

THE RISE OF WHITE FEMINISM

Dear white women,

From my experience as an Iranian girl growing up in London, I have found that the majority of schools in North London focus on a range of feminist issues, however, do not share this same worry when it comes to international, specifically Arab and Middle Eastern women's issues. In my experience, students are not even allowed to voice their opinions on this. A case study held in a North London school in 2021, a student held up a flag in support for Palestine outside the window, this flag was confiscated. However, when the same things were going on in Ukraine, specifically the impact it had on women, schools had no worry raising awareness to their students.

Right now, in Gaza women are using tent scraps and spare pieces of clothing as period products. 50,000 women are pregnant. Miscarriages have skyrocketed 300%. Pregnant women are undergoing c-sections without anaesthesia. Israel's forces have killed 33,000 Palestinians, since October 7th, in which 70% of them being women and children and this is not including those under the rubble.

Imperial feminism is a discourse genre that reserves feminism for specific groups of people based on their race, ethnicity, wealth, power. All the while, deliberate efforts are made to ignore, erase, and discredit any and all human rights work that advocate for, funds, or protects ethnic minority women, particularly those who are intentionally oppressed, harassed by their ethnicity, or who are part of endangered cultures that are currently being murdered in broad daylight.

Sana Saeed says: "Imperial feminism is an entire discourse angry about two white women not getting enough nominations for a commercial doll while staying silent on the U.S funding and supporting a [GENOCIDE](#) killing two Palestinian mothers every hour, starving girls, and causing a 300% increase in miscarriages." [Zan. Zendagi. Azadi](#) : *Woman. Life. Freedom*. There are countless websites like this with documented stories.

For decades now, my country, Iran, has inflicted gender inequality and discrimination against women which has been legally enshrined in Iran. In September 2022, a woman named Masha Amini was stopped and detained by 'Morality' police as she was not complying with the abusive compulsory veiling laws. Due to being brutally beaten by police she slipped into a coma three days later and died.

She was just 22. At least 1000 people have died for their rights since then.

Right now, as you're reading this, they are still torturing people in detention and harassing victims' families if they dare to call for truth and justice. Women and girls are still facing prosecution, expulsion from schools or universities, job loss, car confiscation and other penalties for defying discriminatory veiling laws. At least over 500 people have been killed since September 2023, in which 70 are children. Nearly 20,000 people arrested in which over 100 on charges that could lead to a death sentence. 4 executed.

So when the world was up in arms about two white women who didn't get an Oscar Nomination in this year's Hollywood movie Oscars ceremony, it begs the question: *So, what?*

Women around the world in Middle Eastern countries are dying due to GENOCIDE and to stand against inhuman laws. You say, "you don't know how to help" and "it doesn't involve me." You can not stand here and call yourself a feminist because its degrading on what feminism truly stands for, for all women around the world facing oppression are the ones we should be standing for right now.

I despise what I have to face when I show awareness. Not many people care, some even have the audacity to comment "why?" They ignore what's happening. I hate to see this 'white feminism' and it needs to be abolished.

I want to look up to women who I know I can relate to through our culture, but due to what everyone sees on the media it's sadly misinterpreted.

International women's day is coming up, now it's the opportunity to see where you really stand.
#abolishwhitefeminsim