Student 2: High Merit

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Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4lju1ivuTU

Relevant Information: - points out the idea of guilt by association in feminism, that it's wrong. And, so is innocence by association, which is the idea behind the slogan "believe all women."

- Feminism is being "hijacked by delusions of gender Armageddon."
- 30% of all homicidal partners are female, 70% male. Men are more likely to kill women than women killing men, but that's because men are more likely to kill full stop. In the USA, men are significantly more likely to kill other men. Nearly 80% of murder victims are men.
 - Baseless attacks on men weaken the feminist movement
- Many magazines supporting feminism give misleading or biased statistics to prove their points. These baseless attacks on men are weakening the feminist movement.

Perspectives: Margaret Atwood is a novelist and feminist activist who spoke on the topic of the #MeToo campaign, specifically about the use of the innocence by association used by the movement being damaging. She believes that the use of innocence by association the movement use to show that all women are innocent is wrong. She says, "My fundamental position is that women are human beings, with the full range of saintly and demonic behaviours this entails, including criminal ones." She believes that women are not in a box of purity and should never be portrayed like that. She thinks women like men have many different sides and assumption that they are innocent just for being associated with a campaign is wrong. Margaret values the true meaning of feminism that everyone is treated equally and none is more innocent or criminal based on sex. She believes this because she has seen women do good and bad and having a feminist perspective means she can look at an issue from the perspective of equal rights.

Social Actions: #MeToo is a feminist campaign about stopping sexual violence. Some people believe that this social action has been taken too far, such as Matt Damon, because as he says, "There is a spectrum of behaviour". The campaign has the potential to create widespread change, raising awareness for sexual violence, and letting people feel able to share their stories. However, some radical feminists are hijacking the action by using guilt by association. The idea that because a minority of men are sexual predators, all men are. This undermines the action because it is, of course, untrue.

Reliability & Usefulness: The Factual Feminist is a YouTube series whose premise is to give a factual, unbiased presentation of feminist issues, such as the #MeToo movement. Because of this it is likely to be a reliable source. Additionally, in this video, all of the sources are cited which means that you can double check their statistics and make sure that they aren't twisting statistics. All in all, this is a very reliable source. This is a useful source because it covers some of the problems with feminism, such as the idea of guilt by association, innocence by association and the hysterical reaction to anyone who tries to introduce some moderation to the ideals of feminism. It is also a very current source as it was published in February of this year.

Source: http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11986644

Relevant Information: This source is about the axing of grid girls from motorsport. The article argues that if a group of women (in this case the grid girls) feel pushed out of their jobs by other women, it's not really feminism. And that is how a lot of the grid girls feel, they like their job, and don't appreciate other women telling them what's best. Some claimed that it isn't a fight for women's rights, if the rights weren't something they asked for. Empowering women means all women, not just the ones that fit your ideals.

Perspectives: Kate Hawkesby is a radio announcer and tv presenter who believes that women deserve freedom to act how they wish to. In an article she wrote for the NZ Herald, she wrote that: "I'm a feminist, and while I agree that maybe the money saved by axing the grid girls should be put towards getting more women drivers into sport, that's really only if they want to." She believes that these women should have freedom to choose because otherwise they are only succumbing to another form of oppression, that of feminists as opposed to misogynists. She thinks these women may very well want to be grid girls and we shouldn't tell them they shouldn't. She believes this because as a successful NZ woman, she has had the freedom to choose what role she wishes to play in society, and recognises that it is an important right.













She comes from a feminist perspective where she believes in the rights of women and equality, where women can be anything they want to be.

Reliability & Usefulness: This isn't the most reliable source I have used so far. While it is current, as it was written early February of this year, it is written in a colloquial manner. This implies that it has been simplified for the general public and probably doesn't contain the full picture. This article is very much an opinion piece, and while that is useful for gathering perspectives and general ideas of how the grid girls feel about the movement, it isn't useful to find specific perspectives. Apart from that of the article author, Kate Hawkesby.

The information overall is useful, the perspectives mentioned are extremely helpful when answering my third research question. However, the information is best taken with a grain of salt. As it isn't a primary source, and the author likely has biases, whether conscious or not.

Source: Survey

Relevant Information: Of the people I surveyed, all of them knew what feminism was, and believed it was a relevant and valid movement. This shows that the majority of high schoolers know what feminism is and what it stands for. However, when asked whether they thought feminism is going down the right path, the answers were less positive. Many of the responses recognised that feminism has good intentions, and that the majority of feminists are not misandrists. However they also recognise that there is a more extreme, man-hating side of feminism. An example response is: "I think there's a split in modern feminism where one side is going to the extreme and misinterpreting what feminism is and the other side isn't being represented enough." One individual was more strongly opinionated, saying that "...modern feminism and the application thereof creates the opposite effect of what's intended." This shows that most people think that feminism isn't going in the right direction, the degree to which this is believed is the main difference.

Perspectives: Anon 1. One person who filled out the survey believes that the original definition of feminism is a valid and worthy cause, but that it has been taken down the wrong path by modern day feminists. He says: "the modern perception of feminism and the application thereof creates the opposite effect of what's intended by actual feminism" He understands that feminism is about equality but does not understand why some people take it to be about man hating. He sees this as destructive to the idea of feminism. He believes this because he has seen the problems caused by some modern feminists, and as a man probably feels attacked by the more extreme feminists. He obviously values the importance of feminism but it is hard to work his exact perspective. Perhaps his comes from a gender perspective because as a male he can see both sides of the argument, the importance but also the problems with extremists taking feminism in the wrong direction.

Anon 2. Another person believes that feminism is mostly heading down the right path, with a few outliers. They say; "I believe that the general modern feminism is in the right path, as they are fighting for equality in how women are being treated and held in respect in relation to their male counterpart. While maintaining the idea that men and women are equal, neither gender to be above the other." They believe this because they can see that feminists are trying to do the right thing, with campaigns like "Me Too" and the "Time's Up" movement. However, the fact that they used the term "general modern feminism" shows that they are aware that some feminists are going down the wrong path, towards misandry.

Reliability & Usefulness: This is a reliable source because I know all of the people who contributed to the survey, and can vouch for their responsibility. However, it was a small sample size so to be more conclusive I would require more people to participate. It does give a good idea of how people view feminism and shows that more women are positive towards the action, while...







