early depictions of circumcision are found in cave paintings and Ancient Egyptian tombs, though some pictures are open to interpretation. Religious male circumcision is considered a commandment

from God in Judaism.¹ In Islam, though not discussed in the Qur'an, male circumcision is widely practised and most often considered to be a sunnah. It is also customary in some Christian churches in Africa, including some Oriental Orthodox Churches. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), global estimates suggest that 30% of males are circumcised, of whom 68% are Muslim.¹ The prevalence of circumcision varies mostly with religious affiliation, and sometimes culture. Most circumcisions are performed during adolescence for cultural or religious reasons; in some countries they are more commonly performed during infancy.¹ There is controversy regarding circumcision. Arguments that have been raised in favour of circumcision include that it provides important health advantages which outweigh the risks, has no substantial effects on sexual function, has a low complication rate when carried out by an experienced physician, and is best performed during the neonatal period. Those raised in opposition to circumcision include that it adversely affects penile function and sexual pleasure, is justified only by medical myths, **is extremely painful, and is a violation of human rights**. The American Medical Association report of 1999, which was "...confined to circumcisions that are not performed for ritualistic or religious purposes," states that "Virtually all current policy statements from specialty societies and medical organizations do not recommend routine neonatal circumcision, and support the provision of accurate and unbiased information to parents to inform their choice." The World Health Organization (WHO; 2007), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS; 2007), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC; 2008) state that evidence indicates male circumcision significantly reduces the risk of HIV acquisition by men during penile-vaginal sex, but also state that circumcision only provides partial protection and should not replace other interventions to prevent transmission of HIV.

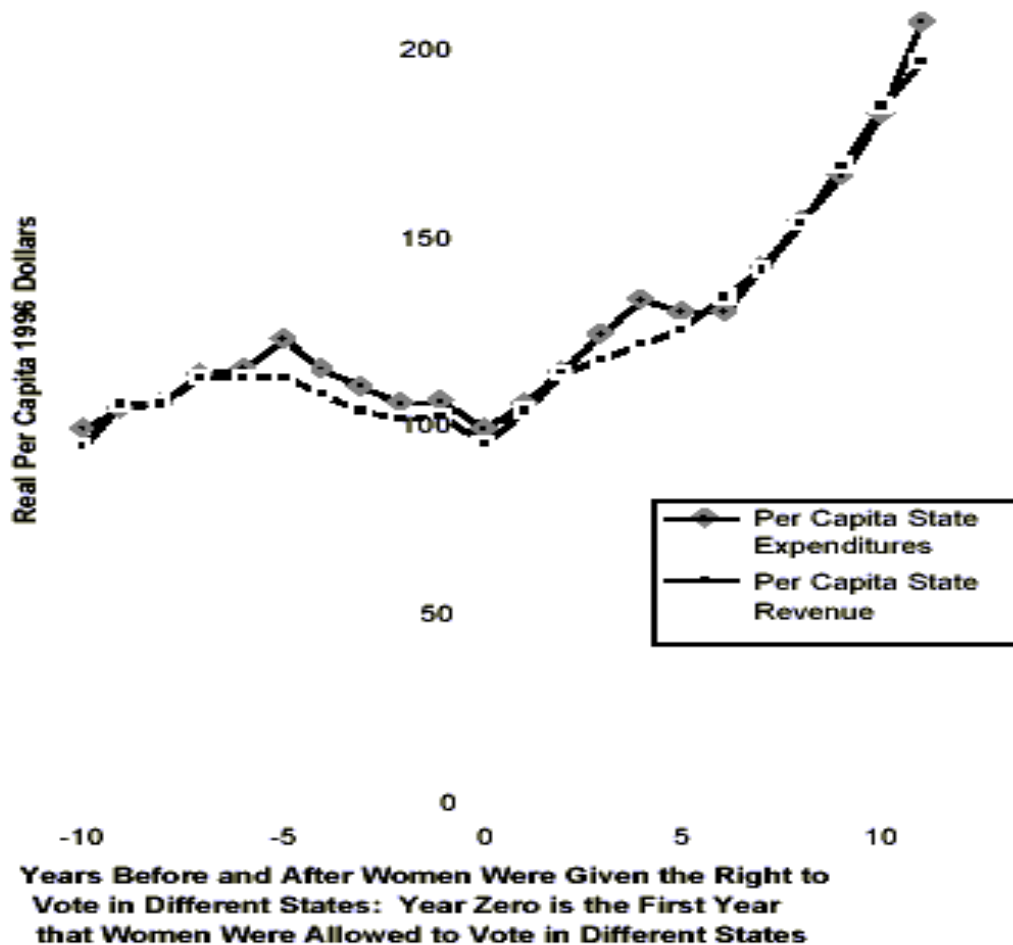
⁸ Regarding how women push big government.

From: How Dramatically Did Women's Suffrage Change the Size and Scope of Government?

John R. Lott, Jr., and Larry Kenny

THE LAW SCHOOL
THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Figure 2: The Effect of Giving Women the Right to Vote on Per Capita State Government Expenditures and Revenue



⁹ **Regarding the wage-depressing effects of the mass entry of women into the workforce:**

Weekly real wages peaked in 1972, not 1973 as I wrote, at \$331.59 (in 1982 dollars), which equals an annual salary of \$34,979.36 in 2005. In the last 32 years, wages have declined 16.3 percent to an annual salary level of 29,280.68. This long-term decline resumed again in 2004, as the Congressional Joint Economic Committee reported that real wages declined another .4 percent last year despite the economic recovery.* Meanwhile, the average married women's contribution to family income has increased from 26.7 percent to 35.2 percent in the same time frame, a 31.8 percent increase. In other words, fully half of a wife's contribution to household income is eaten up by the decline in wages, which stems from the increase in the labor supply. From 1973 to 2004, the percentage of women working rose from 44.7 percent to 59.2 percent. The effects of this increase were obviated somewhat by the declining percentage of men who worked, from 78.8 percent to 73.3 percent. The reason that this effect is a generally negative one is that unlike in the case of immigration, these new workers were already consumers, so they did not bring the concomitant increase in consumption (and demand for labor) that immigrants do. Considering that this had a definite effect on the number of children being raised, it should probably be characterized as a net demand-reducing development.

**The situation is actually worse than it looks here because the Federal Reserve's CPI manipulations seriously underestimate inflation and therefore the true decline in real wages and purchasing power is greater than these statistics would indicate. But we have to work with the tools available to us.*

¹⁰ **Regarding sexual harassment:** The natural human condition is for women to attract the highest status man her looks can get and for men to attract the hottest women their status can get. Status is any combination of fame, wealth and power. Under these conditions alpha males gather harems of willing women and lots of betas are left mateless. In order to form modern techno-industrial civilization, it became necessary to enlist beta males in building and maintaining that civilization under the command of alpha males. The required ensuring that betas had a stake in that civilization. Thus legally and religiously enforced monogamy became the norm. With legal sanctions against alphas taking their wives, betas now had a reason to slave away all day at miserable jobs. The free exercise of women's hypergamous instincts, bottled up for centuries, now threatens to undermine this foundation of civilization. When women flooded into the workforce in the last quarter century, they brought their hypergamous instincts with them. Like a monkey wrench in a well oiled machine their resulting behaviour had a devastating effect of the organizational efficiency of formerly all-male workplaces.

The issues of *sexual harassment* and *workplace violence* have probably done more to harm morale and cause distrust among co-workers than they have to uncover improper behavior and punish offenders. Men are especially suspect under these relatively recent company and government policies, which tend to favor women. An offhand comment or misunderstood gesture can now cost a man his job and ruin his career, and, as in other areas like divorce or domestic violence, a man has little or no recourse in defending himself. Certainly women should have adequate protection in real cases of sexual harassment or intimidation, but this is an issue, where employers have gone overboard in implementing policies. A rational, realistic consideration of these policies needs to be undertaken — with due process and presumption of innocence — as the policies themselves are far too often abused for purposes unintended by those who established them.

-From Steven G. Van Valkenburg. Adapted from "What is the Men's Movement" by Trudy W. Schuett. (2003)

¹¹ **Regarding women in the military and first responder agencies:** Occasionally I have written that placing women in physically demanding jobs in the military, as for example combat, is stupid and unworkable. Predictably I've gotten responses asserting that I hate women, abuse children, cannibalize orphans, and can't get a date. A few, with truculence sometimes amplified by misspelling, have demanded supporting data. OK. The following are from documents I found in a closet, left over from my days as a syndicated military columnist ("*Soldiering*," Universal Press Syndicate). Note the dates: All of this has been known for a long time. From the report of the Presidential Commission on the Assignment of Women in the Armed Forces (report date November 15, 1992, published in book form by Brassey's in 1993): "The average female Army recruit is 4.8 inches shorter, 31.7 pounds lighter, has 37.4 fewer pounds of muscle, and 5.7 more pounds of fat than the average male recruit. She has only 55 percent of the upper-body strength and 72 percent of the lower-body strength... An Army study of 124 men and 186 women done in 1988 found that women are more than twice as likely to suffer leg injuries and nearly five times as likely to suffer [stress] fractures as men." Further: "The Commission heard an abundance of expert testimony about the physical differences between men and women that can be summarized as follows: "Women's aerobic capacity is significantly lower, meaning they cannot carry as much as far as fast as men, and they are more susceptible to fatigue. "In terms of physical capability, the upper five percent of women are at the level of the male median. The average 20-to-30 year-old woman has the same aerobic capacity as a 50 year-old man." From the same report: "Lt Col. William Gregor, United States Army, testified before the Commission regarding a survey he conducted at an Army ROTC Advanced Summer Camp on 623 women and 3540 men. ...Evidence Gregor presented to the Commission includes: "(a) Using the standard Army Physical Fitness Test, he found that the upper quintile of women at West point achieved scores on the test equivalent to the bottom quintile of men. "(c) Only 21 women out of the initial 623 (3.4%) achieved a score equal to the male mean score of 260. "(d) On the push-up test, only seven percent of women can meet a score of 60, while 78 percent of men exceed it. "(e) Adopting a male standard of fitness at West Point would mean 70 percent of the women he studied would be separated as failures at the end of their junior year, only three percent would be eligible for the Recondo badge, and not one would receive the Army Physical Fitness badge...." The following, quoted by Brian Mitchell in his book *Women in the Military: Flirting With Disaster* (Regnery, 1998) and widely known to students of the military, are results of a test the Navy did to see how well women could perform in damage control -- i.e., tasks necessary to save a ship that had been hit.

