

Feminists Are the Majority

Poll after poll shows that the majority of women self-identify as feminists. In fact, the name “Feminist Majority” was inspired by a 1986 Gallup/*Newsweek* poll that found that 56% of all women considered themselves feminists.

That number persists today – in a 2006 *Ms.* magazine poll, 53% of women self-identified as feminists. Young women aged 18-29 were even more likely to call themselves feminists in a 2003 *Ms.* poll (61%). After being read the dictionary definition of feminism (above), the number of women self-identifying as feminists skyrockets to 77%, and 70% of men self-identify as feminists (2003 *Ms.* poll).

An overwhelming majority of both women and men feel favorably toward the movement to strengthen women’s rights – and again, the highest support comes from young women. Overall, 83% of women and 75% of men feel favorable toward the women’s movement, according to the *Ms.* 2003 poll – and a whopping 92% of women aged 18-24 feel the same.

Feminists *are* the majority in the United States. The name “Feminist Majority” is a consciousness-raiser, reminding us all that those who believe in equality for women and men in all spheres of life are among the majority, not the minority, of the public.

The Feminist Majority Foundation’s popular “This Is What a Feminist Looks Like” slogan on t-shirts and tote bags is also a consciousness-raiser, making it clear that feminism cuts across racial, ethnic, class, age, and gender lines. The word “feminist” itself is a modern word, invented in the 20th Century. Unlike the word for “woman,” which is different in almost every language, most languages have adopted the word “feminist” or a slight variation to identify women’s rights supporters.

So, proudly call yourself a feminist, and know that you are part of a huge global movement with the support of the majority.