

Threader

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Dr. Jane Clare Jones

@janeclarejones

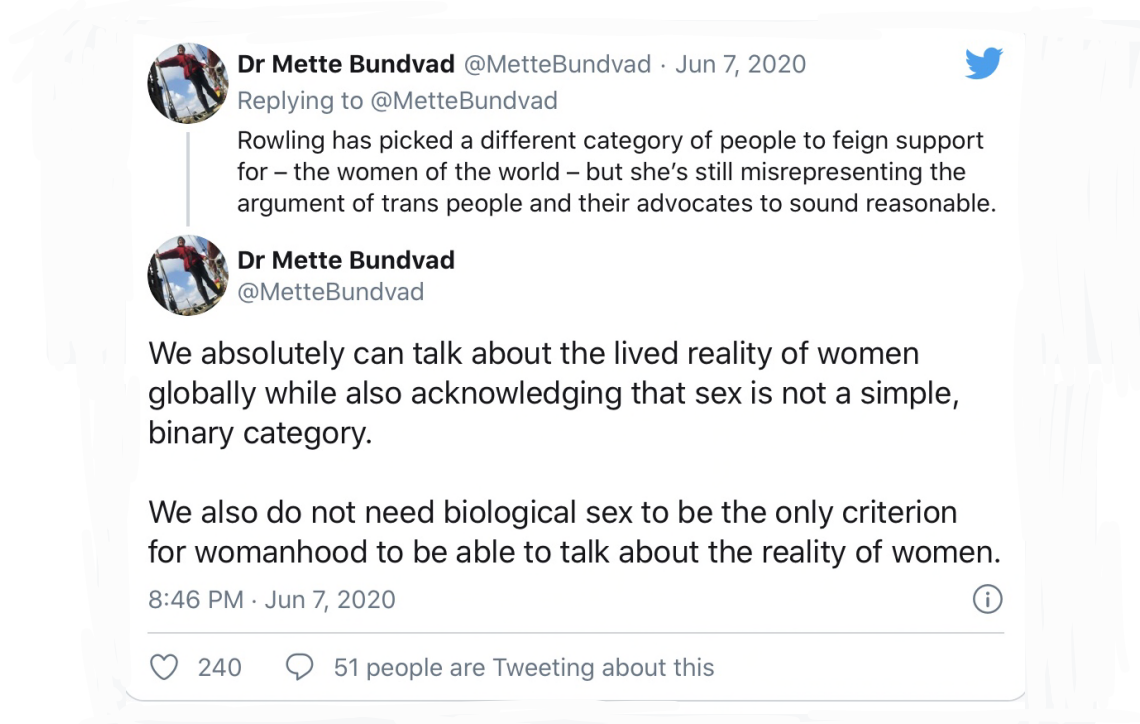
Writer. Philosopher. Feminist. Princeologist. Daughter of the witches they forgot to burn. #NotYourSupportHuman

Jun. 08, 2020 · 1 min read



Questions:


1. Do female people exist?
2. Have female people been historically oppressed by male people?
3. Has the historic oppression of female people got anything to do with them being female, i.e. with their reproductive capacities?
4. As a historically oppressed class, do



female people have the right to name themselves in a way that picks out the axis of their oppression, i.e. as a reproductive sex class?

5. What the fuck is womanhood?
6. Have female people been historically oppressed b/c of some amorphous

immaterial



Dr Mette Bundvad @MetteBundvad · Jun 7, 2020

Replying to @MetteBundvad

We already know that we are able to talk about the lived reality of women who have entirely different experiences of womanhood while still acknowledging that they are all women.

This tweet is helpful:



McKinley Valentine @mckinleaf

This tweet is directed at a very specific audience: cis women who don't want to be transphobic but secretly feel like there's a grain of truth to the idea that trans women don't know what it's like to grow up in a female body and be mistreated because of it. I hope this helps.

Part of the discomfort TERFs feel is that they had distinct experiences of oppression as a child in a body that was seen as female and treated as female, that trans women don't share. Those experiences feel important to them and they don't want them erased or seen as irrelevant.

I can understand that feeling of discomfort. But: black women have distinct experiences of oppression as a child in a body that was seen as black & female and treated as black & female, that white women don't share. Women with disability have distinct experiences

different type of female experience, just like the experience of cis black girls is different type of female experience to the childhood of cis white girls.

You think rich cis white girls with strict conservative religious parents have the same experience of growing up in a female-perceived body to rich cis white girls with progressive parents?

All women have really different experiences of childhood and gender and oppression – someone having a different childhood experience to you because of a different societal response

property called 'womanhood' that apparently anyone can exhibit?

7. What is the collective name for all the female people who think 'womanhood' is a load of patriarchal shit?

8. Why does the fact that axes of oppression intersect to inflect people's



Dr Mette Bundvad @MetteBundvad

A woman of colour in America has a different experience of womanhood from a white woman.

A poor woman in Copenhagen with no education and no job has a different experience of womanhood from me, even though we are both women living in the same city.

8:47 PM · Jun 7, 2020

 189

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experience of those axes differently justify erasing the axis?

9. Does the fact that Barack Obama's experience of being Black in America is

probably rather different from George Floyds mean that race is not a salient axis of analysis?

10. Why then analogously should we accept

the erasure of sex as an axis of oppression and the replacement of female people as a sex class with a 'womanhoody essencey' gender class that includes both males and females.

11. But anyways, you are not erasing the concept of sex. My bad. So we can



can carry on using an analysis of sex based oppression originally grounded on the appropriation of female reproductive capacities which produces a power relation between male people and female people as a class right?

Right?

Cool.

PPS - If you think the outpouring of patronising bullying misogynist bile towards a woman for asserting the reality of female people and sex-based oppression is anything other than evidence of the remaining salience of sex as a category of analysis you are on fucking glue.

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