Test	% Women Failing		% Men Failing	
	Before Training	After Training	Before Training	After Training
Stretcher carry, level	63	38	0	0
Stretcher carry/up, down ladder	94	88	0	0
Fire hose	19	6	0	0
P250 pump, carry down	99	99	9	4
P250 pump, carry up	73	52	0	0
P250, start pump	90	75	0	0

Remove SSTO pump	99	99	0	0
Torque engine bolt	78	47	0	0

Our ships can be hit. I know what supersonic stealthed cruise missiles are. So do the Iraqis. Also from the Commission's report: "Non-deployability briefings before the Commission showed that women were three times more non-deployable than men, primarily due to pregnancy, during Operations Desert Shield and Storm. According to Navy Captain Martha Whitehead's testimony before the Commission, 'the primary reason for the women being unable to deploy was pregnancy, that representing 47 percent of the women who could not deploy.'" Maybe we need armored strollers. My friend Catherine Aspy graduated from Harvard in 1992 and (no, I'm not on drugs) enlisted in the Army in 1995. Her account was published in Reader's Digest, February, 1999, and is online in the Digest's archives. She told me the following about her experiences: "I was stunned. The Army was a vast day-care center, full of unmarried teen-age mothers using it as a welfare home. I took training seriously and really tried to keep up with the men. I found I couldn't. It wasn't even close. I had no idea the difference in physical ability was so huge. There were always crowds of women sitting out exercises or on crutches from training injuries. "They [the Army] were so scared of sexual harassment that women weren't allowed to go anywhere without another woman along. They called them 'Battle Buddies.' It was crazy. I was twenty-six years old but I couldn't go to the bathroom by myself." Women are going to take on the North Korean infantry, but need protection in the ladies' room. Military policy is endlessly fascinating. When I was writing the military column, I looked into the experience of Canada, which tried the experiment of feminization. I got the report from Ottawa, as did the Commission. Said the Commission: "After extensive research, Canada has found little evidence to support the integration of women into ground units. Of 103 Canadian women who volunteered to joint infantry units, only one graduated the initial training course. The Canadian experience corroborates the testimony of LTC Gregor, who said the odds of selecting a woman matching the physical size and strength of the average male are more than 130-to-1. From *Military Medicine*, October 1997, which I got from the Pentagon's library: (p. 690): "One-third of 450 female soldiers surveyed indicated that they experienced problematic urinary incontinence during exercise and field training activities. The other crucial finding of the survey was probably that 13.3% of the respondents restricted fluids significantly while participating in field exercises." Because peeing was embarrassing. Or, (p. 661): "Kessler et al found that the lifetime prevalence of PTSD in the United States was twice as high among women..." Depression, says *MilMed*, is far commoner among women, as are training injuries. Et cetera. The military is perfectly aware of all of this. Their own magazine has told them. They see it every day. But protecting careers, and rears, is more important than protecting the country. Anyway, for those who wanted supporting evidence, there it is. – from *Women in Combat: Facts From a Closet* by Fred Reed

¹² **Regarding boys in the feminized education system:** Contrary to feminist assertions, a boy in school today is at an automatic disadvantage. As many "Women's Studies" graduates end up in teaching, feminist theory has filtered down to the high school and elementary levels. Because feminist ideology requires that boys be educated in the same manner as girls, a boy's natural tendency to be more active and outspoken will always be a "problem." While boys thrive in learning environments that emphasize physically connected hands-on activities, they are confined to sitting quietly for hours at a time. Some schools have even eliminated recess and any kind of active games. Such insensitivity to the learning needs of boys has contributed to the following:

- Boys are three times as likely to receive a diagnosis of attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder as girls. They are also more likely to be drugged as a result of these diagnoses.
- Boys at all levels are far more likely than girls to be disciplined, suspended, held back, or expelled.

- By high school the typical boy is a year and a half behind the typical girl in reading and writing, and is less likely to graduate from high school. This is despite the fact that special attention to girls' needs have eliminated the advantage that boys once enjoyed in math and science.

- Boys are now less likely than girls to go to college.

This disparity in boys' educational performance carries through to the college level:

- Males now represent only 43% of university students (and the Department of Education predicts that this gap will continue to widen).

- Among black university students, only 33% are male.

- Men who enter college or university are less likely to graduate from college or go to graduate school. Part of this difference may be due to the fact that the less than friendly school environment that

boys face becomes a *hostile environment* for young men when they enter college. Some instructors feel free to make disparaging remarks about men in class, while campus newspapers routinely carry articles with an anti-male bias. Consequently, some young men may leave college, rather than stay in an environment where they feel devalued or even despised.

-From Steven G. Van Valkenburg. Adapted from "What is the Men's Movement" by Trudy W. Schuett. (2003)

¹³ **Regarding how women are crippling the delivery of medical care:** The growing number of women entering the medical profession has caused a surge in young doctors opting to become GPs because of the lack of family-friendly working conditions in hospitals. A survey from the British Medical Association (BMA) shows the number of GPs in Scotland has increased from less than a quarter of doctors to more than a third in just two years. In addition, the latest figures reveal that on graduating in 2003, 34 per cent of doctors planned to enter general practice, compared to 18 per cent in 2001. Doctors and BMA officials believe the sharp rise in GPs is a result of more women seeking flexible hours to have families. Female medical students outnumber their male counterparts by 61 per cent (4,717) to 39 per cent (2,953) at universities across the country. Since 1996 the number of female medical students has increased by 77 per cent. Dr Jo Hilborne, the deputy chairman of the BMA's junior doctors committee, said: "Working in a hospital is often very demanding, and balancing responsibility to patients with the needs of a family can be stressful. Given the changing expectations of doctors, hospitals are going to have significant staffing problems if they don't extend opportunities to work flexibly." Dr Ian McKee, a GP at Wester Hailes Medical Centre, said the growing trend for doctors working as part-time GPs was a draw for female medics. "The majority entering the medical profession are women. It is a fact of life that women want to work part-time when they have young children. "When I first started working in a hospital I was doing 100-hour weeks compared to now as a GP where I work part-time. I was doing reports until midnight, now I do the equivalent of just three days a week."

He added: "I think there are pros and cons to this increase in the amount of part-time workers in general practice. "The advantage is that it allows women to take time off to have families but the down side is there is less consistency so patients at medical centres don't receive the same doctor during each visit." A BMA spokeswoman said: "A growing number of females entering the medical profession are requiring relaxed hours for family reasons and are therefore pursuing GP training." Andrew Thomson, 32, who is studying to become a GP, said he chose to make the change from hospital work because it offered more flexibility to allow him to follow other interests in medical politics. "There are huge benefits from having easy access to part-time work, which GP posts offer, because it means female doctors can take time off for families," he said. "I worked for over five years in hospitals where I found there wasn't the opportunity to carry out flexible training because of lack of funding. I wanted to be involved in medical politics and lecture which I will be able to do as a part-time GP." Dr Peter Copp, the medical director of GP-Plus, a privately run GP service in Edinburgh and Glasgow, said: "It is very important that we don't lose doctors ... who would be otherwise outstanding achievers just because their perception of having a lower standard of family life pushed them away from hospital work." Almost three-quarters of the 490 doctors surveyed either worked part-time or would like to in the future. Almost half of the GPs surveyed worked less than full-time, compared to fewer than 10 per cent of hospital doctors. The research, the ninth annual report from the BMA's study of 1995 medical graduates, also highlights concerns about patient care when new limits on junior doctors' hours are introduced in less than two weeks' time - with 7 per cent choosing to practise overseas in order to enjoy better working conditions. – from *More women entering medicine fuels GP surge* by ANGIE BROWN

Regarding how women erode the status of prestige professions:

A high-ranking British woman doctor, Professor Carol Black, president of the Royal College of Physicians, has warned that the British medical profession is shedding the prestige in which it was once held. She ascribes the diminution of respect to the high percentage of women who have entered the profession over the past 20 years. Indeed, she is right to be concerned. Consider teaching. Fifty years ago, when most teachers were male, teaching was accorded the status of "profession." Now, with the great majority of teachers in Britain and Europe being women, teaching has seen its prestige plummet to the point where it is regarded as just another unionized job with pay and holiday issues. Again, since British women flooded into the legal profession, especially as solicitors (essentially, non-trial lawyers) the law too has seen its score marked "diminuendo". The Anglican Church has allowed itself to become sidelined to the point of irrelevance -- although to be fair, this is partly due to its adopting a loony left stance on most critical issues of the day. Nevertheless, the decision to admit women as vicars has diminished the Church's spiritual authority and shepherded it into an "issues oriented" profession rather than that of a provider of spiritual comfort and moral certainties. People perceive women as anchored to issues as opposed to concepts. I recall seeing an interview with one woman who voiced dissatisfaction with her Anglican vicar, who was a woman. The woman complained, "I was spiritually troubled. I was trying to find my faith again, and the vicar kept drawing the conversation back to the lack of adequate childcare facilities in the parish." Politics, too, once surely the most ruthless profession of them all, has seen the regard in which it was previously held, albeit always with a healthy skepticism in the Anglosphere, diminish since large numbers of British and European women chose politics as a career. Think Swedish female politicians, and now think how seriously you take Swedish politics. The high regard in which the police were formerly held in Britain has taken a tumble since they first started recruiting women 40 or so years ago. Women were seen as better communicators than men, more able to tweeze the truth out of child molesters, wife beaters and people sheltering criminals, as though that were the sum total of police work. It wasn't long before battle-hardened male officers were being chided for being too tough, too abrupt, too insensitive. So began the disastrous road to an "understanding" police force in Britain, which, married to a new "profession" variously called social services and counseling,

THE amount of time that it takes for a medical student to qualify as a surgeon is to be cut by almost half in an effort to boost numbers and encourage more women to take up the specialty. Under the current medical curriculum, junior doctors must complete at least 12 years of

postgraduate training to become a consultant surgeon. Major reforms of the tuition process, outlined yesterday by the Royal College of Surgeons, will allow trainees to be fast-tracked to consultants in as little as seven years. The new system, which could see fully qualified surgeons as young as 30, is designed to speed the rise of junior doctors set on surgical specialties, most of whom currently spend years in general medical training. It is also hoped that the timetable — which will let doctors opt out and then rejoin the training programme — will also encourage more women into surgery who had feared sacrificing the chance to have children. Hugh Phillips, president of the Royal College of Surgeons, said that it was vital that an outdated curriculum was overhauled to guarantee the highest quality of surgeons for future generations. Instead of leaving doctors drifting for years in junior roles, the new system would target those with an aptitude for surgery and fast-track them into their desired specialty, he said. “The arrangement for training is not efficient,” he said. “How can we possibly accept a situation where young people spend up to five years at the level of a senior house officer without any sign of progress?” At present there are more than 3,500 senior house officers waiting to become specialist registrars — when a junior doctor develops surgical specialties — but less than half will eventually progress to this stage. Under the new system, they will be able to progress in just two years. “There are too many talented surgeons-in-training stuck at this grade,” Mr Phillips said. “Not only is this wasteful of human resources, it makes for an insecure and difficult time at a crucial stage in the surgeon’s career.” The new curriculum will be introduced in 2007, with pilot schemes due to start in England and Wales from next year. Mr Phillips, an orthopaedic surgeon, said there was also an urgent need to address the work pressures created by government targets that were preventing consultants from spending time passing on their expertise to junior doctors. “There is now an incentive which gives surgeons £100 for treating an additional patient (to help to meet government targets),” he said. “I would rather surgeons were incentivised to train instead of taking the extra case. It may not appeal to ministers, but it has got to be the way forward.” Referring to the public image of surgical training epitomised by Sir Lancelot Spratt, the razor-tongued consultant who terrorised junior medics in *Doctor in the House*, Mr Phillips said that draconian, male-dominated age of surgery was at an end. With almost 70 per cent of medical students now being women, the discipline had to adapt to cater for females or face serious staffing consequences, he said. “Sir Lancelot Spratt and his white-coated entourage is dead,” he said. “That, I’m afraid, is not the way surgery and surgical training can be delivered. We must get real about the surgical workforce. Unless we attract women into surgery, the only people we can choose from will be just 30 per cent of medical graduates.” Of the more than 5,200 consultant surgeons in the country, just 6 per cent — 281 surgeons — are women, with the highest proportion of females found in disciplines such as paediatrics and breast surgery. Other schemes to encourage women into the workforce include tax breaks on childcare.

MAN'S WORLD

Cardiothoracic surgery

(240 consultants in total): 7 women/233 men

General surgery (1,602): 107/1,495

Neurosurgery (178): 6/172

Otolaryngology (523): 35/488

Oral & maxillofacial (307): 26/281

Paediatric (106): 23/83

Plastic (236): 19/217

Trauma & orthopaedic (1,518): 43/1,475

Urology (508): 15/493

Closing the gap on US

WHERE once surgery was the domain of white, public-school-educated males such as the caricature consultant Sir Lancelot Spratt, the reforms are designed to attract allcomers to one of medicine’s most challenging disciplines (Sam Lister writes). Under the new curriculum, medical school graduates will be able to start to hone skills specific to surgical specialties within a year of leaving medical school, rather than seven years. All junior doctors should be able to become consultants in one of the nine surgical specialties — general, cardiothoracic, paediatric,

neurosurgery, otolaryngology, plastic, trauma and orthopaedic, urology, and oral and maxillofacial surgery — within seven years, but more complex disciplines such as renal and inner-ear operations will require further training. The new programme will bring Britain closer to American standards, where the average for most specialities is a five-year residency programme straight from medical school.

