

**Nov 8, 2024**

Here I am writing to you. The whole world can misunderstand me. This whole world doesn't have to hear my voice. I like you, so to have one person to share my thoughts is more than enough. You have this quality that makes me believe you are an understanding type of jack.

It is challenging to discuss appropriate behavior for men towards women without being labeled as progressive or a feminist. Most women simply desire basic human decency. We recognize our strengths and weaknesses as women. We are aware that domestic and physical violence disproportionately affect women, comprising approximately 90% of such cases. This is not a conflict between men and women; it is not a competition between Mars and Venus.

Perhaps our oversight in emphasizing the significance of character in all individuals contributed to this result in the election.

As a widely held belief among men, character is not considered a crucial factor for an individual representing the ideals of America to embody integrity and compassion towards women.

How easy it is for men to convince themselves that if they know better, so do other men on how to treat other females. When the leader of a group acts a certain way in front of billions of male humans, when they threaten other women's safety publicly who they view as a threat to their manliness, do these intelligent men believe there are no consequences to such behavior?

Like any other human, men are no exception to cliques and groupthink. Bad behavior is learned. A young man can learn to treat other females well because he sees his father doing so, and he could learn to treat other females well if he sees his father mistreating his mother. It can go the opposite way, where that young man sees the mistreatment as a way of life, that it is normal behavior. There are young men in this world who haven't grown up with a father, and they look to these prominent male public figures as role models.

Out of the billions of men in this world, 1% of the billions who take these rhetorics about women seriously is 40 million men in this world that would harm women. In America, there are 165 million adult males, 1% of that 1.65 million males who would abuse their women. The #girldad out there who would say they taught their daughters better, until one day your daughter is in the hospital. Then we have the females who believe they are strong enough to not put themselves in that situation, as though it is about strength or intelligence, human emotions overtake us when we are in a relationship.

We have men who make fun of others for enabling other powerful men abusing other humans, that they are not decent humans for calling it out sooner. Yet, these same men publicly support a man whose behavior causes a mimetic effect with his poor behavior towards other humans, especially females. To not see the parallel is quite odd. One may have been a closed-door secret, this though is much worse, because it is an open door enabling bad behavior. It is not thousands affected, it is millions affected. "An idea is like a virus, resilient, highly contagious." -Cobb from Inception.

As a woman residing within the United States of America, I am grateful for the progress made over the past 250 years, which can be attributed to the sacrifices made by those who fought for our rights. Notably, Abigail Adams played a pivotal role in this struggle. Imagine living in a time of immense chaos, far more chaotic than our current era, with significantly reduced freedoms. It was during this period that Adams communicated her thoughts and ideas to her husband, John Adams, who later became the second President of the United States.

John Adams, who had recently emerged from a war that secured our freedom to establish the United States of America, harbored reservations about engaging in another conflict. However, he did hold a belief in the rights of women. Unfortunately, the timing was not favorable for him. We have all the freedom in the world yet here we are regressing in the pursuit of human decency, few men would call out the indecent behavior of their leader against women.

John Adams, like many other remarkable men of our time, recognized the strength and capabilities of his wife.

The letter of Abigail to her husband early April 1776:

"In the new code of laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies, and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors have been. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands. Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could."

His response mid April 1776:

"We know better than to repeal our masculine systems. Although they are in full force, you know they are little more than theory. We are obliged to go softly. And in practice you know we are the subjects. We only have the names of masters."

And our second President wrote when he became president on Nov 1800:

"I pray heaven to bestow the best of blessings on this house. May none but honest and wise men ever rule under this roof."

Although their contributions to women's rights were limited, their letters serve as a

testament to the arduous struggles faced by minorities and women in the pursuit of freedom. Two and a half centuries later, we have lost sight of the immense difficulty in achieving human decency for all beings. Regardless of our trajectory, the foundation of progress or regression lies in our interactions with others, as human behavior is malleable and akin to a contagious virus.

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