

All Feminists Are Dykes NOT!!!

"It seems to me the underlying intent of the above phrase (except the NOT!!!), is that somehow being a lesbian is a bad thing. As a dyke who is actively involved in the so called 'feminist movement', sometimes I wish it were the case that all feminists were dykes.

When the statement "all feminists are dykes" is made, I usually reply with an answer like - "Hey I wish...you gotta problem with that?" What hurts, and alienates me however, is when I hear some of the "is not true" (apologist and defensive)... all the way to silence (no voice, no challenge, no connection)."

Margaret Mizuik

The statement 'All Feminists Are Dykes' also bothers me. I think this stereotype is completely unfair to Feminists (heterosexual feminists (lesbian) and lesbians (non-feminists). The two don't have to be related to one another, and to say you have to be one to be the other is stupid. Ms. Mizuik is right this statement is followed by defensive and apologist responses. Really such a statement does not deserve a response at all. Who cares if a person is a lesbian or heterosexual. Lesbianism is not a requirement needed to be involved in the Feminist movement and because you may be a lesbian does not mean you have to be involved in the feminist movement.

So why do people make such a conclusion. I think it stems from an old stereotype "feminists want to be men". This is also untrue, most women don't want to be men, once again whether your a feminist or not does not make a difference.

Ms. Mizuik says its "the silence that hurts the most" Well besides saying all feminists are not lesbians and all lesbians are not feminists, what can we do. When I give this reply I don't say it in an apologetic way or a defensive way. Instead I shake my head and say "What difference does it make what sex you choose to have as your partner." What people have to understand is a person's sexual preference does not make the person a bad person. It is just that they have found fulfilment in a partner of the same sex.

Tracy Smith

"The more I traveled the more I realized that fear makes strangers of people who should be friends."

--Shirely MacLaine



Illustration: Kimberley Whitchurch, Dal Gazette

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