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### Be Gender Blind

In order to show equal amounts of respect to everyone, we should all be gender blind.

This is the argument both Truth and Adichie channel into their essays which makes them so similar yet different in some ways.

Beginning with Adichie, one of the major points she masterfully inputs into her essay is the fact that masculinity is just a social construct. In Adichie's words, "We do a great disservice to boys by how we raise them." Men are raised to be void of any human emotion. They are expected to hide fear and are made to believe they are responsible for everything relating to strength and finances, even when in many, if not most cases the woman is suited to handle her autonomy. On the other hand, girls are supposed to be fragile and always make themselves appear weak in the presence of men. They are supposed to be damsels in distress. Always requiring men to 'help them into carriages' and over mud when they could very well do this themselves.

Society looks down on the power of women. Truth made some biblical references to explain this power. She reminded us that the fate of the world was once changed because of a one woman leaving us to imagine what could happen if women decided to unite together to change it back. Truth's stories demand more respect to be shown to women. She tells the story of how she gave birth to about thirteen children and had to watch almost all of them get sold to

slavery. What she endured during this period was typical for most black women during the time of slavery. She had to watch her children get sold to slavery. This wasn't something you could ever find a man complain about because they didn't have to endure it. Shouldn't this alone be one of the reasons women should be treated with more respect?

A woman who is very successful is usually seen as an intimidation to men because men are made to believe that they are meant to be the sole breadwinners of the family and the society at large. So, when a woman becomes more successful than a man she is expected to hide her success from the men in order not to, in Adichie's words, 'hurt their fragile egos'. If a woman is more successful than a man, she should be allowed to flaunt her success without society pointing fingers at her. If she then has to be the sole provider for the family, then so be it. There should be nothing shameful about a man depending on his wife if she's the one capable of fending for them.