

# ABOUT POST-FEMINIST

Feminist webs is a movement of women who want to re-invigorate youth work with young women and girls.

We wanted to create a book called 'What young women want' to go to local and national decision makers across the UK to make sure young women's needs are recognised, are on the agenda and get properly funded.

We asked these questions:

*What do you want/need as a woman in today's society?*  
*What does feminism mean to you?*  
*What is positive body image?*

This book illustrates views and opinions of young women from across the North West of England and beyond, about positive body image. The collage postcards from young women portray their thoughts and provide strong messages and statements for change, whether it is directed at other young women, men, the media, or others who influence how young women in today's society view themselves.



WHAT DO YOUNG FEMINISTS  
WANT TODAY? FOR PEOPLE TO  
ACCEPT THERE IS A PROBLEM  
AND THEY AT LEAST SET OUT TO  
CHANGE IT

why is it  
wrong for  
kids to see  
this image  
...



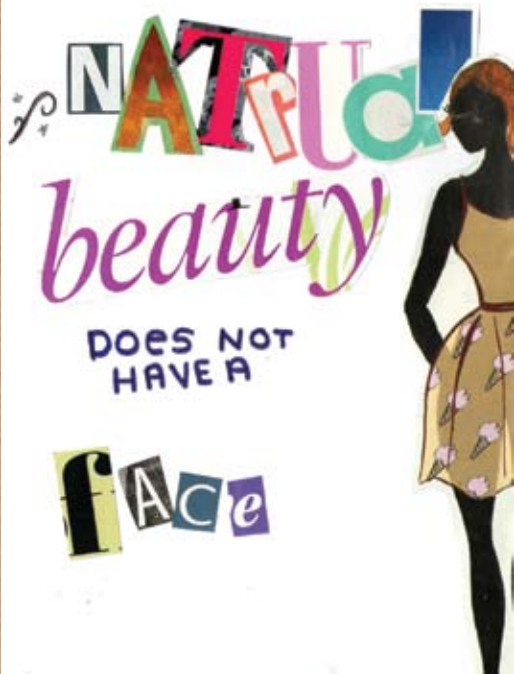
but not  
this  
one?



Body Image  
is an  
important  
issue!

*Feminism is promoting the  
rights and opinions of  
women, standing up against  
oppression of women*

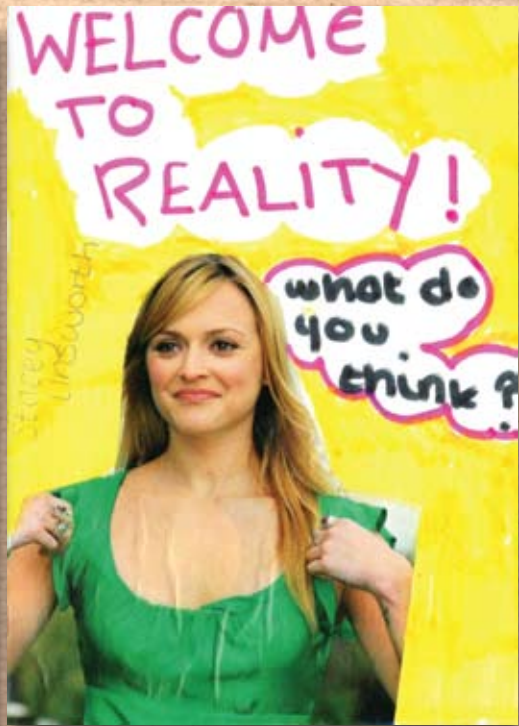
What young women need today  
A ban on page 3 and biker  
calendars



Feminism to me is a means of understanding  
my oppression and creating my liberation

AS A WOMAN I DON'T WANT TO  
BE JUDGED ON HOW I LOOK.  
DON'T BE SCARED TO THINK  
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL.

