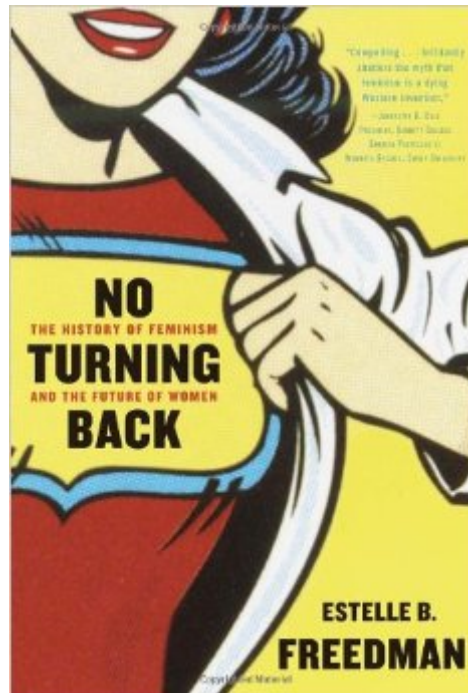


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No Turning Back: The History Of Feminism And The Future Of Women



Synopsis

“On the situations of women around the world today, this one book provides more illumination and insight than a dozen others combined. . . . Freedman’s survey is a triumph of global scope and informed precision.” —NANCY F. COTT Professor of History, Harvard University Repeatedly declared dead by the media, the women’s movement has never been as vibrant as it is today. Indeed as Stanford professor and award-winning author Estelle B. Freedman argues in her compelling book, feminism has reached a critical momentum from which there is no turning back. Freedman examines the historical forces that have fueled the feminist movement over the past two hundred years “and explores how women today are looking to feminism for new approaches to issues of work, family, sexuality, and creativity. Drawing examples from a variety of countries and cultures, from the past and the present, this inspiring narrative will be required reading for anyone who wishes to understand the role women play in the world. Searching in its analysis and global in its perspective, No Turning Back will stand as a defining text in one of the most important social movements of all time.

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Customer Reviews

I think this book would be a great present for any independent high school/college-aged woman in your life who is starting to wonder if "feminist" is a dirty word. If you’re unfamiliar with the history of the feminist movement in the U.S., or even what feminism means, this is a great book for you. Professor Freedman is an engaging writer who doesn’t get bogged down in academic gibberish, nor does she insult your intelligence. Not surprisingly, Freedman teaches an "Intro to Feminism" course

at Stanford, and therefore if you've taken such a class in the past 15 years, much of the material may seem quite familiar. Her book takes readers on a whirlwind tour of feminism in the United States. She makes an effort to not fall victim to the first wave feminist tendency of assuming that all women in the U.S. are upper middle class, heterosexual, and white, yet touches only briefly on international feminism and the future of women outside of the United States. While this is understandable, as the book would otherwise be 1000 pages long, perhaps a title clarifying that it is focused on the U.S. would be helpful.

Freedman has managed to write a history and a survey of global feminism that is at once accessible, activist and academic. The compact size and the colorful comic-inspired cover design of the trade paperback edition bely its serious scope. It is truly comprehensive, opening with a powerful argument for feminism (lingering on the term's ever-troubled, never-popular nature), proceeding through the history of various feminisms, marching on through topics as diverse as the impact of globalization on female laborers in the developing world to contrasting feminist opinions on the agency of sex workers. While the focus is primarily on the U.S., the global perspective does come through. She manages to tone down the usual prominence of European and Euro-American influences while elevating the profile and contributions of feminists throughout the world. For the global sections, examples are drawn as readily from China and West Africa as from the United States. Freedman raises the bar for creating a feminist narrative that is continually mindful of the influences of class, race and culture as well as gender concerns. I recommend this book for committed feminists, those lamenting the so-called 'death of feminism,' and for closet feminists who are bothered by the f-word.

I initially read this book a few years ago and enjoyed reading it thoroughly! This book is packed with plenty of information about the history of feminism and the future of women living around the world. This book discusses such topics as "gender and power", "gender and violence", "women's rights", "Reproduction: The Politics of Choice", the "economic gender gap", just to name a few of the topics explored and discussed by the author. I liked reading this book because I felt it was very well written and researched. "No Turning Back" provides the foundational knowledge for further exploration of feminism. I highly recommend reading this book, especially if you want to learn the basics of feminism!

Estelle Freedman's writing is coherent, concise and interesting. I found everything especially the

information about international feminist movements very exciting. I have recommended this book to everyone I know.

As a woman who swore she would never wear the label "feminist" - I have to say that I am not only willing but proud to call myself a feminist. While this may not be earth shattering or an intellectual history (as another review mentions), this is a great place to start or even expand upon one's understanding of feminism. This book spoke to every aspect of my life and experience as a woman. It helped continue my healing as a survivor of rape and domestic violence while opening new doors and new possibilities.

This book definitely is a must read for everyone interested in women's rights in our world - to grasp where that terrible discrimination had started from. Unfortunately sexism and misogyny are still with us today. As wonderfully put by another great book I've recently read "Beasts of Prey: The Hard Truth about Men", some men use their powers to cheat on women, trick, and manipulate them to gain their control in society and culture. Such men have not progressed from the state discussed by the "The Second Sex." Some men, like the sexist Donald Trump Crippled America: How to Make America Great Again, still believe that stereotyping women (like what he did with Megyn Kelly when he mentioned her menstruation in an interview) and denigrating them (like what he did with Hillary Clinton when he compared her with a barking dog in his ads) is the right way to go! Just because such manipulators have money and power in their hands, they strike hard to stop those beautiful, intelligent and influential women from gaining control on the same resources in society they assume to be their own!

This is truly a comprehensive, informative book. It teaches the beginners everything related to feminism in easy comprehensive language. It tackles all subjects related to feminism the history of various feminisms, antifeminism, post feminism, the impact of globalization on feminism and female laborers in the developing world. The book also tackles feminism in the U.S. the book also traces the influences of gender, class, race and culture and how they are interrelated. It is very helpful for beginner reseachers. It is worth buying and reading it.

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