

THE PATRIARCHY IS AN ATTACK ON HUMANITY

It is a known fact that we live in a patriarchy, but it is a less known fact that aside from natural causes, the most common cause of death in women is murder. Aside from natural causes, the most common cause of death for men is suicide. But what does this mean? Well, it is evident that there is a problem. Society has come to accept that women are murdered, and men don't get help. But again, what does it mean? The patriarchy is an attack on humanity.

Let's begin with the female side. By March 2020, 207 women were killed that year. In 10 years, 1425 women were killed, that's 1 woman killed every 3 days! 9 out of 10 were men and 57% of the victims knew the murderer. Ex-lovers, current lovers or just a male friend, regardless, we saw none of these cases in the news. Over 70% of these victims die in their own home, a place they should feel safe. But what does all this mean? The statistic shows that women are killed very often, in a place they should feel safe and by a person they trust.

This isn't an attack on men, but it is an attack on women. Through history, husbands could hit their wives and even though it is not accepted today, it continues. The lack of protection for women stems from the patriarchy being built to allow male counterparts to reach as far as killing woman and having little to no publicity on it. An example is Sarah Everard, a woman killed by a man, a police officer, someone who's job is to protect. The outrage that occurred drew attention to this very topic- the patriarchy is an attack on humanity.

Now let's view the male side. Three times more men commit suicide than women. Due to the expectations of society and 'masculine' men there is a stigma surrounding boys and men expressing 'weak' emotions. 36% of NHS therapy referrals are for men as a result of this toxic trait that defines men. And since our society doesn't view seeking help or expressing emotions as a desirable trait in men, it is less talked about and so men are less likely to see the symptoms of deteriorating mental health. The emotions can also lead to drug misuse, alcoholism and spontaneous moments of going missing. Under these effects, some men commit crimes die due to overdose. In 2017, 6000 suicides were recorded, 75% were men. The toxic masculine trait of a strong man having no weakness, which is apparently expressing emotion, has led to the patriarchy damaging male mental health.

So, what do all these statistics mean? They don't mean the patriarchy only benefits men, they don't mean women have it worse than men. They don't mean we need to enhance protection on women or encourage men to open up. They mean we need to fix the problem of the patriarchy so no gender is put above another, so no more women die, so no more men die, so we can live without the weight of an outdated toxic society constantly pushing us down.

Protect women, protect men, protect humanity by preventing the continuing reign of the patriarchy. Thank you for listening.

By Natalya Elden