



**Feminism with Dick and
Jane**
By Lindsay De Jaegher

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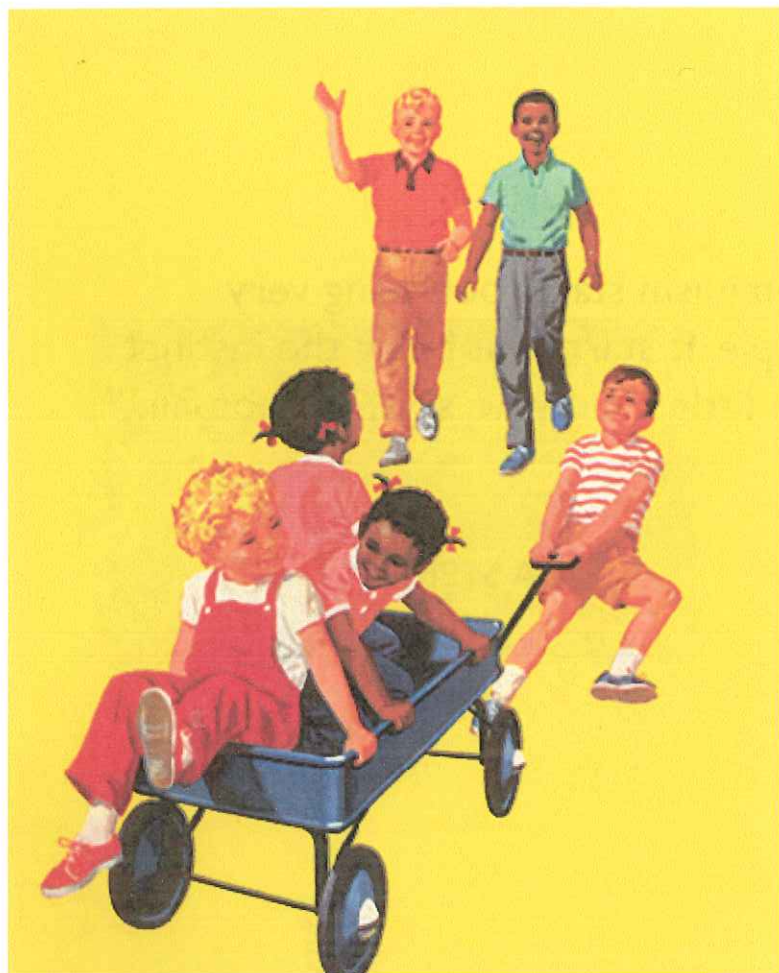
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“Feminism starts out being very simple. It starts out being the instinct of a little child who says, 'It's not fair.'”

-GLORIA STEINEM



No one is better than someone else because they look different or belong to a certain group.

Sometimes people are treated badly because they belong to one or many different groups that some people see as less valuable and this affects their lives and experiences in different ways.

We can't completely understand other people's points of view because they have had different experiences. We should listen to each other and care about other people's problems and what they want.

We must make sure everyone is treated equally and be proud of our differences.



Girls, we don't hurt boys or treat them badly just because they sometimes have and still do treat us badly or are unfair to us.

We have to find other ways to get boys to treat us nicely because we should not act badly just because someone else does.

Sally, that won't fix the problem!



Jane, you don't always need to
play the mother with her baby!
Dick, you don't always have to
play the father who goes off to
work!

Why don't you try switching
jobs and see how you like it?
Or you could both do some of
the same things.
You might have more fun
trying different things!



Mommy gets tired of taking care of the house on her own and working a job outside the house too! Sally is already learning to do the same. This doesn't seem very fair, does it Kitty?



Jane, it's normal and ok to be mad about how Dick and Mr. Jones here get treated better than you and treat you unfairly because they are boys and you are a girl.

Doesn't feeling angry about how unfair this is make you want to do something to change how things are?



We know that it's not ok to hurt each other in any way for any reason.

Big boys especially should be careful not to hurt big or little girls because they could hurt them very badly.

It is not nice or ok to laugh at a boy hurting a girl because it is not funny.

This is a serious thing.

Boys and girls should not use certain mean words to describe other girls.

Respect is important and if you don't use these mean words, maybe others won't either.

See how nice Dick, Jane and Sally play together?



Hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil?

You should all know better!

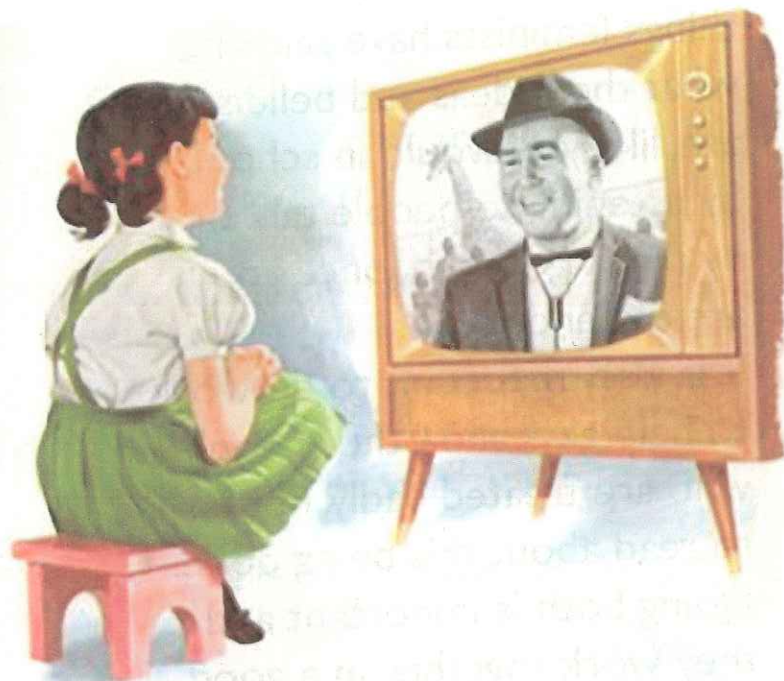
Just because girls can do a lot of things now that they didn't used to be able to do doesn't mean that other things don't need to be changed!

We need to realize that all kinds of girls and other groups of people are treated unfairly and all work together to change that!



It's important to learn about things feminists have said and what their ideas and beliefs are, like you would in school, by listening to people talk or by reading books (once you are old enough).

It is also important to do work to help girls and other people who are treated badly, not just to read about this being done. Doing both is important and they work together in a good way.



There are many ways to talk about feminism and to help people be treated equally. All these different ways, even if they are not perfect, can help us do good things.



I hope you have learned something about what feminism is, or at least what it means to me.

What does it mean to you?

Everyone has a different opinion, though their basic ideas are usually similar, and that's ok.

You might meet some people who say you should not be a feminist or that feminism is bad.

That's ok, they probably just don't really understand feminism or what it is about.

Don't worry about what they say.



Tell your friends about feminism!
Not just girls but boys too!
If we all come together by learning
about the good things feminism has
helped do and the good ideas the
movement has, maybe we can help
change even more things that need to
be changed!
Dick, Jane and Sally, tell your teachers
to teach their students about feminism
in school so that others can learn about
it before they hear all the mean and
untrue things other people say about it.