'I missed many family events'

WHEN Linda de Cossart became a consultant surgeon at the age of 40, it was 16 years after she started surgical training after her graduation from medical school (Sam Lister writes). Ms de Cossart, a vascular expert in the specialty of general surgery, said that for woman with family commitments, the extensive period of training could come at a considerable personal cost. “We have been breaking down the barriers slowly, but it has been hard for women who want or have a family, and most likely a husband in a profession, as well as being in training. I remember time commitments being pretty draconian, with a lot of missed family events, birthdays and holidays,” she said. For Ms de Cossart, who wanted to be a surgeon since her schooldays in the 1960s, the decision was easier, but she said she had been a rarity in her professional life. “There were only about half a dozen other women compared with more than 80 men,” she said. “You had to be tough and stand your ground.” As a trainee, Ms de Cossart was helped by working with Professor Averil Mansfield, a former vice-president of the Royal College of Surgeons, who she said provided a powerful female role model. Now lead clinician in the department of general surgery at the Countess of Chester Hospital in Cheshire, Ms de Cossart said that efforts were being made to encourage women to take up surgical disciplines that had appeared so unappealing to many of their predecessors. “There was a huge group of women who never considered doing surgery, because they regarded it as involving a huge amount of training for a tedious, difficult and male-dominated role.” Ms de Cossart, 56, welcomed the reforms to the curriculum, although she cautioned against a system that might not let doctors have sufficient practice at highly skilled procedures. “By the time I became a consultant I was very experienced. I could engage with the other skills of surgeons, such as educating junior doctors, which if I had been less experienced I would have struggled with,” she said.- from *Surgeons' training marathon halved to help women*

BY SAM LISTER, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

From a popular men's right blogger:

<http://www.angryharry.com/esistheTrainingofWomenDoctorsAWaste.htm>

Casualty departments around Britain are in danger of being overwhelmed by the number of patients turning up in the evening when thousands of family doctors stop providing after-hours cover this spring. Thanks to the fact that a whopping 60% of UK women doctors will give up their careers within 10 years of starting them, there is a continuing crisis in the health service despite the fact that thousands of doctors are being employed from abroad to try to fill in the gaps. The overall result is that *everyone* in the country - particularly the old, the sick and the needy - suffers from an increasingly poor medical service as these women drop out of the profession. Further, not only do these women take up valuable places in medical schools when being trained, the huge cost of training doctors in the UK is borne by the taxpayers. But, Hey: The career whims of a few thousand women must come first regardless of the *high* cost to *everyone* else. This *is* feminism. And the old, the sick and the needy ... well ... they are an irrelevance to feminists. And if that was not bad enough, the feminists and the politically-corrected (such as most of the higher-ranking police officers in the UK) then have the nerve to blame men - thus demonising them further and adding to the pot of male hatred - for the failure of women to rise to the highest positions in their careers! (And AH uses the phrase, 'their careers', in the loosest of senses!) Statistically speaking, women do not *deserve* to rise as high as men in 'their careers' because, statistically speaking, they are *willfully choosing* not to put in the necessary amount of time and effort.

¹⁴ **Regarding men and work-related deaths:** Every year 6,000 people are killed in workplace/industrial accidents--95% of them male. Of the 25 jobs listed as most dangerous by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, 24 of them are largely or exclusively male.

¹⁵ **Regarding women, child abuse, and the family court system:** Even though mothers commit 55% of child murders and biological fathers commit 6%, even though NIS-3 shows that Mother-only households are 3 times more fatal to children than Father-only households, children are systematically removed from the natural fathers who are their most effective protectors and men are imprisoned at rate 20 times that of women.

Only 10% of father's get custody of their children and that too under uncontested claim or under special circumstances. Not only that, they are allowed only limited visits and time with their children. If the mother so desires she has the means to completely shut the father out of her children's lives. This leads to great emotional distress as the father faces estrangement from his children. Most states give the wife an equal right over the house and all other property that he might have purchased with his hard earned money or inherited. They are usually liquidated to make division of assets easier.

Policy changes in the 1988 and 1996 welfare laws created similar financial incentives for state governments to exclude middle-class fathers from the home. The law incentivized the states to manufacture "noncustodial" (i.e., absent) fathers and to order money transfers (usually through wage garnishment) to mothers, thereby putting a large segment of the middle class under the welfare bureaucrats. The major goal of the 1996 Welfare Reform was to reduce the budget deficit by, among other things, recovering welfare costs from absentee fathers. Without justification or public debate, the rules to accomplish this were then applied to middle-class "never welfare" families. Formerly, to receive welfare benefits, recipients had to demonstrate eligibility by "need" (i.e., a test measured by income level), but the new policy omitted income eligibility requirements. Without a means test, a high-income mother with custody can use the power of the state to collect from a low-income father. The federal government annually provides \$4.2 billion in block grants to states to serve as collection agencies. States are reimbursed for 66 percent of their costs of child support enforcement activities, 80 percent of their costs for technology, and 66 percent of their costs of DNA testing for paternity. The more cases the states can create and the more operational expenses they incur, the more federal funding states receive to expand their welfare bureaucracy. No performance standards are required to get this money and, in addition, the feds provide a bonus fund (\$458 million in Fiscal 2006) for which the states compete. In the welfare class, most absentee fathers are unemployed or working for wages so low that little or no money can be squeezed out of them. State bureaucrats discovered they could cash in on the pot of federal money by exploiting middle-class divorce and creating a whole new class of absent fathers who have good jobs and are willingly making payments to their ex-wives. When a married couple with children is divorced, the family court typically renames the husband and wife as noncustodial and custodial parents. The more time with the children that is awarded to the custodial parent, the more money the noncustodial parent is ordered to pay and then can be reported by the state as collections that merit federal bonuses. Federal funding thus provides powerful monetary incentives for states to maximize the number of single-parent households with high transfer payments, and to minimize equal child custody which would lessen transfer payments. Depriving or reducing children's access to one parent is thus a source of revenue for states. These incentives drive family court discretion and skew the opinions of the vast army of lawyers, psychologists, custody evaluators, and parenting counselors who are used to rationalize the process. They hide their predetermined custody rulings under the subjective slogan "the best interest of the child." Put another way, forcibly depriving children of access to one parent, usually

the father because he usually has a higher income than the mother, is a big source of revenue to states. The more support orders that are issued, the higher they are, and the more fathers who are threatened with jail and suspension of their driver's and professional licenses for challenging the system, the better chance a state will receive more money from the federal government. This result was accurately predicted by Leslie L. Frye, chief of Child Support for the California Department of Social Services. In testifying to the Human Resources Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee on March 20, 1997, Frye said the new regulations "encouraged states to recruit middle-class families, never dependent on public assistance and never likely to be so, into their programs in order to maximize federal child support incentives." Of the 40 percent of U.S. children now growing up in homes without their own father, some are victims of the stereotypical "deadbeat dad." But most are victims of disastrous federal policies that provided incentives to create female-headed households, first by the Democrats' welfare system and then by the Republicans' so-called welfare reform. Many consciences should be burdened with the realization that taxpayer money provides financial incentives to deprive millions of children of their own fathers.

An analysis of the data in the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services "Child Maltreatment" reports from 2001-2006, shows that:

70.8% of children killed by one parent are killed by their mothers

70.6% of children abused by one parent are abused by their mothers

60% of the victims are boys

And yet "child protection" agencies, who know the numbers, continue to LIE to us: the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) has plastered billboards all over its buses, promoting the falsehood that only men ever commit domestic violence. The misandry in DART's campaign is so blatant that it distracts attention from this even more offensive fact: Under the guise of public service, DART is running a campaign that will inevitably increase the number of child deaths by promoting the false notion that children are always safer with their mothers because men are inherently dangerous!

¹⁶ According to a nine-year study conducted by former Purdue sociologist Eugene J. Kanin, in over 40 percent of the cases reviewed, the complainants eventually admitted that no rape had occurred (*Archives of Sexual Behavior*, Vol. 23, No. 1, 1994). Kanin also studied rape allegations in two large Midwestern universities and found that 50 percent of the allegations were recanted by the accuser. Kanin found that most of the false accusers were motivated by a need for an alibi or a desire for revenge. Kanin was once well known and lauded by the feminist movement for his groundbreaking research on male sexual aggression. His studies on false rape accusations, however, received very little attention. Kanin's findings are hardly unique. In 1985 the Air Force conducted a study of 556 rape accusations. Over one quarter of the accusers admitted, either just before they took a lie detector test or after they had failed it, that no rape occurred. A further investigation by independent reviewers found that 60 percent of the original rape allegations were false. The most common reasons the women gave for falsely accusing rape were "spite or revenge," and to compensate for feelings of guilt or shame (*Forensic Science Digest*, vol. 11, no. 4, December 1985). A *Washington Post* investigation of rape reports in seven Virginia and Maryland counties in 1990 and 1991 found that nearly one in four were unfounded. When contacted by the *Post*, many of the alleged victims admitted that they had lied. It is true, of course, that not every accuser who recants had accused falsely. But it is also true that some who do not recant were not telling the truth. According to a 1996 Department of Justice Report, of the roughly 10,000 sexual assault cases analyzed with DNA evidence over the previous seven years, 2,000 excluded the primary suspect, and another 2,000 were inconclusive. The report notes that these figures mirror an informal National Institute of Justice survey of private laboratories, and suggests that there exists "some strong, underlying systemic problems that generate erroneous accusations and convictions." That false allegations are a major problem has been confirmed by several prominent prosecutors, including Linda Fairstein, who heads the New York County District Attorney's Sex Crimes Unit. Fairstein, the author of *Sexual Violence: Our War Against Rape*, says, "there are about 4,000 reports of rape each year in Manhattan. Of these, about half simply did not happen." Craig Silverman, a former Colorado prosecutor known for his zealous prosecution of rapists during his 16-year career, says that false rape accusations occur with

