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Forever Indebted to Women: The Power of Caribbean Feminism

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Abstract

The attempt to pigeonhole feminism to a specific group of those who work actively towards change in gender equality creates more barriers for the achievement of gender equality and is itself limiting to the success of feminism. It marginalizes those who assume they do not fit into some predetermined criteria. Feminism is not a club you join and to which you pay or are exempted from dues. If it is, then what exactly are its rules of entrance and expulsion and who created these? Is there a venue into which only feminists are allowed? Does one sign on as a lifetime member and can one's views change as the decades change the conditions of desire, pleasure and how one works and lives?

The attempt to date feminism is equally impossible. When exactly did the feminist movement begin and when does it end? Who was the first feminist and who will be the last? And might the feminist movement be taken over and driven by men and the contours be one day shaped by masculinity. How will we know when gender equality is achieved and do we know what gender equality looks like?