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# **A Modest Proposal: Let's Give the Country to the Women**

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For 150 years, the feminist movement promoting political and psychological equality for women has provoked us to struggle against ourselves.

Modern feminism was born in the occult spiritual renaissance of the mid-19th century, as women found their first avenue of cultural power. Social reform movements of the late-19th century were largely a feminine reaction to the horrors of the industrial age. Political involvement followed as suffragettes fought a long battle to obtain voting rights for women. Rosie the Riveter took over previously male-dominated factories during World War II. In the turbulent 1960s, women burned their bras, asserted their sexuality, and took control of their bodies.

Each chapter was another victory in the struggle to reform the outmoded gender roles imposed by culture and kept in place through social inertia. And the battle rages on.

Having been an astrologer for 20 years, I can attest personally to the high percentage of female clients who have bitched and moaned to me about men. Their points of view have ranged from mild dissatisfaction to hysterical negativity, and over the years the intensity has steadily increased across the board. To listen to these many women, one might conclude that cultural patriarchy was the devil's plan, and that the male half of the species is composed exclusively of idiots, jerks, and ne'er-do-wells.

Being a man, however, I must also admit to my own and my male friends' sullen complaints about women. Our protests may be more reactive and slower to emerge, but they are, nonetheless, equally real, and in recent years just as passionate. Listening to our litany of offenses, one might conclude that women were impossible to please, and that they exist only to exasperate and torment men in an unending effort to make our lives miserable.

Every person I know embraces divergent, conflicting opinions about the male-female dilemma—from heartfelt hopes to profound cynicism. Each of us actively promotes equality and reconciliation in certain ways, yet each of us also staunchly resists reform at other levels. We are divided not merely between ourselves, but within ourselves as well.

So what's to be done? My modest proposal is offered not as a solution, but, instead, as a simple, elegant social experiment, a leap into a brave new world:

***Let's give the country to the women.***

Yeah! By that, I mean turning over to women the running of local and federal government—lock, stock, and barrel.

Men have attempted to govern this nation for more than 200 years, to direct its growth, to substantiate in law and policy the high ideals of its philosophical mandate. Almost no one is happy with the results. We are all—men and women alike—utterly fed up.

Women are gradually making inroads to formal positions of power and influence through politics, and each election promises larger gains in assaulting the Congressional Bastille of the Good-Ol' Boys Club. But it is so damn slow. Let's shortcut the whole process by giving the entire government to the women.

We'll set it up so that men can continue to run the business world. That's only fair. But women will occupy ALL elective offices, from county commissioners and school board members, mayors and governors, congresswomen and cabinet members, all the way to the White House.

*Think about it.* What are the critical issues where government is stalemated here in the early 1990s? Abortion, education, social security, health care, homelessness, rebuilding the infrastructure, cutting military expenditures, insuring environmental protection... Why, all these are issues that involve nurturing and protecting human beings, which is precisely what women have been practicing for eons.

Crap like "Line-Item Veto" debates goes right out the window, because women are terrific at working out agreements among themselves. An all-woman Congress would never adjourn.

Taxes? The federal deficit? Government spending? No problem. We cut taxes to a flat 5% of gross income for both individuals and corporations. No exemptions, no sheltered income, no funny business. Bye-bye, IRS.

Slash military funding. Anyway, war is just men arguing over whose dick is bigger. Bye-bye, phallic missiles and orgasmic nuclear bombs.

The femme government will hire male-run business to create corporate social entities. No more padding or cost overruns; women office-holders will shop 'til they drop, insisting on sale prices. Business will provide high-quality, efficient social services at a profit. In other words, women will set the agenda and men will solve the tasks.

It's perfect! And even if the experiment doesn't work, even if the country remains just as screwed up as ever, we can then justifiably tell anyone who still complains—either women complaining about men, or men complaining about women—to put it where the sun don't shine.