"scary frequency." As a regular commentator on the Bryant trial for Denver's ABC affiliate, Silverman noted that "any honest veteran sex assault investigator will tell you that rape is one of the most falsely reported crimes." According to Silverman, a Denver sex-assault unit commander estimates that nearly half of all reported rape claims are false. The media has largely ignored these studies and experts and has instead promoted the notion that only 2% of rape allegations are false. This figure was made famous by feminist Susan Brownmiller in her 1975 book *Against Our Will: Men, Women and Rape*. Brownmiller was relaying the alleged comments of a New York judge concerning the rate of false rape accusations in a New York City police precinct in 1974. A 1997 *Columbia Journalism Review* analysis of rape statistics noted that the 2% statistic is often falsely attributed to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and has no clear and credible study to support it. The FBI's statistic for "unfounded" rape accusations is 9%, but this definition only includes cases where the accuser recants or the evidence contradicts her story. Instances where the case is dismissed for lack of evidence are not included in the "unfounded" category. Brownmiller's credibility can be assessed by her assertion in *Against Our Will* that rape is "nothing more or less than a conscious process of intimidation by which all men keep all women in a state of fear." Murphy also contends that the criminal justice system is stacked against women, and that the law reform initiatives promoted during the past three decades have "failed to make a bit of difference in the justice system's handling of rape cases." In reality, feminist advocacy and the now ubiquitous rape-shield laws have made an enormous difference in the way the system treats rape cases. Some of these changes have been fair, and have led to greater protections for rape victims. However, others have made it more difficult for men to defend themselves, with at times horrifying consequences for the accused. For example, in December, the Arkansas Supreme Court denied an appeal by Ralph Taylor, who is serving a 13-year sentence for rape. The court held that evidence of the victim's alleged prior false allegations of rape was inadmissible because it was considered sexual conduct within the meaning of the state's rape shield statute. In that case, the defense proffered the testimony of two friends of the alleged victim, both of whom claimed that she had previously falsely accused another man of raping her. The court added that admitting such evidence could "inflame the jury." In her book *Ceasefire: Why Women and Men Must Join Forces to Achieve True Equality*, *Boston Globe* columnist Cathy Young details numerous questionable rulings in which potentially innocent men were prevented from properly defending themselves by the rape shield laws which Murphy endorses. One of these cases concerns an 18 year-old Wisconsin boy named Charles Steadman, who in 1993 was sentenced to eight years in prison for allegedly raping an older woman. Steadman was prohibited from revealing that his accuser was currently facing criminal charges of having sex with minors, and thus had an excellent reason to claim that the sex with Steadman was not consensual. Such evidence was deemed related to his accuser's sexual history and thus inadmissible. In 1997, sportscaster Marv Albert was accused of assault and battery during a sexual encounter with a woman with whom he had had a 10-year sexual relationship. Albert sought to introduce evidence that his accuser, who had been in a mental hospital six weeks before the alleged assault, had previously made false accusations against men who had left her, as Albert, who was engaged to be married, was planning to do. Albert's offer of proof was denied, compromising his ability to defend himself. Facing a possible life sentence, he chose to plead guilty to misdemeanor assault. Murphy's dogged attacks on Ruckriegle as a veritable "advocate for the accused" are also without foundation. Far from being a black robed patriarch in league with the defendant, Ruckriegle's rulings were reasonable and, if anything, minimalist. It is not the rulings but the reaction to them by victims' advocates and the media which are worrisome. For example, Ruckriegle granted a defense motion that Bryant's accuser would not be referred to as "the victim" in court. Such labeling, as opposed to "alleged victim" or "accuser," undermines the presumption of innocence. However, this motion was hotly contested by both the prosecution and by victims' rights organizations, which filed amicus briefs and complained that Ruckriegle's decision created an anti-woman double-standard. Ruckriegle also allowed Bryant to introduce evidence that his accuser had had other sexual encounters in the 72 hours before her medical examination for the alleged assault. Bryant's defense team contended that the microscopic vaginal injuries the prosecution claimed were suffered in the alleged assault could instead have been the product of various consensual sexual encounters. Media commentators labeled the 72 hour decision a

"bombshell for prosecutors" that "threatens all women," and likened Ruckriegle to a man who has "tiptoed into a minefield." Murphy is correct that rape is a horrible crime. But false accusations of rape are every bit as horrible. They are a form of psychological rape that can emotionally, socially, and economically destroy a person even if there is no conviction, especially for those of less fame and fortune than Bryant. The stigma attaches to the falsely accused for life. Few believe them and few care. Prosecutors systematically refuse to prosecute the perpetrators. And victims' advocates like Murphy refuse to see falsely accused men as victims, and instead work to minimize and conceal the problem.

From the Los Angeles Daily Journal *and* San Francisco Daily Journal (9/15/04). By Marc Angelucci & Glenn Sacks

¹⁷ We often hear the claim that women do two jobs, one in the marketplace and one in the home, while men do only one. The conclusion is that women work more than men and men need to start doing a lot more housework. However, as with many feminist claims regarding gender equality, actual research does not back up this assertion. An international study by three economists (Michael Burda of Humboldt University in Berlin, Daniel Hamermesh of the University of Texas, and Philippe Weil of the Free University of Brussels), demonstrate that in the Western world, men and women work the same number of hours every day. An article in Slate summarizes the findings in this way: Throughout the world, men spend more time on market work, while women spend more time on homework. In the United States and other rich countries, men average 5.2 hours of market work a day and 2.7 hours of homework each day, while women average 3.4 hours of market work and 4.5 hours of homework per day. Adding these up, men work an average of 7.9 hours per day, while women work an average of—drum roll, please—7.9 hours per day. Personally this comes as no great surprise to me, since the national statistics in Sweden (no translation available) consistently show that men and women work the same number of hours every week. The authors of the study have also investigated the widespread myth that women work much more than men: In a survey by the authors of this study, 54 percent of economists and 62 percent of economics students thought that women work more than men, as did more than 70 percent of sociologists. And while the gender equal-work phenomenon has been noted before, "it has been swamped by claims in widely circulated sociological studies ... that women's total work significantly exceeds men's," as the authors put it. My interpretation is that feminism has been so successful at getting its message across (women work more), that no one has really bothered to check the facts, not even the professionals and academics who need to have accurate data in order to perform their job properly.

¹⁸ **Regarding the wage gap myth:** According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median income for all women is about three-quarters that of men, although the results vary significantly among demographic groups. Feminist organizations and some politicians point to these statistics as evidence of the United States as a patriarchal society that discriminates against women. But a closer examination leads to a different conclusion.

When women behave in the workplace as men do, the wage gap between them is small. June O'Neill, former director of the Congressional Budget Office, found that among people ages 27 to 33 who have never had a child, women's earnings approach 98 percent of men's. Women who hold positions and have skills and experience similar to those of men face wage disparities of less than 10 percent, and many are within a couple of points. Claims of unequal pay almost always involve comparing apples and oranges.

Women make different choices, and those choices affect how they work. Women often place more importance on their relationships - caring for children, parents, spouses, etc. - than on their

careers. A study by the Center for Policy Alternatives and Lifetime television found that 71 percent of women prefer jobs with more flexibility and benefits than jobs with higher wages, and nearly 85 percent of women offered flexible work arrangements by their employers have taken advantage of this opportunity.

Women are more likely to enter and leave the workforce to raise children, take care of elderly parents or move with their families. Working mothers are nearly twice as likely to take time off to care for their children as are working fathers in dual-earner couples. Yet time out of the workforce is an enormous obstacle to building an attractive resume and working up the corporate ladder. Women 25 years of age and over have been with their current employer 4.4 years, on average, compared to 5.0 years for men. Data from the National Longitudinal Survey reveal that women between the ages of 18 and 34 have been out of the labor force 27 percent of the time, in contrast to 11 percent for men. Women ages 45 to 54 who have recently re-entered the workforce after a five- or 10-year break are competing against men who have had 20 years of continuous experience.

Women are also more likely to work part-time. In 2000, one-quarter of all women employees worked part-time, compared to less than 10 percent of men. Nearly 85 percent of those who worked part-time did so for non-economic reasons; e.g., to spend more time with the family or to further their education. In general, married women would prefer part-time work at a rate of 5 to 1 over married men.

While part-time work usually increases flexibility, the part-time worker loses out on promotions and pay increases. Part-time work also tends to mean lower hourly pay. Shorter labor stints and part-time work contribute to the probability of working for the minimum wage. Nearly two-thirds of minimum wage earners are women.

However, women's wages hold up quite well to men's wages when comparing specific job categories. Among adults working between one and 34 hours a week, women's earnings are 115 percent of men's. Among part-time workers who have never married, and who thus confront fewer outside factors likely to affect earnings, women earn slightly more than men. These statistics suggest that skill level, tenure and working hours - not gender - determine wages. Beyond work behavior, women gravitate to sectors of the economy that compensate workers at lower levels. While women hold 53 percent of all professional jobs in the United States, they hold only 28 percent of jobs in professions averaging \$40,000 or more in annual compensation. For example, fewer women have chosen to enter such technical fields as computer sciences, math and science teaching, medicine, law and engineering. In 1998, women earned only 26.7 percent of computer science degrees.

Despite all these factors, the gap between men and women's wages has been closing. [Figure II](#) illustrates that over the last 20 years women's earnings have jumped at least 12 percentage points relative to men's earnings, closing the wage differential at every level of education. A change in women's work expectations also has tended to close the gap. Until the 1970s, a minority of women expected to work after marriage. Today, almost 75 percent of young women expect to be working at age 35.

Changing work expectations are an apparent cause of women's increased focus on education, and the enrollment of women in higher education has grown much faster than that of men. Women were awarded more than 50 percent of associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees in the 1990s. Women currently earn more than 40 percent of Ph.D.s, medical and law degrees.

The narrowing of the gender wage gap approximately one percentage point a year since 1980 is particularly significant, since during the 1980s and '90s the overall wage level rose little and the wage inequality between skilled and unskilled workers grew. Without enhanced skills, women's wages likely would have fallen further behind men's. However, market pressures have helped to generate corrective mechanisms, and as the costs of denying employment to women mounted, prejudices were set aside.

Women's work-life patterns and their occupational preferences are significant factors in determining wages. Rather than being "funneled" into low-wage, low-prestige and part-time positions, women often choose these occupations because of the flexibility they offer. After adjusting for these factors, scholars find that the difference between men's and women's earnings is very narrow.

Those who still cite women's 76 cents for every male dollar as evidence of sexism fail to take into account the underlying role of personal choice. The "wage gap" is not so much about employers discriminating against women as about women making discriminating choices in the labor market.
- from *The Wage Gap Myth* by Denise Venable

¹⁹ **Media bias against men** generally falls into two categories: *errors of commission* and *errors of omission*. Such errors of commission are common in the mass media (TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, books, movies, and the internet). TV is perhaps the worst offender in this category. Men are routinely portrayed as boorish and inadequate at best; violent and perverted at worst. TV sitcoms commonly feature pathetic and uncouth men who are constantly in need of rescue by their "superior" girlfriends, wives, or female relatives. It is also "acceptable" for women to kick, punch and slap men in these programs. Even worse, crime shows routinely depict men as sexually deviant and murderous. Meanwhile, commercials portray men as idiots, unable to care for their children or to understand the function of household appliances. Of course, this contempt for men can be found in other media as well. Newspapers and magazines commonly print articles written from a feminist perspective. The reader is given the impression that women as a group are victims of male oppression, when the reality is far more complex and ambiguous. Cartoons often mock men and boys as stereotypes rather than real people, while also portraying violence against males as humorous. Men's advocates often ask whether it would be acceptable to substitute "women" or "blacks" for "men" in the above situations. Such disrespect wouldn't be tolerated. Surely men deserve the same consideration from the media. Errors of omission occur when a male perspective is either omitted or downplayed in the above situations. For example, the phrase "women and children" is commonly used when describing people affected by a particular crisis. This implies that men are somehow more expendable. The phrase "men, women, and children" is much more inclusive. If the media is to achieve a fair balance in gender issues, men's viewpoints should get the same attention as women's viewpoints.
-From Steven G. Van Valkenburg. Adapted from "What is the Men's Movement" by Trudy W. Schuett. (2003)

Regarding the intellectual superiority of men vs. the way they are portrayed in the media:
By early adulthood men have an IQ 3-5 IQ points (~.3sd) higher than women with a 10-15% larger standard deviation, resulting in a huge IQ imbalance in favor of men at the top end of the distribution. At the intellectual level required to make meaningful contributions to humanity in the arts and sciences (IQ ~ 145) men outnumber women 5 to 1.

