

## \_WHAT IS THAT?

Antifeminism is a dehumanizing ideology. It aims to combat or reject feminist demands and positions in a general, active and often organized manner. This can happen as an individual (e.g. in internet discussions or seminars), in parties or other groups.

Source: Angelehnt an: Projekt Antifeminismus begegnen – Demokratie stärken

## \_WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT IT?

- Take a stand and speak out for a democratic, open society!
- Show solidarity with those under attack and support democratic comments!
- Question antifeminist arguments and demand sources and examples – this is how you expose fact-free comments!
- Bring positive visions into the discussion that emphasize the value of feminist goals for society as a whole – e.g. everyone should be able to live and love as they wish!

## \_HOW DO I IDENTIFY IT?

Antifeminist argumentation is used by various actors. It is directed against:

- A critical analysis of the gender hierarchy,
- feminist achievements & goals (such as self-determination, equal rights, combating sexism and LGBTIQ\* hostility),
- Measures that are intended to reach feminist goals.

The argumentation always pursues the goal of influencing or changing society.



<https://1a-red.eu/portfolio/miau>

## EXAMPLES:



**#Transpolitics harm women.** "Lia" Thomas is a biological man who is about to sue his way into the Olympics so that he can continue to compete against biological women as a swimmer in international elite sport.

*Anti-feminist arguments are often trans-hostile and refer to women's rights or the protection of (cis) women. The protection of one group is played off against that of another, thus concealing the actual problem, like patriarchal balance of power.*

Source: x.com / translated version

The "I regret becoming a mother" festival is currently being celebrated again in Germany with **#regrettingmotherhood**. The whole thing is often sold as a "taboo" topic, as if **badmouthing motherhood hasn't always been the background noise of every feminist debate over the past 100 years.** A call to finally grow up.

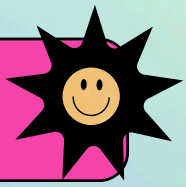
*One feminist achievement is a critical examination of motherhood. Antifeminists (intentionally) misinterpret this freedom as a restriction and dismiss any commitment to self-determined motherhood as an attempt to "abolish" the positive portrayal of motherhood.*

Source: x.com / translated version



*In anti-feminism, the assumption is popular that sex education in schools that includes gender diversity will "make children queer". The terms "hypersexualization" or "early sexualization" are used to turn education into a threat and stir up fear. This reflects the ideological stance that sexual / gender identity and sexual / romantic orientation only exist on a strictly binary scale: people can be male or female with the sex that is assigned at birth and people should be heterosexual. Any deviations from these "norms" should be punished. Gender diversity must not exist.*

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## TIPS AND POSSIBLE REACTIONS:

**#Transpolitics harm women.** "Lia" Thomas is a biological man who is about to sue his way into the Olympics so that he can continue to compete against biological women as a swimmer in international elite sport.

This comment will most likely not directly violate community guidelines and is not punishable by law. Nevertheless, it **discriminates against trans women and is antifeminist**, so it should not be left uncommented.

You can take a stand, for example:

- "There are still not enough studies to prove that trans women have an advantage in professional sports (after hormone therapy). In fact, many scientists rule out any clear advantages. Here you will find a summary of some studies and initial findings: [...]."
- "You misgender Lia Thomas and accuse her of pursuing immoral motives with her lawsuit. That is disrespectful and discriminatory."

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This comment does not contain any legally relevant statements and presumably does not violate the platform's community guidelines. However, it **spreads false facts about feminism and the hashtag referred to**.

You can therefore **use counter speech or ask questions**, e.g.:

- "I know many feminist movements that advocate self-determined and liberated motherhood. The hashtag aims to shed light on all facets of motherhood, but not to denigrate it per se. The aim is to present motherhood in all its aspects and without social taboos."
- "Why do you think motherhood is not part of feminism?"



This meme is **discriminatory towards the LGBTIQ\* community and promotes a recurring antifeminist narrative**. Here's what you can do about it:

- **Report or delete:** You can report the meme to the platform or send it to a reporting office, e.g. the Meldestelle Antifeminismus. If you are an admin, you can also delete the meme with reference to the netiquette.
- **Respond with sarcasm:** "School can really suck sometimes! But puke looks really nice in rainbow colors 🌈"
- **Counter with facts and name the anti-feminism:** "An antifeminist narrative is presented here in the form of a meme. That is: the fear of so-called 'early sexualization' or 'hypersexualization' at school. This is wrong, because diverse sex education provides the opposite. It offers young people a healthy, reflected approach to sex and sexuality as well as to identity and thus the chance to deal with both in the protected context of school. Inclusive sex-ed helps to combat discrimination against LGBTIQ+-youth and thus helps mental health. Research suggests sexual orientation may partly be caused by biological factors - while it definitely isn't caused by knowledge (and cannot be changed by treatment or therapy)."

Find more arguments against antifeminism here!