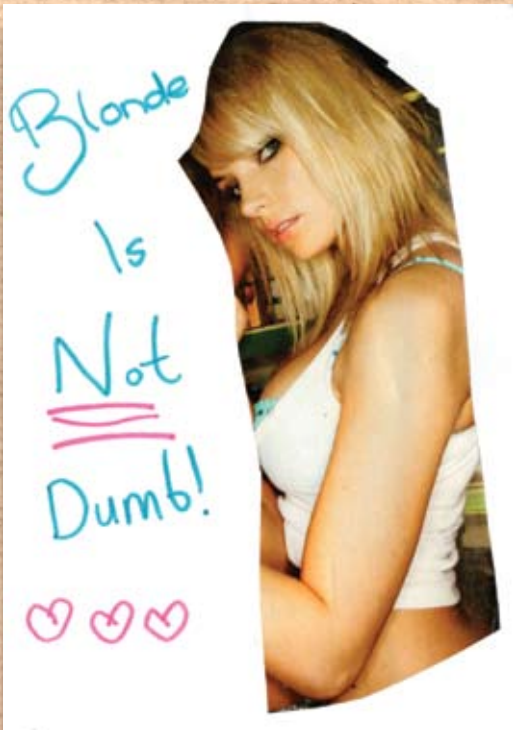
To me, being a young  
woman, means being  
yourself, instead of  
somebody you are not



Feminism means aiming for respect and equality rights and recognition for women. And as a feminist it also means I challenge the many negative messages and stereotyping of women in our society.

*To make a change in the world Young women of today need to be seen and heard and recognised for what they do and stand up for their rights.*

**A SAFE PLACE TO EXPLORE WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A YOUNG WOMAN IN TODAY'S CULTURE...PEOPLE/WORKERS WHO WILL LISTEN, BUT NOT JUDGE.**



Distorted!

Perceptions

\* of \*

Perfection!

FACE



diets

Tanned



Gator



Skinny

Sun Beds

I think feminism is about making sure you appreciate that what you have is important, although we all do wish we were prettier or thinner, we still need to be happy about what we have. Not always looking at 'the media's 'perfect body.'

They need a safe environment to  
express and be themselves  
Not to feel intimidated  
for being who they are

Young women need the opportunity to think  
about what it means to be a woman in our  
society they need information so they can  
make informed decisions and informed choices

*To not feel under pressure.  
Not to be mistreated. Not  
to be compared to men. to  
be heard on our thoughts,  
opinions and decisions.*





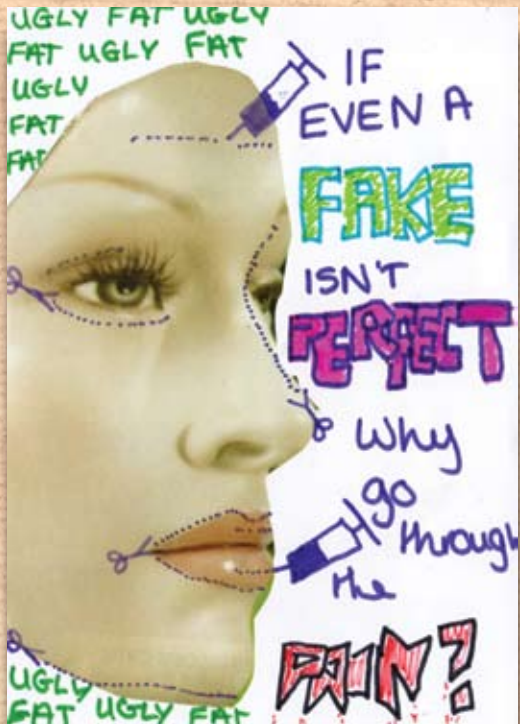
MISS LONG BEACH  
NO BODY'S  
PERFECT,  
Reality is  
what it is,  
if men want  
women to have  
buitiful babies,  
then don't  
expect buitiful  
Bodies



A young women should respect herself And not try And live up to other people s stAndArds

**IT'S YOUR CHOICE HOW YOU WANT TO LOOK. DON'T LET PEOPLE MAKE DECISIONS FOR YOU.**

*What Feminism means to me...to rise above society's stereotypes of women and for them to live their life as they want to*



What women want is respect more opportunities Women want less stereotypes and to have a voice

*Be proud of what you look like, rather than trying to be what you don't look like.*

**BE WHO YOU ARE - DON'T FAKE IT...NATURAL IS BEAUTIFUL IN ANY FORM.**

The downside



Media Pressure

I had suffered no turmoil, unhappiness or desire to be something I wasn't. It just happened. One morning you are eating Cheerios with full-fat milk for breakfast and the next, a segment of orange

Women are strong and should value themselves. To be able to look in the mirror and say yes I am happy with myself.

