

The Real Meaning of Being a Feminist

As a young woman in this day and time, I feel empowered and supported everyday, always lifted up by my friends. It hasn't always been this way though. I still have my times where I'm totally insecure and discouraged. Women, from the beginning of time, have been taught to not only hate themselves, but each other as well. That we are lower, and shouldn't be like each other. We're sluts, we're fat, we're **less**.

That's the problem. People still believe and follow this mindset.

One day, I saw a friend of mine, post something along the lines of "I'd rather be friends with guys, **you bitches** do too much." Her name was Sarah. I was shocked. Is this who we are? Do we love drama? No, of course. But people believed it. I might've believed it myself as well. Okay, let me test this theory.

I was friends with a few guys. They were cool. I liked them. Jasil, being one of my best friends, always hung out with girls. The guys at my school would label him gay. Weird. Annoying. Loud. He is a straight man. Now, Jasil wasn't the brightest person, but I kept him around. We walked home together. It was going well. The problem was, Jasil loved drama. He wanted to be in the middle of it. Recording it, spreading the word every time something broke out. Jasil also used lots of slurs. He was black, he could say the N word. That was fine, I was okay with that. But what I wasn't okay with, was the slurs that did not harm him. Conclusion: Jasil wasn't a good person. He's just like **the bitches**.

Another guy I hung out with, his name was Jah'sear. This was my guy best friend. Jah'sear also used slurs that didn't apply to him. He was dating my friend Emily. They were toxic. I also walked home with Jah'sear. We were cool. He defended me (at least when I was around). I liked him. One day, we walked home and he didn't want to go all the way home, sitting on someone's steps. I wanted him to go home. I said 'I would do anything' and he agreed. We got to my house, and he came in. Jah'sear never came into my house, no boys did. He kissed me. He wanted me to do other stuff but I said no. I automatically fell off with Jah'sear after that. Our friendship got weird. Jah'sear was weird. Emily got mad at me for him kissing me. Emily and I fell off. Because of Jah'sear.

So, that post was false. Men aren't better than women. They're sometimes worse, and they love the drama they start. Men hide it though. Women aren't afraid to be up front. Men are. And there's the trick. They hide stuff underneath the surface.

I'm not writing this to hurt men or demonize them. I love men. But we don't need them.

The culture of women used to be "we're less, we're to be caressed but not loved, we should suffer, hate each other". Not anymore. It exists, but it's rarer than before. My friends love each other, we don't hate each other, and most importantly, we know our worth. We're more than **bitches**. That's how you define women culture.