²⁰ **Regarding Title IX and double standards in school sports:** In 1998 the Virginia High School League (VHSL) decided to let girls play in the Boys' State Golf Championship. The goal in affording this opportunity was to encourage more girls to play golf, something that must be absolutely necessary for personal happiness and fulfillment. What was the problem? Well, the chivalric school officials decided to allow the girls to play from tees that made the course twenty-percent shorter for them, a difference that amounted to about sixty yards per hole. This is where

Suh, the best female high school golfer in the state, entered the picture. After competing in the tournament a few times, she finally won it in 2002, causing a firestorm of controversy. Many of the boys complained (How dare they!) that if girls want to play in the same event, they should play by the same rules. I guess those boys hadn't learned THE rules yet. After this brouhaha the VHSL mandated that girls who wished to play in the boys' event must play from the same tees, although it was just a wee bit too late for the second-place competitor, who finished one stroke behind and was denied his chance to win the title. Moreover, a couple of curious contradictions were left unexplained. For one, how is it just to allow girls entry based on an equality argument but then cast equality to the winds during the competition? Then, if it's wrong to discriminate based on sex, why were the shorter hitting girls given this handicap but not the shorter hitting boys (some boys who compete in such events are younger and less developed)? Not that any of this matters to feminists, among whom I will count Miss Suh. She responded to the boys' righteous indignation not with ladylike graciousness, but with in-your-face comments such as, "I won it and there's nothing they can do about it" and "I would have beaten most of them anyway." Interestingly, though, despite this show of bravado, Suh also stated that she doesn't ". . . believe the girls should play from the same tees as the boys." Ah, she has learned her lessons well. No surprise, though, given her influences. After her "victory," her principal went to her classroom and proclaimed her to be the "best" golfer in the state. But that's modern feminism: preach equality, accept favoritism, win with stacked decks, pretend you had no advantage, then rub salt in the wound.

- from *The New Chivalry* by Selwyn duke

Title IX started out as an attempt to guarantee equal opportunity for women in athletics. This has evolved into a system of rigid proportionality between sports participation and enrollment for women. As female enrollment has increased, institutions of higher education are required to increase the proportion of female sports participation in order to meet their required target. This has resulted in many athletic programs for men being cut, while it is questionable that women even want the levels of participation in sports that are required. As with other gender issues differences in participation rates should reflect individual interests and abilities, rather than an arbitrary quota system.

²¹ Religion is indispensable in igniting great accomplishment in the arts. It articulated a human place in the cosmos, laid out a clear understanding of the end-the good-toward which humans aim, and set exalted standards of human behavior. Confucianism and Aristotelianism, along with All great religions of the world, are for grownups, requiring mature contemplation of truth, beauty, and the good. Cultures in which the creative elites are not engaged in that kind of mature contemplation don't produce great art.

-From *Human Accomplishment* by Charles Murray

Author's comment:

No woman has ever made a significant contribution in this most important of all human abstractions: answering the question of why are we here and what meaning does my life have. Minor figures like Mary Baker Eddy nowhere near the level of the giants.

²² Thomas Hobbes

²³ Democritus

²⁴ Sir Francis Bacon

²⁵ **Regarding reproductive rights:** The relevant principle here involves authority and responsibility, two things that are inextricably linked. With authority comes responsibility, and with responsibility must come authority. For instance, we don't accord minors the authority of adults – they mayn't vote, buy alcohol or tobacco products, join the military, etc. – but we also don't ascribe to them the same level of responsibility. This is why children are punished less harshly for committing crimes. It should be obvious why authority and responsibility go hand in hand. If a minor is under your care, you act in loco parentis and have authority over him. If he then plays with matches and burns down the neighbor's house, you are responsible. On the other hand, he wouldn't be held responsible if you burned down the house because he has no authority over you. **The problem with our laws governing abortion and parental rights is that they rob a man of all authority over the fate of his unborn child but assign him fifty-percent of the responsibility** for that child should the woman, exercising her *total authority* in the matter, decide to bring the child to term. We live in a society that is obsessed with equality, and our government zealously enforces onerous regulations and mandates and imposes a radical-egalitarian model on all of us (i.e., Title IX dictates, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, etc.). Despite this, inequality is not only tolerated but prescribed when it redounds to the detriment of men and the benefit of women. And this is a perfect example: woman+conception+100% authority=50% responsibility. But what about man+conception+0% authority? Well, you won't see this on the SATs, but the answer is still 50% responsibility. It's amazing how placing a man in an equation completely alters the answer – From Vox Day's March 6, 2006 column, *Abortion, Authority and Responsibility*

²⁶ Women are acquitted of spousal murder at a rate 9 times that of men [Bureau Justice Statistics -- 1.4% of men vs. 12.9% of women]
Men are sentenced 2.8 times longer than women for spousal murder [Bureau Justice Statistics -- men at 17 years vs. women at 6 years]
Even though the amount of the average "child support payment" due from women is half the amount due from men, and even though women are twice as likely as men to default on those payments, fathers are 97% of "child support" collections prosecutions [Census Bureau]
If you kill a black man driving drunk, you'll face an average prison term of two years. If you kill a white man, the term will increase to four years. And if you kill a white woman, it will jump to six years. ("Unconventional Wisdom," Washington Post, Sept. 7, 2000.) For some reason, though, our media only likes to tell the racial part of the story, and leaves the devaluation of male lives hidden under a cloak of silence. On Jan. 31, 2001, a Michael Schwartz column described the Prison Industrial Complex – a prison slave labor market of nonviolent criminals made up of mostly "the poor, the mentally ill, people of color, drug addicts and many combinations of these characteristics." ("Slave labor means big bucks for U.S. corporations," Daily Bruin, Viewpoint). While I agreed with this, I couldn't help noticing how the very demographic that accounts for 90 percent of those prisoners, and 98 percent of death row inmates, went completely unmentioned. Why was that? Did the writer momentarily forget that gender exists? If you missed your quiet time today, you can make up for it now. Close your eyes and imagine what the column would have looked like if the statistics were reversed. Ready? "Ommm . . ." Wow. Did you see what I saw? "Women . . . women . . . women." This is no joke. It's a crisis. **When a disparity adversely affects women, even by 1 percent, gender is all over the page, but when it adversely affects men, even by 98 percent, not a word. We simply don't care much about men. In fact, the devaluation of male lives is so entrenched in our psyches and endemic to our system that we refuse to see it – even when it's smack in our face. The criminal justice system is a good example.** According to Pradeep Ramanathan, vice president of the National Coalition of Free Men, a volunteer, non-profit organization that has explored and addressed men's issues since 1976, "All the research clearly demonstrates that **gender is the most significant biasing factor in determining whether or not someone will be charged, prosecuted, indicted and sentenced, as well as determining the severity of the sentence.**" And he's right. For example, federal crime statistics from the National Institute of Justice demonstrate that **being male increases your chance of receiving a death sentence for murder by more than 20 times.** A study of non-accomplice crimes that factored together the

number of charges, convicted offenses, prior felony convictions, and the race, age, work and family history of the accused, found that **"gender differences, favoring women, are more often found than race differences, favoring whites,"** (Crime and Delinquency, 1989, v 35, pp 136-168). In fact, **being male increases sentence lengths more than any other variable,** according to researchers Zingraff and Thompson in the International Journal of the Sociology of Law. What is behind this? Gender bias researchers John Ryan and Ian Wilson suggest **it stems from stereotypes about women being more innocent, more reformable, and less dangerous than men.** Barbara Swartz, director of New York's Women's Prison Project, called it the "chivalry factor" and said, **"If there were more women judges, more women would go to jail."** ("Courts Easier On Women," The Sunday Record, Oct. 5, 1975). Regardless, it's the men getting screwed, again, and nobody wants to talk about it. Many states do have task forces to study gender bias in the justice system. But since they pay groups like the National Organization for Women and the National Association of Women Judges to decide which issues to study, their conclusions are even more biased than the system itself. Here's an example. **For the same crime, women are more likely to receive probation while men receive a prison term. What does the commission decide to say? Women are discriminated against because they receive longer probation periods.** (New York Times, July 2, 1989). "None of (the commissions) study bias against men," said Ramanathan. "NCFM has made some progress in Texas, but we need more volunteers." And sentencing is only one type of anti-male bias in the justice system. There are others. Prison rape, for instance, is probably the most underreported type of rape due to the danger of reporting it and the blind eye that guards are often said to turn on victims. Some estimates, using existing data, project that completed rapes occur as often as 242,000 times in male prisons and 5,000 times in female prisons yearly. (Stephen Donaldson, "Rape of Incarcerated Americans," July 1995.) Whatever the number, our government ignores it. According to traditional laws defining rape, the government even excludes male victims from rape statistics and rape shield protection (Evidence Code 1103). Meanwhile, they spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to study rapes of women on college campuses, defining it to include "unwanted sex" and asking women on campuses if they have ever been "overwhelmed by continual pestering and verbal pressure" into having sex (www.ncjrs.org/txtfiles1/nij/182369.txt). While they were playing Sir Gallahan, they excluded men from the study altogether. Never mind that at least 40 studies (using similar definitions of rape) found that men are raped by women almost as often as the reverse. (Sexuality and Culture, v 4, n 3, Summer 2000.) Apparently, **men's feelings just don't count. And they never will until men transcend their protector roles and resist.** As Dr. Warren Farrell put it, "Men do not speak up, organize, or publicize, so biases against women are eliminated and biases against men remain." ("Women Can't Hear What Men Don't Say," 1999). – from *Appalling Gender Bias* by Marc Angelucci

²⁷ **Regarding the myth that mankind is destroying the environment.**

Thirty Years ago, 20 million Americans participated in the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970. Fifth Avenue in New York City was closed to automobiles as 100,000 people joined in concerts, lectures, and street theater. More than 2,000 colleges and universities across America paused their anti-war protests to rally instead against pollution and population growth. Even Congress recessed, acknowledging that the environment was now on a political par with motherhood. Since that first Earth Day, the celebrations have only gotten bigger, if somewhat less dramatic: The organizers of Earth Day 2000, to be held April 22, expect 500 million people around the globe to participate in celebrations, workshops, and demonstrations. This year's theme is "clean energy" and the master of ceremonies for the big celebration on the Washington Mall is none other than Leonardo Di Caprio.

The first Earth Day was the brainchild of Gaylord Nelson, the Democratic senator from Wisconsin. The moment was obviously ripe. Nelson had proposed a national "teach-in" on the environment in September 1969 and only eight months later, everything was in place for the single largest national demonstration in American history. Dramatic events such as the Cuyahoga River bursting into flame in 1969, the blowout of an oil well off Santa Barbara, and the "death" of Lake Erie due to pollution all fed Americans' concerns. The sorry state of America's environment hit home for me when, as a 16-year-old high school student from the mountains of Virginia, I visited George Washington's home, Mt. Vernon, on a marching band trip. Bobbing in the nearby Potomac was a sign warning visitors not to come in contact with the water.

Earth Day 1970 provoked a torrent of apocalyptic predictions. "We have about five more years at the outside to do something," ecologist Kenneth Watt declared to a Swarthmore College audience on April 19, 1970. Harvard biologist George Wald estimated that "civilization will end within 15 or 30 years unless immediate action is taken against problems facing mankind." "We are in an environmental crisis which threatens the survival of this nation, and of the world as a suitable place of human habitation," wrote Washington University biologist Barry Commoner in the Earth Day issue of the scholarly journal *Environment*. The day after Earth Day, even the staid *New York Times* editorial page warned, "Man must stop pollution and conserve his resources, not merely to enhance existence but to save the race from intolerable deterioration and possible extinction." Very Apocalypse Now.

Three decades later, of course, the world hasn't come to an end; if anything, the planet's ecological future has never looked so promising. With half a billion people suiting up around the globe for Earth Day 2000, now is a good time to look back on the predictions made at the first Earth Day and see how they've held up and what we can learn from them. The short answer: The prophets of doom were not simply wrong, but *spectacularly* wrong.

More important, many contemporary environmental alarmists are similarly mistaken when they continue to insist that the Earth's future remains an eco-tragedy that has already entered its final act. Such doomsters not only fail to appreciate the huge environmental gains made over the past 30 years, they ignore the simple fact that increased wealth, population, and technological innovation don't degrade and destroy the environment. Rather, such developments preserve and enrich the environment. If it is impossible to predict fully the future, it is nonetheless possible to learn from the past. And the best lesson we can learn from revisiting the discourse surrounding the very first Earth Day is that passionate concern, however sincere, is no substitute for rational analysis.

