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### The Voices that Still Need Justice

When you think of the United States, what thoughts arise in your head? Maybe land of the free or equality? Some citizens that live in the U.S. might reply with these comments however that may not always be the case in today's society. Women have come a long way since the 1920s as they were granted the right to vote. Their voices were beginning to be heard, however women, like myself, still struggle with keeping our voices heard. Although many people feel that women obtain equality with men in our society today, however women's rights are still not being voiced out around the world as there are still young women who must fight for their rights.

In the article, *Why We Still Need Feminism* written by Casey Cavanagh, the author goes into detail as to what feminism is, why we as a society still need feminist and the many different assumptions that people have on feminist. Cavanagh begins her article with aggression as she makes clear who feminist really are and not what people make them out to be. She then goes into detail as to why our society still needs feminist because she believes our society still needs women to fight for our rights even though people believe there is already equality amongst women and men. This article is empowering and very informal to any audience that is confused on the topic of feminism and how people think feminist are portrayed. I too consider myself a feminist and I am very passionate about this topic because there are still many young women in

the U.S. and around the world who get stripped of their rights everyday and don't have the ability to voice their opinions as freely as we do in the U.S.

The most common argument as to why feminism is not needed as much now as times before is because technically in the U.S. there is nothing a man can do that a woman cannot do. Many people feel that women have obtained more than enough rights as time has passed. For example, both genders are allowed to vote, be in the army, or can share the same occupations. Why do we need feminism when women don't have any technical law that states that they can't do something when a man can do it. Therefore, what is the need for feminist? Although many may feel this way towards feminist due to the fact that woman have equal rights just as men do, this concept only pertains to the women in the United States. What about the young women in other countries that don't share these same values ?

I have been through many cases where a man gets more rights than me. As an illustration, I have an older brother that was the first born child, the only boy sibling and we can say was definitely spoiled. My older brother has always received anything that his heart desired when we were growing up, and I'm not exaggerating. His first car was a Jeep, while mine was a Toyota Yaris. Now I am not complaining since the car was free and I am super grateful but as you know the two cars are very different. All my life my older brother obtained more rights than me, whether it was being allowed to go out wherever and whenever he wanted or ask for money whenever he felt like he needed it. Due to this he never learned how to work hard for his achievements and ended up becoming a college drop-out because his college degree could not be handed to him on a plate like things were prior. Now he must slowly work his way back up to receive the necessities he wants. My parents learned their lesson which is why they treated me very differently and forced me to work hard for my accessories. I am thankful they raised me this

way because it made me more of a responsible person. This is just a small and minor example of inequality. There are many more worse examples of injustices around the world that women have to deal with everyday.

The U.S. might fight the idea that feminist is not needed anymore because they feel that the U.S. indeed contains equal rights for everyone. However, why do we have to stop fighting for equal rights for everyone just because we live in a country that allows freedom? The reason our society today and around the world is in need of feminism is because there are many women that aren't allowed to speak up and voice out their opinions. This country and many others around the world are run by men! And these men want to keep it that way. In the article ,”Why We Still Need Feminism, Cavanagh states,”...we teach women how to prevent rape, instead of teaching people to not view women as objects. Because women are told that walking alone at night makes them “an easy target.” Because, sometimes, a movie’s rating (PG-13 versus R) depends on how much a female appears to be enjoying sex in a certain scene” (Cavanagh 12). This world is run by men. Men decide what's right and what’s wrong. Men make the laws and rules that women have to follow. Why are the leaders of our country mainly consisting of men when the majority of our population consists of women? Why are these men making decisions for women and their body’s when they aren’t the ones that have to go through the many pains and struggles of a woman? Why do these men have all the power over women’s voices and the way we choose to live our life. This is the reason we need feminism. This is the reason we need women who can to voice out their opinions and speak about this issue for the women who can’t. Without the many women that fought for my rights many years ago I wouldn’t be here today. Receiving my education to eventually support myself and make a living for myself without a man.

Growing up in a Mexican household, traditionally the woman cooks, cleans and cares for the man. I was always told that the husband should be taken care of and my mom would constantly make comments to me about learning how to properly learn how to cook or else I wouldn't be able to find a husband. Never was my brother bombarded with various questions each day. Never did he get asked "when will you learn how to cook". I have watched my mom take care of my dad in every aspect. My mom does the cooking, cleaning and works full time with no complaints. She completes most of the work around the house yet when I need permission to go anywhere I have to ask my father. Why is that? As time has gone by my parents have realized that we are going into a very different type of society and these typical stereotypes are slowly being altered.

I am lucky enough to be able to speak upon this as loud and proud as I please. I have the ability to address this issue and potentially make a change in our society. Sadly this is not the case for a lot of women today. If you are someone like me, someone who believes in equality amongst people no matter your race, color or gender then you would agree that feminism is still needed in our world today. You agree that our society still needs many changes on how it is run and modify the stereotypes that are drilled into generations to come. Feminism isn't just about equality for women, but equality amongst everyone who felt that the cards they were handed with were unjust. Even though the United States has come a long way since the start of our nation and the many stereotypes that women must follow, we still need people like me to fight for equality not just for me but for the many generations to come after me. Let your voices help the voices that still need justice. Let the fight continue with us.

Work Cited

Cavanagh, Casey. "Why We Still Need Feminism." *HuffPost*, HuffPost, 7 Dec. 2017,  
[www.huffpost.com/entry/why-we-still-need-feminism\\_b\\_5837366](http://www.huffpost.com/entry/why-we-still-need-feminism_b_5837366).

### Reflection

During the process of writing this essay I received many helpful comments from my peers and classmates that helped me as a writer. I have always had issues with making those small mistakes that need adjustments. I was told to re-read my essay due to small spelling errors and to add a hanging indent to my work cited which I would have not have known about if it wasn't for the help of my peers. I was also told to try and stay away from writing a summary of the article in my second paragraph. Discussion 5 was definitely the most helpful for me because of the detailed comments I received. The professor also helped me with my thesis as I struggled with clearly making a claim by adding "others believe". All these small changes and comments were useful to help me create a well thought out essay.