**BE HAPPY WITH YOUR APPEARANCE, LOVE YOUR BODY AND BELIEVE IN YOURSELF**

As a woman I don't want to be judged for my appearance  
I judge myself enough



Its good  
to Be  
Bigger

Its your  
Choice

Why do people  
want to be stick  
thin

**CAN YOU BE  
NATURALLY SKINNY?**

#### FEMINISM

IS ABOUT BEING WOMAN-CENTRED. SO, THINKING ABOUT HOW THINGS AFFECT WOMEN IN OUR MALE-DOMINATED SOCIETY. IT'S ABOUT QUESTIONING THE OPPORTUNITIES GIVEN TO OR TAKEN BY WOMEN AND IN TURN QUESTIONING THOSE OPPORTUNITIES THAT WE ARE NOT ALLOWED ACCESS TO.

IT'S ABOUT SUBVERTING HARMFUL STEREOTYPES THAT WE SHOULD BE SILENT, SUBMISSIVE AND SMALL IN THE SPACE WE OCCUPY AS WOMEN.

IT'S ABOUT RECOGNISING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN WOMEN, THAT WOMEN ARE DIVERSE AND UNITING COLLECTIVELY.



**BE DIFFERENT - STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD - DON'T LET OTHER PEOPLE/MEDIA INFLUENCE YOU.  
BE YOUR OWN PERSON!**

*Why spend money to look the way other people expect you to. When natural beauty is free.*

Being a young woman is about being yourself  
It's not about changing to meet other people's expectations



Being skinny  
isn't always  
beautiful!

Appreciate  
& respect  
your body  
the way  
it is.

Your beauti-  
-full no  
matter what  
people  
say.

What feminism means  
to me; Togetherness,  
collectivity, acceptance,  
respect, warmth,  
friendship and  
communication between  
women.

Feminism is also about  
coming together and  
questioning present and  
past society and how  
women are being  
treated and re-presented,  
and working to make  
conditions and  
emotions better.



Just  
because  
we're girls...



doesn't mean we  
don't know about  
cars!

*Young women need practitioners who understand sexism and work in an anti-sexist way. That speak up and encourage you to speak up.*

Women supporting women towards true equality. Women today need space to explore the meaning of womanhood and how our sex affects our life chances.

**TO HAVE A SCHOOL THAT UNDERSTANDS PEOPLE.**

Scarlett Stubbs

Falling into  
line just to  
be like  
her...



**WHAT YOUNG WOMEN  
WANT...FOR PEOPLE TO  
WANT WOMEN TO  
SUCCEED...TO HAVE  
SYSTEMS AND  
INSTITUTIONS BASED  
ON THE WAY WOMEN  
WORK AND FEEL.  
TO TRANSFORM THE  
WORLD....  
YOUNG WOMEN WANT  
TO BE ABLE TO SEE  
THEMSELVES CLEARLY,  
HAPPILY AND IN THEIR  
OWN RIGHT - SAFE,  
EMPOWERED, CAPABLE  
AND FREE.**

**FEMINISM FOR ME MEANS  
HOPE**

All the great things that women do  
should be recognised to be just as  
good as what men have done

*To discuss topics/issues/  
agendas that are usually  
sidelined or forgotten about  
in our daily lives.*



message, <sup>by Nikki</sup> <sup>Bestmate</sup> <sup>Dem</sup>  
beauty isn't just  
bad, people wear make-  
up to look pretty but  
just use your own  
beauty which is natural  
which ~~is~~ belongs to  
you!

by  
Nikki  
Share

believe in your  
self.