Soylent Greens

Imminent global famine caused by the explosion of the "population bomb" was *the* big issue on Earth Day 1970. Then--and now--the most prominent prophet of population doom was Stanford University biologist Paul Ehrlich. Dubbed "ecology's angry lobbyist" by *Life* magazine, the gloomy Ehrlich was quoted everywhere. "Population will inevitably and completely outstrip whatever small increases in food supplies we make," he confidently declared in an interview with then-radical journalist Peter Collier in the April 1970 *Mademoiselle*. "The death rate will increase until at least 100-200 million people per year will be starving to death during the next ten years."

"Most of the people who are going to die in the greatest cataclysm in the history of man have already been born," wrote Ehrlich in an essay titled "Eco-Catastrophe!," which ran in the special Earth Day issue of the radical magazine *Ramparts*. "By...[1975] some experts feel that food

shortages will have escalated the present level of world hunger and starvation into famines of unbelievable proportions. Other experts, more optimistic, think the ultimate food-population collision will not occur until the decade of the 1980s." Ehrlich sketched out his most alarmist scenario for the Earth Day issue of *The Progressive*, assuring readers that between 1980 and 1989, some 4 billion people, including 65 million Americans, would perish in the "Great Die-Off." Although Ehrlich was certainly the most strident doomster, he was far from alone in his famine forecasts. "It is already too late to avoid mass starvation," declared Denis Hayes, the chief organizer for Earth Day, in the Spring 1970 issue of *The Living Wilderness*. In that same issue, Peter Gunter, a professor at North Texas State University, wrote, "Demographers agree almost unanimously on the following grim timetable: by 1975 widespread famines will begin in India; these will spread by 1990 to include all of India, Pakistan, China and the Near East, Africa. By the year 2000, or conceivably sooner, South and Central America will exist under famine conditions....By the year 2000, *thirty years from now*, the entire world, with the exception of Western Europe, North America, and Australia, will be in famine" (emphasis in original). Ehrlich and others were openly contemptuous of the "Green Revolution," underway in countries such as India and Pakistan, that had already nearly doubled crop yields in developing nations between 1965 and 1970. Ehrlich sniffed that such developments meant nothing, going so far as to predict that "the Green Revolution...is going to turn brown." Such fears took form in such popular *Zeitgeist* movies as *Soylent Green* (1973), which envisioned a future of hungry masses jammed into overcrowded cities.

The *Soylent Green* crowd didn't simply predict mass starvation. They argued that even trying to feed so many people was itself a recipe for disaster. As Lester Brown, a former U.S. Department of Agriculture agronomist who would later become far more prominent as the founder of the Worldwatch Institute, put it in *Scientific American*, "There is growing doubt that the agricultural ecosystem will be able to accommodate both the anticipated increase of the human population to seven billion by the end of the century and the universal desire of the world's hungry for a better diet. The central question is no longer 'Can we produce enough food?' but 'What are the environmental consequences of attempting to do so?'"

Even if somehow famine were avoided, what would the world's population be in 2000? Peter Gunter predicted 7.2 billion. Ehrlich foresaw that "by the end of the century we'll have well over 7 billion people if something isn't done." Brown agreed that "world population at the end of the century is expected to be twice the 3.5 billion of today." In the April 21, 1970, *Look*, Rockefeller University biologist and Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Rene Dubos made the shocking suggestion that, "To some overcrowded populations, the bomb may one day no longer seem a threat, but a release."

Time has not been gentle with these prophecies. It's absolutely true that far too many people remain poor and hungry in the world--800 million people are still malnourished and nearly 1.2 billion live on less than a dollar a day--but we have not seen mass starvation around the world in the past three decades. Where we have seen famines, such as in Somalia and Ethiopia, they are invariably the result of war and political instability. Indeed, far from turning brown, the Green Revolution has never been so verdant. Food production has handily outpaced population growth and food today is cheaper and more abundant than ever before. Since 1970, the amount of food per person globally has increased by 26 percent, and as the International Food Policy Research Institute reported in October 1999, "World market prices for wheat, maize, and rice, adjusted for inflation, are the lowest they have been in the last century." According to the World Bank's *World Development Report 2000*, food production increased by 60 percent between 1980 and 1997. At the same time, the amount of land devoted to growing crops has barely increased over the past 30 years, meaning that millions of acres have been spared for nature--acres that would have been plowed down had agricultural productivity lagged the way Ehrlich and others believed it would.

What's the world population? Rather than 7 billion people inhabiting the earth by 2000, there are 6 billion--nearly 30 percent fewer than predicted. That's because total fertility (the number of children a woman has over the course of her lifetime) has been dropping nearly everywhere on the planet since 1970. In fact, it has dropped from around 6 children per woman in the 1960s to around 2.8 today--and shows no signs of stopping. Total fertility rates for 79 countries, including

the United States, are below the replacement level of 2.1 children per woman. If present trends continue, it looks like the U.N. low-variant population growth projection is likely, which means that world population will likely peak at around 8 billion in 2040 and then begin to decline. It is true that the AIDS pandemic has cut average life expectancy in more than 30 countries since 1990, most of them in sub-Saharan Africa. Despite AIDS, however, the World Health Organization expects life expectancy in the developing countries to increase from 65 years to 73 years by 2020. (It's worth noting that any effective treatment for AIDS--a vaccine, say--will most likely emerge from laboratories and pharmaceutical companies, two stock villains in the standard environmentalist morality play, in the rich countries.)

Where did the doomsters go wrong? They assumed that overpopulation drives world hunger. To the extent that such conditions exist in certain places, the real culprit was--and is--poverty. "The images evoked by the term overpopulation--hungry families, squalid, overcrowded living conditions, early death--are real enough in the modern world, but these are properly described as problems of poverty," explains Harvard population researcher Nicholas Eberstadt. "Poverty, like all other possible human attributes, is represented in individual members of a population. It is an elementary lapse in logic to conclude that poverty is a 'population problem' simply because it exists."

Polluted Thinking

Pollution was the other big issue on Earth Day 1970. Smog choked many American cities and sludge coated the banks of many rivers. People were also worried that we were poisoning the biosphere and ourselves with dangerous pesticides. DDT, which had been implicated in the decline of various bird species, including the bald eagle, the peregrine falcon, and the brown pelican, would soon be banned in the United States. Students wearing gas masks buried cars and internal combustion engines as symbols of our profligate and polluting consumer society. The Great Lakes were in bad shape and Lake Erie was officially "dead," its fish killed because oxygen supplies had been depleted by rotting algae blooms that had themselves been fed by organic pollutants from factories and municipal sewage. Pesticides draining from the land were projected to kill off the phytoplankton in the oceans, eventually stopping oxygen production.

In January 1970, *Life* reported, "Scientists have solid experimental and theoretical evidence to support...the following predictions: In a decade, urban dwellers will have to wear gas masks to survive air pollution...by 1985 air pollution will have reduced the amount of sunlight reaching earth by one half...." Ecologist Kenneth Watt told *Time* that, "At the present rate of nitrogen buildup, it's only a matter of time before light will be filtered out of the atmosphere and none of our land will be usable." Barry Commoner cited a National Research Council report that had estimated "that by 1980 the oxygen demand due to municipal wastes will equal the oxygen content of the total flow of all the U.S. river systems in the summer months." Translation: Decaying organic pollutants would use up all of the oxygen in America's rivers, causing freshwater fish to suffocate.

Of course, the irrepressible Ehrlich chimed in, predicting in his *Mademoiselle* interview that "air pollution...is certainly going to take hundreds of thousands of lives in the next few years alone." In *Ramparts*, Ehrlich sketched a scenario in which 200,000 Americans would die in 1973 during "smog disasters" in New York and Los Angeles.

So has air pollution gotten worse? Quite the contrary. In the most recent National Air Quality Trends report, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency--itself created three decades ago partly as a response to Earth Day celebrations--had this to say: "Since 1970, total U.S. population increased 29 percent, vehicle miles traveled increased 121 percent, and the gross domestic product (GDP) increased 104 percent. During that same period, notable reductions in air quality concentrations and emissions took place." Since 1970, ambient levels of sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide have fallen by 75 percent, while total suspended particulates like smoke, soot, and dust have been cut by 50 percent since the 1950s.

In 1988, the particulate standard was changed to account for smaller particles. Even under this tougher standard, particulates have declined an additional 15 percent. Ambient ozone and nitrogen dioxide, prime constituents of smog, are both down by 30 percent since the 1970s. According to the EPA, the total number of days with air pollution alerts dropped 56 percent in Southern California and 66 percent in the remaining major cities in the United States between

1988 and 1997. Since at least the early 1990s, residents of infamously smogged-in Los Angeles have been able to see that their city is surrounded by mountains.

Why has air quality improved so dramatically? Part of the answer lies in emissions targets set by federal, state, and local governments. But these need to be understood in the twin contexts of rising wealth and economic efficiency. As a Department of Interior analyst concluded after surveying emissions in 1999, "Cleaner air is a direct consequence of better technologies and the enormous and sustained investments that only a rich nation could have sunk into developing, installing, and operating these technologies." Today, American businesses, consumers, and government agencies spend about \$40 billion annually on air pollution controls.

It is now evident that countries undergo various environmental transitions as they become wealthier. *Fortune's* special "ecology" edition in February 1970 was far more prescient than the doomsters when it noted, "If pollution is the brother of affluence, concern about pollution is affluence's child." In 1992, a World Bank analysis found that concentrations of particulates and sulfur dioxide peak at per capita incomes of \$3,280 and \$3,670, respectively. Once these income thresholds are crossed, societies start to purchase increased environmental amenities such as clean air and water.

In the U.S., air quality has been improving rapidly since before the first Earth Day--and before the federal Clean Air Act of 1970. In fact, ambient levels of particulates and sulfur dioxide have been declining ever since accurate records have been kept. Between 1960 and 1970, for instance, particulates declined by 25 percent; sulfur dioxide decreased by 35 percent between 1962 and 1970. More concretely, it takes 20 new cars to produce the same emissions that one car produced in the 1960s.

Similar trends can be found when it comes to water pollution. The warning sign is gone from the Potomac and I can swim and fish in that river again. Lake Erie once again supports a \$600 million fishing industry, and an upscale shopping and entertainment district now lines the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland. The EPA estimates that between 60 percent and 70 percent of lakes, rivers, and streams meet state quality goals. That's up from about 30 percent to 40 percent 30 years ago.

Since 1972, the United States has invested more than \$540 billion in water pollution control efforts, according to the Pacific Research Center. In 1972, only 85 million Americans were served by sewage treatment plants. Since then, some 14,000 municipal waste treatment plants have been built and 173 million Americans are served by them. Similar air and water quality trends can be found in other developed countries as well.

Most environmental problems occur in what are called "open-access commons"--that is, any member of the public may use the resource without paying anyone else for it. Typically, open-access commons still exist as relics of a time when the resource was abundant relative to the number of people using it. If only you and a couple of neighbors lived along a river, you could all dump your sewage in the river because it would naturally purify itself. The same goes for forests--homesteaders could chop them down because there were millions of acres more to be had. With open-access commons, if you don't use the resource for your own benefit, other people will and you'll simply lose out. The prototypical example of an open-access commons is the old-fashioned village sheep meadow. Because everyone in the village has the right to put sheep on the meadow, each villager has an incentive to put extra sheep on the meadow in order to enrich himself. However, if every villager chooses to add sheep, then the meadow will be destroyed by overgrazing and all villagers will suffer the consequences.

In a related way, people dump sewage into rivers or pump smoke into the air because no one "owns" a river or the air in a traditional sense. We might say that the public "owns" rivers and airsheds, but none of us individually has much of an incentive (or an ability) to stop others from emitting excessive pollutants. Such open-access commons are at the center of most instances of environmental problems today, from the deforestation of tropical rainforests to the potential loss of biodiversity to the depletion of open-sea fisheries.

