

Women's rights & gender wage gap/sex segregation

Installment 1:

100 years ago, in 1918 the Representation of the People Act was passed which mean that women could finally vote, but have they ever really been treated the same as men?

The voting rules were that you had to be over thirty and meet a property qualification in order to vote, but is this fair? Although 8.5 million of the women in that time met this criteria that only equated to just under 42% of the female population. In the same act it was given that men could now vote if you were over 21 (they had to be thirty before), even though they hadn't been the ones to protest, in fact they had been protesting against the passing of the act. And to better that point armed forces working men could vote from the age of 19 yet this rule did not apply to women working in the armed forces.

Years after the Representation of the People Act was passed in 1928, women over 21 could finally vote and they finally achieved the same voting rights as men. This was a huge triumph for the early feminists but even today people wonder whether women have the exact same rights as men.

It has recently caught the eye of many people that men may be paid more for doing the same jobs and roles as women for no apparent reason except from the sheer fact they are female.

According to research, men are earning on average 4-7% more than woman do enduring the exact same job titles. This is not right at all. With women earning a median of £5451 a month and men earning a median of £5437 a week it's obvious that business owners and bosses all over the country (United Kingdom) are being sexist. In annual salaries in the UK alone it has been noticed a 24% gap between female and males pay check.

Looking back to a report by **Katie Allen** an economics reporter for *The Guardian*, it is evident that many people agree with the idea of the gender wage gap. You can see that she agrees where it says "The gender pay gap becomes a significant lifetime pay penalty. The gap widens for older women and becomes a significant pension's gap in retirement". Surely this cannot be a conspiracy?

Now look at the first question asked, "but have they ever really been treated the same as men?" Exploring these views further is a tricky task so carry on reading for an elaborated view on the subject.

I believe that all the hard work the suffragettes put in had absolutely been disrespected and in fact all people who haven't and don't agree with it sabotaged them from the beginning.

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