



Campus Women



If Men Had The Babies! Written By:
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If Men could menstruate, abortion would be a sacrament. Gloria Steinem

Supposing men could menstruate...

The Bill of Rights would declare that *Every Man Shall Have the Right to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Abortion*. All hospitals would proudly boast a federally funded abortion wing, and every street corner would offer a free-standing abortion clinic.

There would be no moralizing about responsibility or promiscuity; no endless sermonizing about reaping what you sow, or eating what you bake.

Every citizen of this country would awake each morning with the same thought, *how wrong it would be to force a man to bear a child he does not want!* Society would produce at least a million reasons for why a man may choose to terminate his pregnancy, like: he is a student, he plays professional hockey, he is getting on in years, he has high blood cholesterol, and so on. In the end, we would have to be resigned to the fact that it is the responsibility of the woman to resist the advances of the unprotected man. However, when a woman says *no*, what she really means is *yes*. This paradox may be confusing; every once in a while the signals even get so mixed up that a woman may find herself accidentally and inexplicably forcing upon an unwilling man. This would be called rape.

Fortunately, such crimes would not occur often-not once the government abandons its "Picking Your Nose and Scratching Your Balls" theory of rape (which states that rape and other socially inappropriate behaviours shall be ignored out of existence), in favour of the "Let the Punishment Fit the Crime" theory of rape (which states that the punishment fits the crime). Presumably the punishment would be of the Public Execution variety, something like having



your hands and other major appendages cut off in a public ceremony, maybe at a barbecue. Or Perhaps we would resort to the more traditional methods, like being stoned, or crucified, or beat about the head with the complete works of Ernest Hemingway. Nevertheless, if a man were to be raped, (say by a hostile feminist), there would be a number of institutions he could turn to for counselling and support-institutions staffed by adequate paid professionals, as opposed to "volunteers" (a modern day euphemism for the victims of socially accepted forms of slavery). But let us suppose that a man should choose to carry his baby full term. Happily, the birthing process itself would be a simple and painless procedure-performed in the comfort and privacy of your own home. Labour, traditionally difficult for a woman, would, for a man, undoubtedly translate itself into an orgasmic experience of the highest order. After the birth, government and other institutions would act appropriately to reduce possible complications. Should anyone suggest that a man must choose the one (family) or the other (career), she or he would be ridiculed into submission by a chorus of reproach. For who can imagine demanding that one make such a choice? Who dares to ask for such a sacrifice? Every institution would soon establish a program of paternity leave, plus a fully subsidized daycare system. Some employers would even go so far as to award each employee who bore a child with a Baby Bonus, or perhaps a commemorative plaque on the wall, or a new print for his office.