

GENDERSCOPE

Sexual inequality

Men get raw end of deal in gender wars by receiving blame for all of society's problems



JOE SCHUMACHER
columnist

As the appointed president of the newly founded the rights group, I feel compelled to urge oppressed men to rise up and take a stand against this feminist patriarchy that seems to be brewing at Texas A&M. Surely every man on campus is aware of the unfounded, inflammatory and hateful feeling of the media towards men. "They" (whoever they are) have concluded that all women are, in fact, evil. Never the good news is some are not as others. The most evil faction, as yet unnamed, is trying to enslave us. This evil society of women would have the whole race blaming every catastrophe on man. Well, if weapons, wars and natural disasters are all the fault of men, then Zima and soap operas are all due to women. This society would have everyone believe that men are more competitive and violent. Again, that could not be further from the truth. The feminist faction would have the billions of dollars spent on the cosmetics industry as proof of this. However, as proof of women's competitiveness, I submit another billion-dollar industry—cosmetics. Lipstick and mascara are merely war paint for the battle of the sexes. As far as being violent goes, have you ever seen two women show up to a party wearing the same outfit? If you have not, you are fortunate, never those who have witnessed this are scarred for life. For one to understand our struggle, one must look at the sociology of both genders. First, men are the one hand are solitary creatures. While we may go to bars to congregate, men do not go out together in large packs. Women, on the other hand, are largely pack animals. This serves for their hunting purposes as well as a defensive measure. For example, an unsuspecting man can be lured to the pack by his attraction to the most glamorous female, or alpha woman, as we will call her. Then, if he does not make her approval, he is passed down to one of the lesser females, and if he tries to escape, he is cut to shreds by the pack. This pack mentality is what is allowing

women to enslave us. One does not have to look far to see this on a global scale. This female propaganda, known to them as Vogue and Cosmopolitan, contain nothing but stories on how bad men are, quizzes to find out how bad your male partner is and how to trap this man in a relationship.

This collective is what is slowly contributing to the enslavement of man. Slowly but surely, men are being carted off to the sound of wedding bells never to be seen again by their companions.

Even now, one can see the lines being drawn. Over time, women have developed a secret code of speaking. One example of our group was able to decipher was that of the double talk, where a word is repeated to either add or take away emphasis. Some examples are, "I like you, but I don't like you LIKE YOU."

Or, "We will go on a date, but not a DATE." What they do not tell you is that whether or not you are on a date or on a DATE, you will still be expected to spend money MONEY.

These secret codes are no doubt being derived so they can pass messages without us knowing.

There are many gathering places that we as men are either not allowed in or would not go to willingly.

For instance ladies' restrooms. No woman goes to the restroom by herself. Obviously they are plotting on us. To put an end to this we are trying to install a man in every women's bathroom to cut down on such talks.

Then there is the mall, the mecca of female existence. Anyone who has been to the mall has surely noticed the growing number of benches at malls everywhere. And who do you see sitting on these benches? Men.

They are told to sit there why their domineering half goes "shopping." Sure a few escape to the arcade, the toy store or sporting goods and hardware section of a department store, but most are rounded up only to have to endure the torture of being asked, "how do I look in this?"

This is their most rigorous form of torture. One must think long and hard (and you know how we hate doing that) before answering, and seldom answer correctly. (My tip to you now is, "Flawless." But do not overuse this or you will end up sounding insincere, and that will land you in bigger trouble.)

If this evil faction has its way, men will be forced to attend such "cultured events" as ballet and operas.

Instead of celebrating when the home team scores, we will all give hugs and send



flowers to the losing team's city. This would also see the end of the professional wrestling, as it would serve no purpose in this society.

We would be forced to spend our time at the malls and being sensitive (whatever that means). There would be no monster truck rallies, no fishing tournaments, nothing

that we men regard as sacred. We would not be able to hang out with guys without some sort of supervision to keep us subjugated.

Men have made great strides in equality. Today though, it is still a radical idea that not every thing is the man's fault.

However freedom can never come too soon. The time for action is now, my broth-

ers. It is time to rise up with your remote controls and long neck bottles, don your N.W.O. T-shirts and smash this feminist oppression that threatens to enslave us all. I only hope the call to action is not too late.

Joe Schumacher is a junior journalism major.

