

Front Féministe

> <https://www.front-feministe.org/>

**The FEMINIST FRONT presents
its founding manifesto**

LIBERTY EQUALITY FEMINISM

Feminism is a commitment to justice, equality and dignity. Universalist, secular and mutually supportive, it brings together women and men who, all over the world, are fighting against patriarchy, a system of violence and oppression based on the assertion of male superiority.

For centuries, feminists have worked together towards

- **Equality** of women and men, in law and in effect
- **Freedom** for all humans and an end of all power relations
- **Adelphity**, an ideal combining fraternity and sisterhood.

**WE, LEADERS OF FEMINIST ORGANISATIONS,
affirm the right for women
to have their bodies respected as having a specific sex
and have jointly signed the following manifesto establishing ten principles.**

Since the beginning of the 21st century, we have witnessed:

- increased normalising of the sexual exploitation of women and girls
- the erasing of the word “woman” and the concept of sex by transactivists who attack and threaten feminists and lesbians.

We denounce:

- **the commercializing women through prostitution, pornography and the renting out of wombs**
- **the rape culture, inherent to the patriarchal system**
- **the control exerted over women's bodies and appearance**
- **the erasing of sex in favour of gender.**

We assert ten principles:

1. Prostitution is misogynist sexual exploitation.

There is no “right to sexuality”. In many countries, client-prostitutes are considered to be infringing the law.

A human being is not an object or a consumer product. Criminal organisations and pimps who deal in human trafficking and exploit the vulnerability of women and girls are committing crimes. Consent to sex given by an exploited woman is obtained through extortion or because she is under influence. Money does not cancel this violence.

Disabled people do not want to buy sex acts, even disguised by the term “sexual assistance”, but to live in a more open and accessible society, which will make it easier for them to have an emotional and sexual life.

2. Pornography normalizes sexual violence against women and children.

It stages and massively disseminates images of prostitution linked to rape culture and supports the male chauvinist order.

3. Surrogacy, whether commercial or claiming to be “ethical”, ultimately consists in renting out a woman's womb and her life by programming the delivery of a child like a product supplied to satisfy the demands of a third party. But a human being cannot be the object of a transaction: that is a fundamental principle of law. A desire does not create a right. There is no right to a child.

4. Rape is caused by rapists. Shame must be placed on the perpetrator not the victim. To seek excuses for a rapist is to be complicit.

5. A partner's violence is not love. Male ascendancy in a heterosexual relationship has to do with possessiveness and domination. Beatings are not love. Killing is not love.

6. Respect for one's body and its integrity is a right. Girls and women's bodies are constantly under scrutiny and criticised: too fat or too thin, hypersexualized or forced to be hidden. Sexual mutilation is a crime that cannot be justified by compliance with tradition.

7. The Islamic veil is a form of sexist oppression. In Iran, in Afghanistan or in Saudi Arabia, women who refuse to wear it are harassed, imprisoned, whipped, killed. In Western societies, some women are pressured to wear it by their family circle while others wear it voluntarily, which does not make it any less discriminatory in meaning; this does not, however, justify violence against veiled women.

8. Sex pertains to nature and gender to culture; it is the association of the two that constitutes a person. Sex is a biological reality, inscribed in each of our cells and determining many bodily effects: the production of gametes, the female menstrual cycle, etc. Gender, or social sex, or the difference between the sexes as viewed by society, is a cultural construct of feminine and masculine roles that promotes the inferior status of the feminine and its subordination to the masculine.

9. “Trans people” have the right to respect for their choices. They themselves must respect women's rights and choices.

10. An open, mixed environment for women and men is our model of society. However, women are in certain cases entitled to non-mixed areas: to protect themselves from male violence (toilets, cloakrooms, prisons or shelters) or to express their feelings in relation to discrimination and abuse (support groups). Non-mixed spaces can also be a political choice (feminist groups) or a preference (meeting places for lesbians). As for sport, to accept “trans women” in women's competitions is inequitable to women.

Women and girls accumulate several forms of oppression, according to their ethnic origin, the color of their skin, their age, their appearance, their lesbianism, their poverty, their disability, etc.

**All of them have in common the fact that they are female.
We stand by them.
We want a fair world.
Liberty Equality Feminism**

The FEMINIST FRONT manifesto was launched by the Chiennes de garde and Zéromacho on March 8, 2022.

It remains open to other feminist associations:
front.feministe [at] gmail.com