

Laura Bates And The Everyday Whining Project

By *Alexander Baron* - Oct 14, 2015



3
SHARES

One anti-feminist vlogger has classified rad-fems into three broad categories: the young liberal arts major, the professional victim, and the misandric land whale. The latter are dedicated man-haters who are overweight and every shade of ugly. The arts majors are invariably attractive young women who remains feminists only until they realise their worth; being young, attractive and good company, these women almost invariably find themselves attractive, well-heeled suitors, after which they have no need for feminism. Finally, there are the professional victims, incessant whiners like Anita Sarkeesian. Although they are usually attractive, charisma is more important. Which of the three is Laura Bates?



Laura Bates

As she is stunningly attractive, she is definitely not a land whale, but although she graduated from Cambridge with a degree in English, Laura is no mere liberal arts major, rather she straddles the fence, she is part liberal arts major and part professional victim, but without the streak of nastiness that most career feminists cultivate, intentionally or otherwise. Laura you see is a whiner of the first order; her strong points are mining facile statistics and worthless anecdotes. In 2012, she founded the *Everyday Sexism Project*, and last year published a book with **that title**. To date, this has been reviewed over a hundred times on Amazon, the overwhelming majority of its reviewers – including men – giving it five stars, which indicates either that it is a truly fabulous book or that there is mischief afoot. A third possibility is that the people who bought it are just dumb. Oh yes, statistics, on page 15 she tells us that in the UK, there are more than 85,000 rapes and 400,000 sexual assaults a year, and one woman in five will be the victim of a sexual offence. Laura calls these crime statistics, no they are not, not in the proper sense. In 2011-2012 (a twelve month period), **the authorities recorded** 14,767 offences of the rape of a female, and 1,274 offences of the rape of a male. Sexual assaults were 19,780 and 2,273 respectively. There were 5,778 cases of sexual activity with minors. The offences against males are almost certainly the abuse of boys and vulnerable young men by homosexuals – but **not Harvey Proctor!** The term sexual activity with minors can mean a 16 year old boy having sex with his 15 year old girlfriend, for example. Although technically illegal, the authorities in the UK and most parents take a pragmatic view of this sort of sexual activity. So where does Laura get her figures? They are extracted from the National Crime Survey, and should be taken with a grain of salt, if not a boulder.

Her *Everyday Sexism* website is more of the same, and an open invitation to women and girls (and mischief-makers) to publish their anecdotes about the horrors of everyday sexism. And what horrors they are, although they do appear to be vetted to some degree. Here are some recent examples (the quotes are verbatim):

Mary whines:

"It's kinda stupid, but my family bought a box of crisps recently. On the back of the packets, it describes them as 'Man crisps', and makes it clear that the company have a range of crisps that they label as such. When I got my laptop out to write a complaint to the company, my Dad confiscated my laptop and changed the WiFi password so I couldn't send the email on my phone. Apparently, sexism 'isn't a real problem' and I shouldn't be complaining about 'trivial things'."

Unlike Laura, Mary's Dad has a sense of proportion.

Erica whines:

"Today, whilst having breakfast with some male friends, they didn't try to include me in their conversations and kept talking over me. It felt like I didn't matter, and that male voices mattered more. I kept quiet while I am usually quite talkative."

Maybe you should choose some different friends, Erica, or maybe this was a conversation that was none of your business but they were too polite to tell you to but out.

Finally, we have Leela, who finds sexism in her doctor's surgery:

"Just noticed my local doctors surgery has lovely list of all the doctors with photo. Theres about 14 in total. However all the male doctors come first, followed by the females. All work only a couple of days a week.

Little shocked I showed my husband, who could not see what was wrong. He looked for a good two three minutes and had no idea..."

Which begs the question, how many *bona fide* ways are there to list doctors at their place of work? Male followed by female; female followed by male; alphabetical order; age or seniority; specialty...Would Leela have noticed if the lady doctors had been listed first, and does anyone care in any case?

Seriously, is this sort of nonsense even worth commenting on?

Last year in [an interview](#) with Lucy Kellaway for *FT Magazine*, Laura explained how she came to found her website:

"I had all these experiences of being groped on the bus, having a man follow me home, having a guy in a car slow down and say, 'You walk down here every Wednesday and Thursday at about 12, don't you?'" So she started to wonder: "Is it my fault? Is it something I'm wearing?"

No Laura, it's never the victim's fault, remember? Perhaps the guy in the car found her attractive and wanted to cultivate her acquaintance. Who knows why she was followed home? Perhaps this man lived nearby. The correct response to a man who gropes you on the bus is to scream. Watch all the white knights come running, but a girl with Laura's pedigree, personality and looks doesn't need to ride the bus for long, and indeed last year she married a man who is going places.

Her latest whine come rant appears in [The Gulf Today](#), wherein *sexism* in the classroom most stop, she says:

*"it is no exaggeration to describe girls' daily lives as a gauntlet of sexism and harassment. I regularly speak to girls in their early teens who are simply used to being called s**t or s**g, and describe being groped or harassed in the playground or on their journey to school as normal."*

Shocking, isn't it? Laura was born in 1986. Had she been born in 1956, she would doubtless have followed the advice in the contemporary hit song [Fire Brigade](#):

*“Cast your mind back ten years to the girl who’s next to me in school,
If I put my hand upon her leg, she’d hit me with a rule”.*

In those days, women knew their place, and men knew exactly what would they could expect if they forgot theirs.

This opinion article was written by an independent writer. The opinions and views expressed herein are those of the author and are not necessarily intended to reflect those of TheLatestNews.com

3
SHARES