

The Misandry Myth: Are Minority Groups Assumed to Dislike the Majority?

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INTRODUCTION



"Part of the core information that I've been purveying is that identity politics is a sick game."
-Dr. Jordan B. Peterson

Feminists frequently stereotyped as man-haters though they actually have positive views of men

Labeled stereotype "Misandry Myth" (Hopkins-Doyle et al., 2022)

May be due to perceptions of "identity politics" as inherently divisive, competitive

Minority groups forced to organize around identities to advocate for social change

Leads to us-vs.-them dynamic even when goal is universal positive change (Bernstein, 2005)

Do feminists like men and care about issues that affect them? Should they?

STUDIES 1-3

Investigated perceptions of what feminists believe ($N = 404$, $N = 352$, $N = 208$)

Is feminism a zero-sum movement – i.e., will gains made by women result in losses for men?

Do feminists care about issues that affect men? e.g., educational underachievement, intimate partner violence (IPV) against men

Questions about own views accompanied by metaperceptions – i.e., how would a feminist answer?



RESULTS

Participants had exaggerated stereotypes of feminists' zero-sum perceptions

Scored lower on zero-sum perspectives than participants predicted; however, not lower than non-feminists

Participants underestimated feminists' warmth towards men (Figure 1)

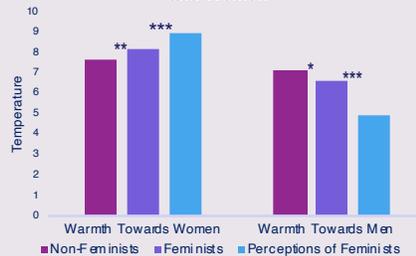
Feminists liked men less than non-feminists, but still had positive feelings

Had strongly positive feelings towards women

Participants underestimated how much feminists cared about men's issues (e.g., masculine norms)

No difference between feminists and non-feminists on these issues

Figure 1: Study 1 Warmth towards Men and Women



STUDY 4

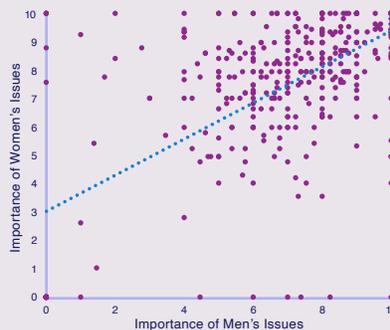
Examined relationship between caring about men's issues and caring about women's issues ($N = 348$)

Is this zero-sum – i.e., does caring about one group mean you care less about the other group?

RESULTS

Caring about men's issues positively correlated with caring about women's issues, $r(329) = .40$, $p < .001$ (Figure 2)

Relationship is not zero-sum, but positive sum
Figure 2: Importance of Men's and Women's Issues



Feminism positively associated with caring about women's issues; not associated with men's issues

Participants underestimated how much feminists care about men's issues

STUDY 5

Investigated whether similar stereotype applies to other social movements ($N = 255$)



Feminists, Black Lives Matter (BLM) activists, gay rights activists, trans rights activists

Are minority group activists assumed to dislike the majority group; not care about issues that affect them? Does this matter?

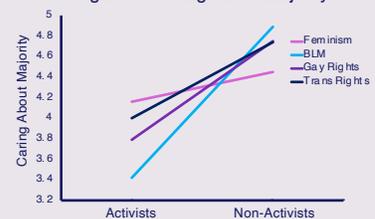
RESULTS

All activists perceived to like majority less than non-activists, but only feminists perceived to dislike

For caring, significant activism x group interaction, $F(2.79, 703.49) = 24.84$, $p < .001$, $\eta^2 = .090$

Feminists perceived to care more about majority group than other activists, non-feminists perceived to care less (Figure 3)

Figure 3: Caring About Majority

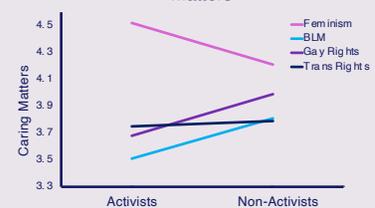


For caring matters, significant activism x group interaction, $F(2.78, 791.41) = 10.14$, $p < .001$, $\eta^2 = .039$

Perceived to matter more if feminists cared about majority group than other activists (Figure 4)

Only group expected to care about majority group more than non-activists

Figure 4: Caring About Majority Matters



DISCUSSION

People think feminists don't like men; don't care about issues that affect men

Actually care about men as much as anyone else

Feminists stand out for caring about women more

People think feminists *should* care about men

Not true for other minority group activists

Future research could examine why feminists are uniquely expected to care about men

**FEMINIST
FAKE STATISTICS
ARE DESIGNED TO DEPRIVE MEN
OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS**



SIGURD HOBERTH
Member of the world's first
Men's Rights organization in 1926

Don't believe the lies that your
Misandrist professors tell you.

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- Bernstein, M. (2005). Identity politics. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 31, 47-74. doi: 10.1146/annurev.soc.29.010202.100054
- Hopkins-Doyle A., Petterson A., Sutton R., Leach S., Binti-Abdul Rahim, S., Blake J., Bosco, C., Clarkson A., Cock, V., Jankowska, A., Macdonald, K., & Zibell, H. (2022). *The misandry myth: Psychological foundations in the inaccurate stereotype that feminists hate men* [Unpublished manuscript]. Department of Psychology, University of Kent.