Don't hide  
your natural  
beauty. ♥

~~Make-Up~~





*Young women want  
independence, confidence,  
opportunity, autonomy,  
expression - a voice*

**YOUNG WOMEN TODAY  
WANT AND NEED  
KNOWLEDGE AND  
EMPOWERMENT**

I d like a place to relax and  
have fun with people my own age



I think there should be more help for  
people go to university

Help for women

**I WOULD LIKE  
AFFORDABLE QUALITY  
CHILD CARE TO BE ABLE  
TO GET INTO WORK OR  
COLLEGE.**

*(I would like to be able  
to have) A family and  
choice of job, with equal  
pay.*

**9 MONTHS MATERNITY  
LEAVE ON FULL PAY**

*Women should be paid to stay at home and look after their children and not have to rely on their partners income.*

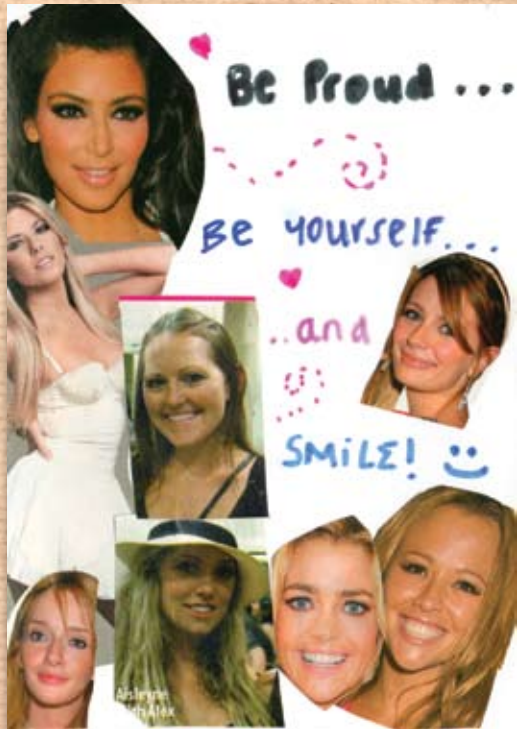
Young women are looking to be heard listened to and feel like people care about the wishes they're dealing with. However unimportant they might seem

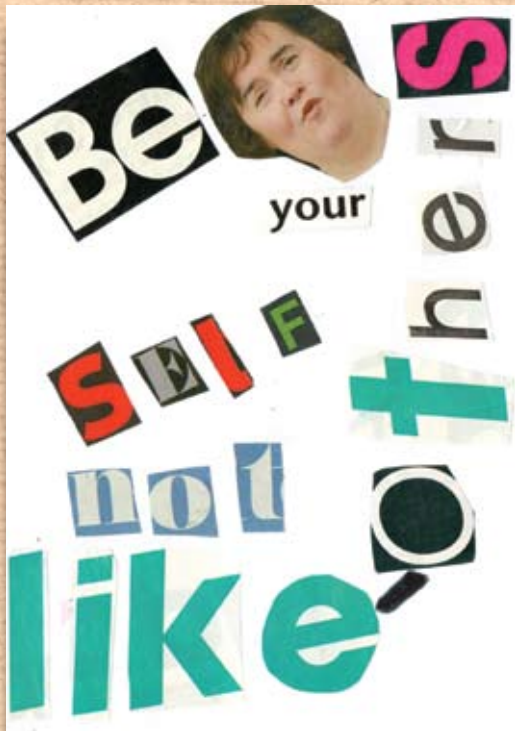


*I would like support  
groups for young parents,  
coffee mornings,  
workshops and playgroups*

**I WOULD LIKE BOYS TO STOP  
TALKING TO ME ON THE STREET  
LIKE THEY HAVE JUST SNAPPED  
THEIR FINGERS AND SUDDENLY I  
BELONG TO THEM.**