STUDENT LIFE

Stress of studying for finals can be combatted with simple steps

It is a cruel joke that finals come at a time when the blooming flora and clear blue skies of spring seem too tempting to resist.

By the first day of May, students are stumbling across campus, rushing to complete projects and papers and assignments only to come to the disheartening realization that finals are but a few days off.

But this May, instead of becoming the traditional zombie that seems to typify the end-of-semester experience, combat finals stress.

• Meditate
No, you don't have to get in the lotus position or stand on your head to achieve this blissfully peaceful state. Just get comfy (on the floor, in a chair, wherever), close your eyes and kiss a temporary goodbye to your worries.

Toss in a bit of deep breathing coupled with a little positive thinking, and you are on your way to a bona fide semi-conscious state, the perfect escape to the mind-numbing pain of finals pressure.

• Exercise
Throw on some running shoes and pay a visit to the good old Rec Center our student fees support each semester. There's nothing quite like the endorphin high from a hard run or heart-pounding workout. If the Rec doesn't appeal to your aesthetic needs, partake of the great outdoors: ride a bike, play frisbee, take a walk. Whatever your choice, make it fun, not just another thing to add to your already long "To-do" list.

• Stretch
Maybe you're not in the mood to get sweaty. Maybe you don't have time in your cramped schedule to set aside 30 minutes for a workout plus clean up time. That's OK. Try stretching. You can do it just about any time — while studying, before you go to sleep, during class (although not the best idea if you are sitting on the front row). Combined with deep breaths, this will relax and rejuvenate your mind and body. For some serious stretching, check out a



JENNIFER JONES
columnist

yoga class.
• Avoid caffeine
You can stop snickering now. Yes, I realize that caffeine is a vital substance in the diet of most college students, nay, the life blood. A zillion coffee shops in the area are a testament to Aggies' fond addiction to the drug.

Although caffeine may keep you buzzing through an all-nighter, it is not doing any favors for your body. You retain less information, can get jittery and nervous and the carbonation that often accompanies caffeinated beverages dehydrates, sapping what little cognitive skills you have left at this point in the semester. Better to rely on a good night's sleep (about eight hours) and a test preparation system that doesn't include cramming the night before.

• Nap
OK, maybe eight hours of sleep a night just isn't realistic. Between school, work and all of those other fun activities that keep us busy, sleeping can fall to the bottom of the priority list.

That's when the power nap comes into play. They can be taken anywhere — at home, in the library, on the bus. Wherever there is a spot to rest your head, you can nap. A nap not only allows temporary relief from worries, but can also provide that extra spark of energy upon waking to finish that chemistry chapter you couldn't seem to make it through earlier.

• Regress
Blow bubbles, fly a kite, finger paint, climb a tree — become a kid again. Childhood was a carefree time when stress seemed non-existent. Recapture that free-spirited energy again, even if for a brief moment. Don't be afraid to break out that dusty coloring book and scribble to your heart's content. Reminding yourself of a time when "busy" meant a soccer game and birthday party in the same day helps take the edge off of a stress-filled schedule.

Although finals may seem the most foul ending to a rather long spring semester, just remember to keep a little perspective and to take a little time out of your schedule to maintain your sanity. Your mind and body will thank you.

Jennifer Jones is a senior psychology major.

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MAIL CALL

Required classes offer opportunity for growth

Response to Mickey Saloma's "College education is not just a preparation for a future career, it is an opportunity for students like me to develop necessary skills and grow as individuals."

As much as certain classes may seem boring, tedious or not in our career destination, they would not be in the curriculum if they were not valuable to our education.

Correct me if I am the only student who feels this way, but I do not believe that my high school education, as Mickey stated, will carry me far enough in life intellectually.

The "weed out" English classes teach us how to write and speak properly; the "pointless" Political Science classes inform us about our country and how to be a voting citizen.

The "boring" history classes we all have to take tell us how and why we are where we are now as free Americans. College is not just a degree—it is four years of our lives where we have the opportunity to learn about the world, apply these

concepts, and become a strong independent individual. I do not feel my time here has been wasted—and I hope the majority of students out there do not feel that way either.

We are here to learn and take advantage of the knowledge presented to us daily. In the words of Mahatma Ghandi, "Live as if you will die tomorrow, but learn as if you will live forever."

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