

Every Woman Should Be An Atheist

Every woman, and any man who isn't a misogynist, should be an atheist. At the very least, they should not be followers of the Abrahamic god. Ignorance plays a huge part in why women are Christians. Islam and Judaism are also sexist but the focus on Christianity is related to its popularity. While many women have read the Bible and touted an infallible god, they had to have ignored the misogyny or justified it in some way. There is no justification for the blatant inferiority women have in the Bible nor is there any justification for ignoring parts of a religion someone may not like. Religion is all-inclusive. To cherry-pick religion is to say you know better than your god and/or that your holy text is wrong. Choosing Christianity as a belief system equates to declaring women as second-class citizens.

From the third chapter of Genesis on, the Bible reinforces the idea that women are inferior to men and should be treated as such. After Adam and Eve's fall from grace, God declares Eve's punishment:

To the woman he said, "I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

As far as parables go, this one says more about God than it does about Eve. He creates the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, knowing that Eve would eat the fruit given his omniscience, and dictates that they must not eat the fruit.

The very existence of the tree precludes a successful result because Adam and Eve couldn't have known it was evil to disobey God unless they had eaten from the tree.



The biblical deity does not take accountability for his own machinations though, he instead punishes his creations and forces women to submit to man's authority.

The objectification continues in every instance of Biblical war. More than once, God dictates that the Israelites should commit mass genocide but provides a caveat for virgin women which the Israelites should keep for themselves to rape. Leviticus, known for its homophobic prose, dictates that menstruating women are unclean and anyone they come into contact with are also unclean. Timothy 2:11-12 states, "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp the authority over a man, but to be in silence." The Bible wants women to be silent and submissive and many Christian churches still refuse to allow women in positions of authority. Pervasive ideas such as these are the foundation of sexism.

Not only are women subjected to the chauvinism of Christianity by Biblical dictation, Christian politicians also push legislation that removes a woman's right to even decide when she gets pregnant or if she's allowed to terminate a pregnancy. Recent "Religious Freedom" bills

have been criticized as anti-homosexual but they are also anti-feminist. All of the proposed legislation in Georgia, Hawaii, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Utah have protected business owners and/or licensed professionals from lawsuit for discriminating against a person who in some way doesn't subscribe to their beliefs. This allows Roman Catholic pharmacists to block access to birth control and emergency contraceptives. The bills also allow any Christian man to refuse service to a woman in an authority position. Instead of being outraged by the anti-women legislation, female politicians like Congresswoman Michelle Bachmann, a Christian conservative, are undermining the progress women have made in America and actually advocating for female inferiority.

Women are not less-than. The Bible teaches that women are second-class and to be used for reproduction and sexual satisfaction. The social conservative politicians promote the same. I have two daughters, both of whom are intelligent, curious, beautiful little girls. It is simply disgusting to me that a person would try to devalue them by saying they are not as important as their brother or that they aren't allowed to decide what happens to their bodies. This isn't the Bronze Age and we, as a species, are better than sexism. Reject misogyny and by default, reject Christianity. To do so is to embrace the women around you as worthwhile, equal human beings.

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