*I would like more girls only events  
please*





**I WANT TO BE A CONFIDENT  
AND COMFORTABLE WOMAN**

Respect

Not every girl wants something  
more than friendship

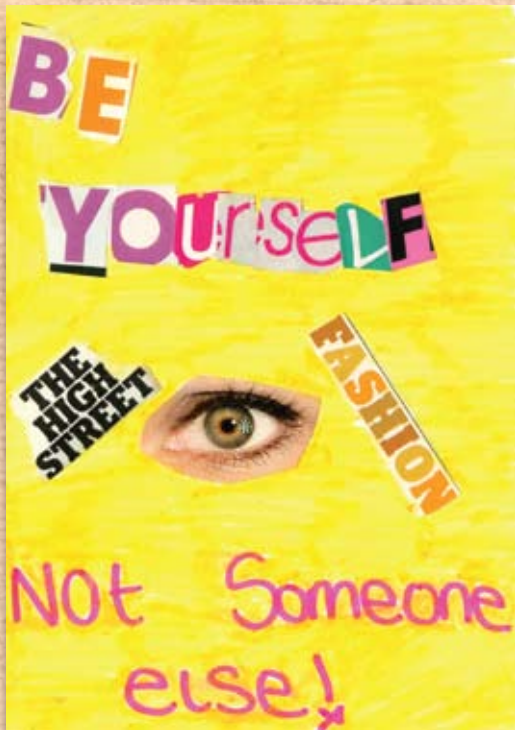
*More activities for  
young women,  
like cinema, courses,  
events and more jobs.*



**WOMEN SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO THE THINGS THAT MEN CAN DO. NOT JUST COOKING AND CLEANING!**

*It'd be nice if only the visibility of women in the media wasn't (so) pornographic.  
Uncensor the real women.*

*See the person and not the image*



*I want women to have the same pay as men (when doing the same job).*

**EQUALITY, NO MATTER WHAT COLOUR OR RELIGION. WE ARE ALL WOMEN. WE HAVE A RIGHT TO BE HEARD.**

*Now Feminist Webs is out I think more women s voices will be heard Women need their voices heard  
I recommend all women go on the site*

Feminism for me is being strong willed and assertive, challenging all that's wrong.

It also means standing out and speaking out.

Young women today want (need) safe places where they can happily go and socialise, learn, bond and have fun, with love, support and guidance.



Be happy. :)  
How does this  
make you feel  
about your  
body ?



I think everything should be equal  
to men and women

*The right to choose.  
Access to education and  
employment. Appropriate  
health information.*

Women want to be treated with  
respect and to be treated as  
equals

PERFECTION

IS



TATTOO  
REMOVAL  
£2,400

BOTOX  
£1,200

MICRODERMABRASION  
£600

CARBOXY  
£800

BREAST LIFT  
£5,000

LIPOSUCTION  
£4,500

PRICESSS!

As a woman I don't  
want to be Judge  
on how I look.  
Don't be scared  
to think your  
beautiful.



I Accept  
Myself

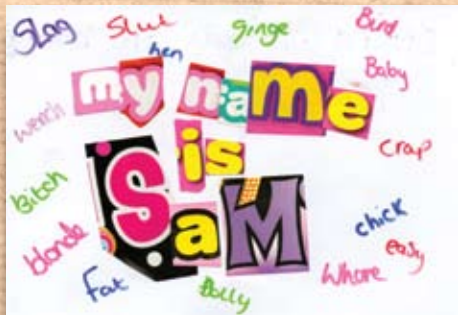




For me, being a feminist is a form of love; a love for oneself. Love strong enough to seek out knowledge and understanding without excusing yourself for gaining it. It is surrounding yourself in a positive female environment, feeling generally and genuinely overwhelmed by the empowerment of those women who revel in all that is beautiful about what it means to be a woman. It is having the courage to say no and challenge those who revert to the safety of prejudice. It is being able to smile an honest and loving smile to a fellow woman, to reflect upon yourself. It is being proud and never letting anyone take that away from you

Stop buying magazines  
They would have to  
change the way  
that they portray  
women. None of  
it is REAL!!!





STOP CALLING ME 'BABE' - I AM NOT YOUR CHILD...TALK TO ME RESPECTFULLY, NOT LIKE I AM AN ANIMAL

Stop calling me sweetheart



To be treated normally.  
Stop calling me 'Babe!'



Talk to me  
Respect me  
Ask my opinions  
I Do Have Them!