There are two basic ways to address the environmental problems caused by open-access commons. The favored way has been traditional, top-down political regulation, in which an agency prescribes specific pollution-control technology and monitors output. Depending on the situation, this method can score some quick improvements--the shift from leaded to unleaded

gasoline had a huge impact on air quality, for instance. But it's more typically slow, costly, and subject to the endless wrangling of interest groups seeking special exemptions and protections. What's more, because it enforces a single standard, it discourages the innovation and experimentation that often lead to new, more environmentally sound ways of doing things. For example, the Clean Air Act effectively mandated that electric utilities use smokestack scrubbers to reduce their sulfur dioxide emissions when other alternatives, such as a switch to burning cleaner coal, would have reduced emissions even further and more cheaply, too.

The other approach to open-access commons harnesses both the creativity of markets and the power of privatization. An overall level of acceptable pollution is set, a market is created through tradeable permits, and then firms are allowed to pursue various means to reach the goal. We find fast, cheap, and efficient environmental improvements where this approach has been tried. In the U.S., for instance, sulfur dioxide emissions have been cut much faster and at less cost since the creation of a (very imperfect) market for such emissions (see "Selling Air Pollution," May 1996). Fisheries in New Zealand and Iceland have dramatically rebounded since they were essentially privatized. And one of the chief reasons that forests are expanding in the U.S. and Europe is because landowners have secure property rights to them. Such gains are not mysterious: If you own a resource, you're far more likely to use it efficiently.

Perversely, many environmental activists still fault markets for not properly valuing "natural capital" or "ecosystem services" and they continue to call for placing more resources in public hands. In effect, they want more open-access commons. But if no one has to pay for the use of a resource, then they consider it to be free. The way to take environmental goods into account is exactly the way we take all other goods into account--we put them into the market where people have to pay for what they use.

Synthetic Arguments

At Earth Day 1970, many Americans feared that synthetic chemicals, especially pesticides, were killing them. No culprit was more singled out than DDT, a pesticide that had been first used in 1946. The World Health Organization originally hailed it as a miracle that had drastically reduced deaths from malaria; its inventor, Swiss chemist Paul Hermann Muller, was honored with a Nobel Prize in 1948.

By 1970, however, DDT had emerged as the symbol of all that was wrong with the modern world. DDT had been implicated in the decimation of several bird species due to egg-shell thinning. It was also alleged to cause several human cancers, including breast cancer. DDT was banned in the U.S. by the EPA in 1972; other countries soon followed suit.

Paul Ehrlich warned in the May 1970 issue of *Audubon* that DDT and other chlorinated hydrocarbons "may have substantially reduced the life expectancy of people born since 1945." In his "Eco-Catastrophe!" scenario, Ehrlich put a finer point on these fears by envisioning a 1973 Department of Health, Education, and Welfare study which would find "that Americans born since 1946...now had a life expectancy of only 49 years, and predicted that if current patterns continued this expectancy would reach 42 years by 1980, when it might level out."

Keying off of Rachel Carson's claims about the dangers of synthetic chemicals in *Silent Spring* (1962), *Look* claimed that many scientists believed that residual DDT would lead to an increase in liver and other cancers. Cornell University ecologist Lamont Cole warned an Earth Day audience at Kearney State College in Nebraska that, "We are releasing into the environment more than 500,000 different chemicals." "There is one good thing about the blighting of our environment, that is, that Americans don't have to worry about cannibals anymore," said social critic Herbert Muller in *The New York Times*. "We've all become inedible, there's too much DDT in us."

Contrary to the conventional wisdom at Earth Day 1970, there's a broad consensus that exposure to synthetic chemicals, even pesticides, does not seem to be a problem. In 1996, the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, in a comprehensive report called *Carcinogens and Anticarcinogens in the Human Diet*, concluded that levels of both synthetic and natural carcinogens are "so low that they are unlikely to pose an appreciable cancer risk." The National Cancer Institute reports that "increasing exposure to general environmental hazards seems unlikely to have had a major impact on the overall trends in cancer rates." "Pollution appears to account for less than 1 percent of cancer," concludes University of California biologist and cancer researcher Bruce Ames.

To be sure, the total number of cancer cases in the population did go up from 1973 to 1990, but cancer death rates declined owing to better medical treatments. Cancer incidence went up for some very prosaic reasons: We smoke too much tobacco, we eat too much fat, and we sunbathe excessively. We also live longer and cancer is primarily a disease of old age. In the U.S. since the early 1990s, both the incidence of cancer and deaths from cancer have been declining, not rising. Some analysts, such as Gregg Easterbrook, have recently hinted that this decline in cancer rates is the result of reductions in the amount of toxins released into the environment. Actually, a good bit of the improvement in cancer rates can be attributed to the decline in the number of smokers in the U.S.

Never mind. Cancer is scary enough (and ubiquitous enough--about one-third of Americans will get some sort of cancer during their lifetimes) that it still serves as a good tool for frightening people about alleged environmental contamination. Just this past January, Worldwatch Institute founder Lester Brown ominously noted, "Every human being harbors in his or her body about 500 synthetic chemicals that were nonexistent before 1920." So what? Considering that American lifespans have increased by 20 years, from an average of 56 years in 1920 to 71 years in 1970 to 76 years today, one might be tempted to argue that those synthetic chemicals are prolonging our lives. Certainly, they're not causing damage. Just last year, the National Research Council issued yet another report that found no evidence that synthetic chemicals are causing higher rates of cancer, birth defects, and other problems alleged by Brown.

Meanwhile, banning DDT allowed a resurgence of malaria-carrying mosquitoes worldwide. The Malaria International Foundation estimates that there are between 600 to 900 million cases of malaria a year and that about 2.7 million people die of it annually. Spraying DDT had cut malaria deaths from 4 million annually in the early 1940s to 1 million in the 1960s.

Nonrenewable Anxiety

Beyond anxiety over population, pollution, and pesticides, even more speculative concerns were on display at the first Earth Day. Many of these fears--especially the supposed depletion of nonrenewable resources, ostensibly disappearing biodiversity, and apparent global climate change due to human activity--have come to figure far more prominently in our current environmental debates.

The depletion of nonrenewable resources wouldn't take center stage until the publication of the infamous *Limits to Growth* report to the Club of Rome in 1972. The limits-to-growth thesis got a huge boost when oil prices spiked during the Arab oil embargo. But on Earth Day 1970, there were already intimations that this would become a major theme of subsequent celebrations. "We are prospecting for the very last of our resources and using up the nonrenewable things many times faster than we are finding new ones," warned Sierra Club director Martin Litton in *Time's* February 2, 1970, special "environmental report." Ecologist Kenneth Watt declared, "By the year 2000, if present trends continue, we will be using up crude oil at such a rate...that there won't be any more crude oil. You'll drive up to the pump and say, 'Fill 'er up, buddy,' and he'll say, 'I am very sorry, there isn't any.'" Later that year, Harrison Brown, a scientist at the National Academy of Sciences, published a chart in *Scientific American* that looked at metal reserves and estimated the humanity would totally run out of copper shortly after 2000. Lead, zinc, tin, gold, and silver would be gone before 1990.

Of course this didn't happen. The prices of all metals and minerals have dropped by more than 50 percent since 1970, according to the World Resources Institute. As we all know, lower prices mean that things are becoming more abundant, not less. The U.S. Geological Survey estimates that at present rates of mining, reserves of copper will last 54 years; zinc, 56 years; silver, 26 years; tin, 55 years; gold, 30 years; and lead, 47 years. What about oil? The survey estimates that global reserves could be as much as 2.1 trillion barrels of crude oil--enough to supply the world for the next 90 years. These reserve figures are constantly moving targets--as they get drawn down, miners and drillers find new sources of supply or develop more efficient technologies for exploiting the resources.

Worries about declining biodiversity have become popular lately. On the first Earth Day, participants were concerned about saving a few particularly charismatic species such as the bald eagle and the peregrine falcon. But even then some foresaw a coming holocaust. As Sen. Gaylord Nelson wrote in *Look*, "Dr. S. Dillon Ripley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institute,

believes that in 25 years, somewhere between 75 and 80 percent of all the species of living animals will be extinct." Writing just five years after the first Earth Day, Paul Ehrlich and his biologist wife, Anne Ehrlich, predicted that "since more than nine-tenths of the original tropical rainforests will be removed in most areas within the next 30 years or so, it is expected that half of the organisms in these areas will vanish with it."

There's only one problem: Most species that were alive in 1970 are still around today.

"Documented animal extinctions peaked in the 1930s, and the number of extinctions has been declining since then," according to Stephen Edwards, an ecologist with the World Conservation Union, a leading international conservation organization whose members are non-governmental organizations, international agencies, and national conservation agencies. Edwards notes that a 1994 World Conservation Union report found known extinctions since 1600 encompassed 258 animal species, 368 insect species, and 384 vascular plants. Most of these species, he explains, were "island endemics" like the Dodo. As a result, they are particularly vulnerable to habitat disruption, hunting, and competition from invading species. Since 1973, only seven species have gone extinct in the United States.

What mostly accounts for relatively low rates of extinction? As with many other green indicators, wealth leads the way by both creating a market for environmental values and delivering resource-efficient technology. Consider, for example, that one of the main causes of extinction is deforestation and the ensuing loss of habitat. According to the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, what drives most tropical deforestation is not commercial logging, but "poor farmers who have no other option for feeding their families than slashing and burning a patch of forest." By contrast, countries that practice high yield, chemically assisted agriculture have expanding forests. In 1920, U.S. forests covered 732 million acres. Today they cover 737 million acres, even though the number of Americans grew from 106 million in 1920 to 272 million now. Forests in Europe expanded even more dramatically, from 361 million acres to 482 million acres between 1950 and 1990. Despite continuing deforestation in tropical countries, Roger Sedjo, a senior fellow at the think tank Resources for the Future, notes that "76 percent of the tropical rain forest zone is still covered with forest." Which is quite a far cry from being nine-tenths gone. More good news: In its *State of the World's Forests 1999*, the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization documents that while forests in developing countries were reduced by 9.1 percent between 1980 and 1995, the global rate of deforestation is now slowing.

"The developed countries in the temperate regions appear to have largely completed forestland conversion to agriculture and have achieved relative land use stability. By contrast, the developing countries in the tropics are still in a land conversion mode. This suggests that land conversion stability correlates strongly with successful economic development," concludes Sedjo, in his chapter on forestry in *The True State of the Planet*, a collection of essays I edited. In other words, if you want to save forests and wildlife, you had better help poor people become wealthy. Of course, the biggest environmental crisis facing humanity nowadays is supposed to be global warming. Not surprisingly, worries about the future climate were a common theme among alarmists on the first Earth Day. However, they couldn't agree on what direction the earth's temperature was going to take.

"The greenhouse theorists contend the world is threatened with a rise in average temperature, which if it reached 4 or 5 degrees, could melt the polar ice caps, raise sea level by as much as 300 feet and cause a worldwide flood," explained *Newsweek* in its special January 26, 1970, report on "The Ravaged Environment." In the service of balance, however, the magazine also noted that many other scientists saw temperatures dropping: "This theory assumes that the earth's cloud cover will continue to thicken as more dust, fumes, and water vapor are belched into the atmosphere by industrial smokestacks and jet planes. Screened from the sun's heat, the planet will cool, the water vapor will fall and freeze, and a new Ice Age will be born."

Kenneth Watt was less equivocal in his Swarthmore speech about Earth's temperature. "The world has been chilling sharply for about twenty years," he declared. "If present trends continue, the world will be about four degrees colder for the global mean temperature in 1990, but eleven degrees colder in the year 2000. This is about twice what it would take to put us into an ice age." Watt was wrong. Global temperatures didn't fall, and fears of a new ice age dissolved like frost on an early-autumn morning. Since 1988, when government climatologist James Hansen testified

before the Senate Energy and Natural Resource committee that he had detected global warming, climate doomsters have switched almost entirely to worrying about global warming. The theory is straightforward--burning fossil fuels like coal and oil puts excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere; the carbon dioxide traps heat from the sun and re-radiates it, heating up the atmosphere.

