

This is a rough draft of an absolute resystant Manifesto of the I Feminist -  
question  
give me your opinion

The feminist movement as at present instituted is Inadequate.

Women if you want to realise yourselves - you are on the eve of a <sup>anyway</sup> devastating psychological upheaval - all your pet illusions must be unmasked - the lies of centuries ~~you~~ have got to go - are you prepared for the Wrench - ? There is no half-measure - no scratching on the surface of the rubbish heap of tradition, will bring about Reform, the only method is Absolute Demolition

Cease to place your confidence in economic legislation, vice-crusades & uniform education - you are glossing over Reality.

Professional & commercial careers are opening up for you - Is that all you want?

And if you honestly desire to find your level without prejudice — Be Brave & deny at the outset — that pathetic clap-trap war cry  
Woman is the equal of man —

she is NOT! <sup>for</sup>

The man who lives a life in which his activities conform to a social code which is a protectorate of the feminine element — is no longer masculine

The woman who adapts themselves to a theoretical valuation of their sex as a relative impersonality, is not yet Feminine

✓ Leave off looking to men to find out what you are not — seek within yourselves to find out what you are  
 As conditions are at present constituted — you have the choice between Parasitism, & Prostitution — or Negation

Men & women are enemies, with the enmity of the exploited for the parasite, the parasite for the exploited — at present they are at the mercy of the advantage that each can take of the others sexual dependence —. The only point at which the interests of the sexes merge — is the sexual embrace.

The first illusion it is to your interest to demolish is the division of women into two classes the mistress, & the mother every well-balanced & developed woman knows that is not true, Nature has endowed the complete woman with a faculty for expressing herself through all her functions — there are no restrictions the woman who is so incompletely developed ~~self-conscious~~ evolved as to be un-self-conscious in sex, will prove a restrictive influence on the temperamental expansion of the next generation; the woman who is a poor mistress will be an incompetent mother — an inferior mentality — & will enjoy an inadequate apprehension of Life.

To obtain results you must make sacrifices & the first & greatest sacrifice you have to make is of your "virtue"

The fictitious value of woman as identified with her physical purity - is too easy a stand-by - rendering her lethargic in the acquisition of intrinsic merits of character by which she could obtain a concrete value - therefore, the first self-enforced law for the female sex, as a protection against the man made bogey of virtue - which is the principal instrument of her subjection, would be the unconditional surgical destruction of virginity throughout the female population at puberty - .

The Value of man is assessed entirely according to his use & interest to the community, the value of woman, depends entirely on chance her success or insuccess in manoeuvring a man into taking the life-long responsibility of her -

The ~~professional~~ advantages of marriage are too ridiculously ample - compared to all other trades - for under modern conditions

a woman can accept preposterously luxurious support from a man (with-out return of any sort - even offspring) - as a thank offering for her virginity

The woman who has not succeeded in striking that advantageous bargain - is prohibited from any but surreptitious reaction to life-stimulus - & entirely debarred maternity. Every woman has a right

to maternity - Every woman of superior intelligence should realize her race-responsibility, in producing children in adequate proportion to the unfit or degenerate members of her sex -

Each child of a superior woman should be the result of a definite period of psychic development in her life - & not necessarily of a possibly irksome & outworn continuance of an alliance - spontaneously adapted for vital creation in the beginning but not necessarily harmoniously balanced as the parties to it - follow their individual lines of personal evolution -

For the harmony of the race, each indi-

vidual should be the expression of an easy & ample interpenetration of the male & female temperaments — free of stress

Woman must become more responsible for the child than man —

Women must destroy in themselves, the desire to be loved —

The feeling that it is a personal insult when a man transfers his attentions from her to another woman

The desire for comfortable protection instead of an intelligent curiosity & courage in meeting & resisting the pressure of life. Sex or so called love must be reduced to its initial element, honour, grief, sentimentality, pride & consequently jealousy must be detached from it.

Woman for her happiness must retain her deceptive fragility of appearance, combined with indomitable will, irreducible courage, & abundant health, the outcome of sound nerves —

Woman must use all her introspective clear-sightedness & unbiassed bravery to destroy — for the sake of her Self Respect is the impurity of sex

the realisation in defiance of superstition that there is nothing impure in sex - except in the mental attitude to it - will constitute ~~a wider & more~~ an incalculable wider social regeneration than it is possible for our generation to imagine.

Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> Mina Loy.

1914

Firenze