TAKE ACTION  
TAKE FEMINISM  
FORWARD  
The best thing about  
being a woman is me  
I love being a woman.  
Marianne

I WANT TO BE TRUE TO MYSELF AND NOT CONFORM TO WHAT I "SHOULD BE" AS IT'S MY LIFE



I would like the right to make choices and having my own mind and saying what I want

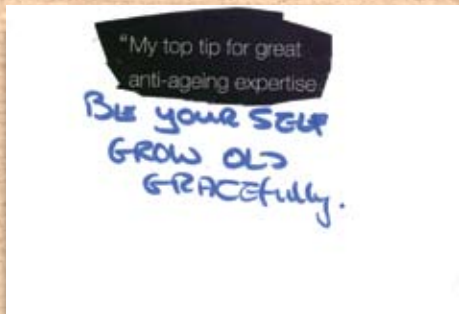




MY VERY FAV QUOTE  
IS FROM GINGER  
ROGERS, WHO SAID  
OF HER DANCING  
PARTNER,  
FRED ASTAIR  
(WHO ALWAYS GOT  
THE PRAISE FOR  
THEIR DANCING)  
"I DO EXACTLY THE  
SAME AS FRED -  
EXCEPT I DO IT  
BACKWARDS AND IN  
HIGH HEELS."



**POSITIVE BODY IMAGE IS A  
WOMAN WHO SHOULD BE  
TRUE TO HERSELF AND LOVE  
HER-SELF**



*Positive body image is  
being yourself and not  
letting anything bother  
you.*



THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING A WOMAN IS BEING ABLE TO LIVE, GIVE, THRIVE AND BE.  
THE WORST THING IS TRYING TO HAVE THE PERFECT IMAGE, TO FIT IN.  
MY MOTTO IS BE WHO YOU ARE, TRY EVERYTHING ONCE, DO YOUR BEST AND NEVER GIVE UP.

It's not what's on the  
outside that counts its  
what's on the inside.

Don't judge a book  
by its cover



so why  
Judge ME!!

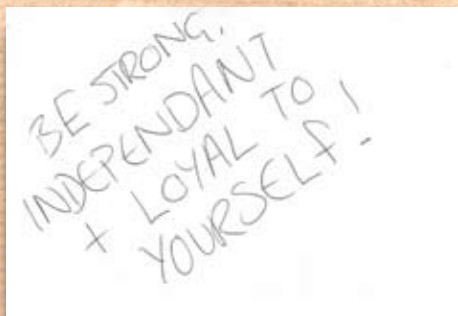
BE HAPPY



Why  
Change?  
?

Be Yourself...

"I'm beautiful on  
the inside, I'm beautiful  
on the outside, I am  
loveable, I am  
loved."

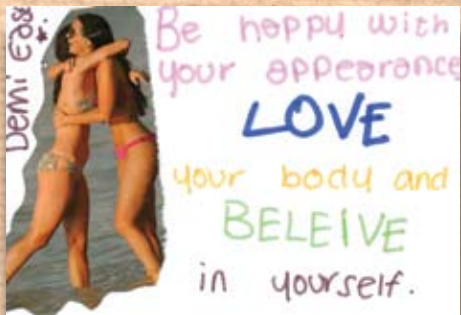


I don't dress nicely for you I do it for myself Women should be given the freedom to dress how they want and feel safe



**FOR THERE TO BE A  
GOVERNMENT THAT CARES  
ABOUT THEIR FUTURE  
(FEMALE) LEADERS**





Lauren Teale

"You shouldn't become size zero to fit in with all the models you see in magazines. Just be yourself and be happy with the way you are. As we are all beautiful in our own way!" ☺





So long as you are

proud of yourself than what

I am:

- Strong
- Independent
- Caring
- Friendly
- Clever
- Beautiful

- REAL



Don't  
judge  
me because  
I am a

**Woman**

DOES YOUR

IMAGE MATTER?

WOMEN WANT:  
INDENDANCE  
POSITIVITY  
EQUALITY

Young women need  
confidence

WOMEN WANT MORE WOMEN'S  
EVENTS, SO WE CAN CELEBRATE  
AND ACKNOWLEDGE ALL THE  
ACHIEVEMENTS WOMEN HAVE  
MADE THROUGHOUT THE YEARS

& DONT WANT:  
PRESSURE  
EXPLOITED  
NEGATIVITY

Girls

SHOCK DOGS OF THE WEEK



Body Beauty Queens

You don't need to WALK far to make an IMPACT



Why? MAYBE THAT'S BECAUSE YOU CAN'T

~~THE TAX LIST GET BRONZED AND THIS!~~

Whatever?



Life

Is

NOT

beauty

Glamour

it's your own choice