It's generally agreed that the earth's average temperature has indeed gone up by 1 degree Fahrenheit or so in the past century. The question now is, How much man-made warming can we expect in the 21st century? Computer climate models originally predicted that atmospheric temperatures might increase between 3 to 5 degrees centigrade by 2100. However, as the models have been refined, their estimates of how much warming might occur have been declining--the range is now down to 1.5 degrees centigrade to 3.5 by 2100. A recent report from the National Research Council noted that "the surface apparently warmed by 0.25 C to 0.4 C since 1979." Remarkably, the NRC panel also estimates the change in the temperature of the atmosphere as being between 0 C to 0.2 C during the same period. In other words, the atmosphere may not have warmed at all since 1979. This is an odd conclusion because the climate computer models have never predicted that the surface would warm first or faster than the atmosphere--in fact, they predict the opposite. Consequently, this gap between surface temperatures and atmospheric temperatures calls the predictive accuracy of the models into serious question.

That doesn't give many doomsters pause. In February, climatologist Tom Karl of the National Climate Data Center issued a study suggesting that global warming is speeding up. In 1997 and 1998, argues Karl, there were 16 consecutive months in which "we were breaking the previous year's all-time global high temperature record." However, University of Virginia climatologist Patrick Michaels (who receives some funding from fossil fuel companies) points out that those 16 months of record high temperatures occurred during the big 1997-1998 El Niño in the Pacific Ocean. During El Niños, water from the western Pacific Ocean spreads eastward, dramatically warming the normally cold waters off the coast of South America and thus boosting average global temperatures. Temperatures have now dropped back to where they were before the El Niño occurred. El Niños are not predicted to be affected by any man-made global warming. In any case, whatever global warming is occurring is apparently being channeled into winter nights. Summer daytime temperatures do not appear to be warming. Warmer winter nights are far less of a threat to the natural world and humanity than higher summer temperatures. Are our coasts about to be inundated by rising seas due to melting ice caps? The best guess from the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is that the sea level might rise about 8 inches by 2100. While this may seem troubling, keep in mind that sea levels rose by about 6 inches over the last century.

Indeed, a far greater threat for the next century comes from environmental activists. To counteract global warming, they essentially want to plan the energy future of the entire world for the next 100 years. They are enacting the plan through the U.N. Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. The absurdity (and arrogance) of that type of planning becomes clear when one imagines the same exercise taking place in 1900. The best scientific panel available in 1900 would simply not have been able to plan for millions of automobiles and trucks, ubiquitous electric lighting in millions of houses and office buildings, fuel for thousands of jet planes, and millions of refrigerators, air-conditioners, and the like. Virtually none of the devices on this nearly endless list had even been invented by 1900. Given the increasing rate of technological innovation, we undoubtedly have even less chance of foreseeing the future than people in 1900. Why So Wrong?

How did the doomsters get so many predictions so wrong on the first Earth Day? Their mistake can be handily summed up in Paul Ehrlich and John Holdern's infamous **I=PAT** equation. **I**mpact (always negative) equals **P**opulation x **A**ffluence x **T**echnology, they declared. More people were *a/ways* worse, by definition. Affluence meant that rich people were consuming more of the earth's resources, a concept that was regularly illustrated by claiming that the birth of each additional baby in America was worse for the environment than 25, 50, or even 60 babies born on the Indian subcontinent. And technology was bad because it meant that humans were pouring more poisons

into the biosphere, drawing down more nonrenewable resources and destroying more of the remaining wilderness.

We now know that Ehrlich and his fellow travelers got it backwards. If population were necessarily bad, then Brazil, with less than three-quarters the population density of the U.S., should be the wealthier society. As far as affluence goes, it is clearly the case that the richer the country, the cleaner the water, the clearer the air, and the more protected the forests. Additionally, richer countries also boast less hunger, longer lifespans, lower fertility rates, and more land set aside for nature. Relatively poor people can't afford to care overmuch for the state of the natural world. With regards to technology, Ehrlich and other activists often claim that economists simply don't understand the simple facts of ecology. But it's the doomsters who need to update their economics--things have changed since the appearance of Thomas Malthus' 200-year-old *An Essay on the Principle of Population*, the basic text that continues to underwrite much apocalyptic rhetoric. Malthus hypothesized that while population increases geometrically, food and other resources increased arithmetically, leading to a world in which food was always in short supply. Nowadays, we understand that wealth is not created simply by combining land and labor. Rather, technological innovations greatly raise positive outputs in all sorts of ways while minimizing pollution and other negative outputs.

Indeed, if Ehrlich wants to improve his sorry record of predictions and his understanding of how to protect the natural world, he should walk across campus to talk with his Stanford University colleague, economist Paul Romer. "New Growth Theory," devised by Romer and others, shows that wealth springs from new ideas and new recipes. Romer sums it up this way: "Every generation has perceived the limits to growth that finite resources and undesirable side effects would pose if no new recipes or ideas were discovered. And every generation has underestimated the potential for finding new recipes and ideas. We consistently fail to grasp how many ideas remain to be discovered. The difficulty is the same one we have with compounding. Possibilities do not add up. They multiply." In other words, new ideas and technological recipes grow exponentially at a rate much faster than population does.

"I'm scared," confessed Paul Ehrlich in the 1970 Earth Day issue of *Look*. "I have a 14 year old daughter whom I love very much. I know a lot of young people, and their world is being destroyed. My world is being destroyed. I'm 37 and I'd kind of like to live to be 67 in a reasonably pleasant world, and not die in some kind of holocaust in the next decade." Ehrlich didn't die in a holocaust, and the world is far more pleasant than he thought it would be. It is probably too much to hope that abashed humility will strike him and he'll desist in bedeviling the world with his dire and consistently wrong predictions. He's like a reverse Cassandra --Cassandra made true prophecies but no one would listen to her. Ehrlich makes false prophecies and everyone listens to him.

There's much to celebrate on the 30th anniversary of Earth Day. Indeed, one of the chief things to get happy about is that the doomsters were so wrong. Civilization didn't collapse, hundreds of millions didn't die in famines, pesticides didn't cause epidemics of cancer, and the air and water didn't get dirtier in the industrialized countries.

On the occasions when they admit things have gotten better, doomsters will claim whatever environmental progress has been made over the past 30 years is only a result of the warnings that they sounded. One of the more annoying characteristics of activists such as Ehrlich and Lester Brown is the way in which these prophets of doom get out ahead of a parade that has already started. When things get better, they claim that it's only because people heeded their warnings, not because of longstanding trends and increased efficiencies. As a result, there is always the danger that governments may actually enact their policies, thereby stifling technological progress and economic growth--and making the world worse off. Then the doomsters would be able to say "I told you so." So good or bad, they get to claim that they were right all along.

What will Earth look like when Earth Day 60 rolls around in 2030? Here are my predictions: As the International Food Policy Research Institute projects, we will be able to feed the world's additional numbers and to provide them with a better diet. Because they are ultimately political in nature, poverty and malnutrition will not be eliminated, but economic growth will make many people in the developing world much better off. Technological improvements in agriculture will

mean less soil erosion, better management of freshwater supplies, and higher productivity crops. Life expectancy in the developing world will likely increase from 65 years to 73 years, and probably more; in the First World, it will rise to more than 80 years. Metals and mineral prices will be even lower than they are today. The rate of deforestation in the developing world will continue to slow down and forest growth in the developed economies will increase.

Meanwhile, as many developing countries become wealthier, they will start to pass through the environmental-transition thresholds for various pollutants, and their air and water quality will begin to improve. Certainly air and water quality in the United States, Europe, Japan, and other developed countries will be even better than it is today. Enormous progress will be made on the medical front, and diseases like AIDS and malaria may well be finally conquered. As for climate change, concern may be abating because the world's energy production mix is shifting toward natural gas and nuclear power. There is always the possibility that a technological breakthrough--say, cheap, efficient, non-polluting fuel cells--could radically reshape the energy sector. In any case a richer world will be much better able to cope with any environmental problems that might crop up.

One final prediction, of which I'm most absolutely certain: There will be a disproportionately influential group of doomsters predicting that the future--and the present--never looked so bleak. *From Earth Day, Then and Now*

The planet's future has never looked better. Here's why. by Science Correspondent Ronald Bailey

²⁸ Irina Dunn, 1970, commonly misattributed to Gloria Steinem who had quoted Dunn.

²⁹ **Regarding women being alone in old age:** Millions of women now in their 20s face lives of loneliness when they enter middle age. One in three would not be in a marriage or have a male partner by their mid-40s, a British Government forecast said. One in five would have never married and many would face old age with no partner, children or family to support them. The projections of a bleak future for women in the Bridget Jones generation were published by the Office for National Statistics. Then there's the piece of trivia about the current state of male-female relationships in New Zealand, courtesy of Prospect Magazine in the UK: (For those who may not know, New Zealand is now an extreme example of a feminised/womanised society. For example, in many government departments there are no men in top leadership positions.) Prospect Magazine tells that men are leaving New Zealand [gee, I wonder why?] in such numbers now that today a single woman of age 32 has the same statistical chance of finding a spouse and father for her future baby as a woman of 82!

-from *The Perils of the Unconscious Mind* by Peter Forde (2004)

³⁰ The following are just two examples from the vast preponderance of the literature on **sex difference in intelligence** that supports the general conclusion that men are generally more intelligent than women and that men dominate at the right tail of the intelligence distribution: A study in the British Journal of Psychology says that men are on average five points ahead on IQ tests. Paul Irwing and Professor Richard Lynn claim the difference grows when the highest IQ levels are considered. Their research was based on IQ tests given to 80,000 people and a further study of 20,000 students. Dr Irwing, a senior lecturer in organizational psychology at Manchester University, told the Today programme on BBC Radio Four the study showed that, up to the age of 14, there was no difference between the IQs of boys and girls. "But beyond that age and into adulthood there is a difference of five points, which is small but it can have important implications," he said. "This is against a background of women dramatically overtaking men in educational attainment and making very rapid advances in terms of occupational achievement." The academics used a test which is said to measure "general cognitive ability" - spatial and verbal ability. As intelligence scores among the study group rose, the academics say they found a widening gap between the sexes. There were twice as many men with IQ scores of 125, for example, a level said to correspond with people getting first-class degrees. At scores of 155, associated with genius, there were 5.5 men for every woman. Dr Irwing told The Times the differences "may go some way to explaining the greater numbers of men achieving distinctions of various kinds, such as chess grandmasters, Fields medalists for mathematics, Nobel prize-winners and the like".

Males have greater g: Sex differences in general mental ability from 100,000 17- to 18-year-olds on the Scholastic Assessment Test

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Abstract: In this study we found that 17- to 18-year old males averaged 3.63 IQ points higher than did their female counterparts on the 1991 Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT). We analysed 145 item responses from 46,509 males and 56,007 females (total N=102,516) using a principal components procedure. We found (1) the g factor underlies both the SAT Verbal (SAT-V) and the SAT Mathematics (SAT-M) scales with the congruence between these components greater than 0.90; (2) the g components predict undergraduate grades better than do the traditionally used SAT-V and SAT-M scales; (3) the male and the female g factors are congruent in excess of .99; (4) male–female differences in g have a point-biserial effect size of 0.12 favoring males (equivalent to 3.63 IQ points); (5) male–female differences in g are present throughout the entire distribution of scores; (6) **male–female differences in g are found at every socioeconomic level;** and (7) **male–female differences in g are found across several ethnic groups.** We conclude that while the magnitude of the male–female difference in g is not large, it is real and non-trivial. Finally, we discuss some remaining sex-difference/brain-size/IQ anomalies.

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