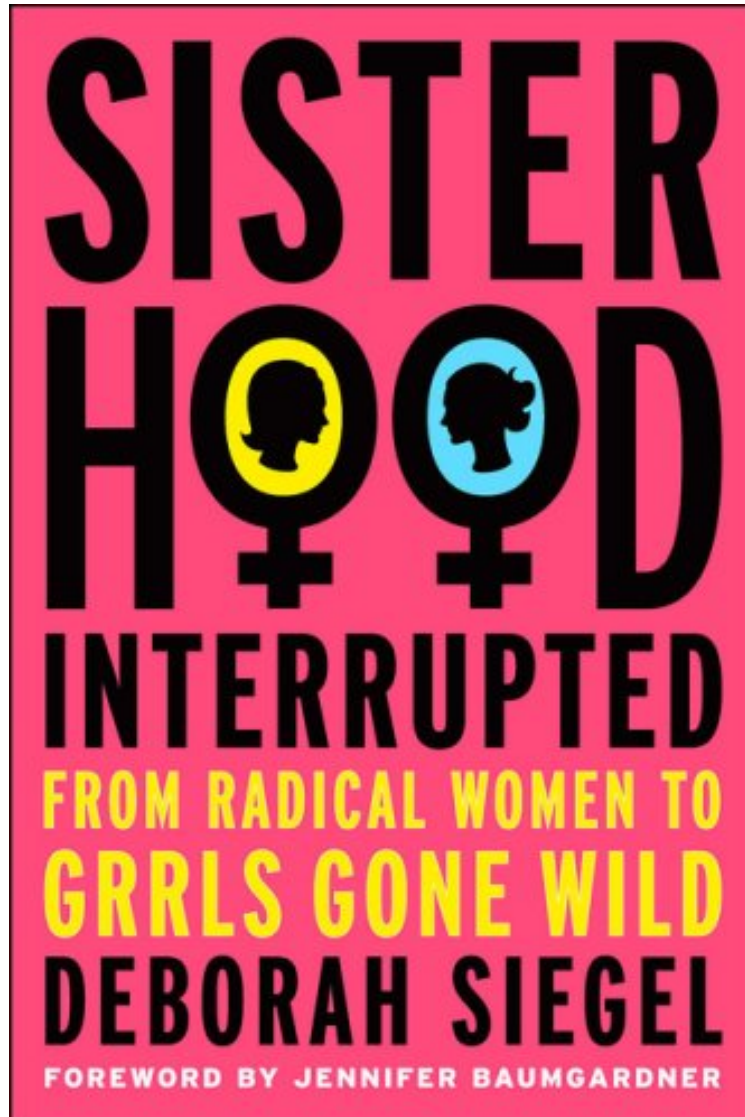


(Download ebook) Sisterhood, Interrupted: From Radical Women to Grrls Gone Wild

Sisterhood, Interrupted: From Radical Women to Grrls Gone Wild

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From Palgrave Macmillan : Sisterhood, Interrupted: From Radical Women to Grrls Gone Wild before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sisterhood, Interrupted: From Radical Women to Grrls Gone Wild:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The debates rage onBy Dana RubinI read this book 8 years after it was published to fill in some gaps in my knowledge of past feminist battles, which it admirably did. What I couldn't anticipate is that it would provide such a powerful framework for looking at recent history and current events.How astonishing to reflect on the many feminist leaders who've emerged and the milestones that have unfolded since this book came out - most of us had never even heard of Sheryl Sandberg or Anne-Marie Slaughter, Amy Schumer,

Shonda Rhimes or Rhonda Rousey. And the debates rage on. At a moment when it seems we might actually be about to elect our first female US president, feminists are arguing over whether it's justified or insulting to vote for Hillary Clinton BECAUSE she's a woman, and whether Hillary's brand of feminism attracts or repels millennial women. And so we find ourselves asking yet again: Is gender progress marching forward, or stalled? Clearly we need Deborah Siegel to provide us with an update and some much-needed perspective in her wise, knowing, and insightful way. 13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. A Powerful, Detailed Insight Into Feminism Past and Present By Rachel Kramer Bussel With a readable, engaging style, Siegel takes feminist history, the good, the bad, and the vicious, and tells us what happened and why we should care. Her very careful, nuanced, play-by-play account of the early years and struggles of the second wave feminist movement, as well as documentation of the third wave's origins and modern incarnations, is vital in an era when women are constantly pitted against each other, whether it's young vs. old, stay at home moms vs. working moms, feminists vs. non-feminists, etc. Siegel doesn't shy away from the truly bitter divides that cropped up in the second wave (and, one could probably argue, were passed down from the first wave and its predecessors, though Siegel limits herself to the 1950's and beyond), and in doing so brings needed attention to the causes women were and are fighting for. Her point is not that younger feminists should simply be more educated, or older feminists more tolerating, but that infighting is as old as feminism and is, perhaps, good for it in that it helps the movement grow, stretch, change, and evolve. Siegel also tackles why feminism is still important, even if "feminism" is becoming increasingly hard to define, for feminists and non-feminists. It's this very erasure and confusion over the word, its history, and its motives that Siegel unpacks so well. She doesn't necessarily want readers to identify with either the "mothers" or "daughters" here, but to gain a clearer picture of who is in each group and what their main gripes with each other are (as well as areas where they've bonded and interacted). The idea that "conflict has long been feminism's lifeblood," along with the need for the more radical and more mainstream strands of a social movement, are ideas that Siegel presents with scholarly yet accessible detail that revisits some of the high (and low) points of second wave feminism, and also explores the various strands of anti-feminism that have sprung up since then. Some of her examples seem reaching; when she writes, "At the dawn of the new millennium, it was no longer simply a battle between feminists but between older and younger women more broadly," going on to cite *The Devil Wears Prada*, *Chore Whore*, and *The Second Assistant*, I'm not really sure how or where this fits in since these aren't books about feminism and if the idea is that women shouldn't criticize their female bosses or portray them as equally as heinous as male bosses, that seems like a reverse kind of chauvinism. (The example of *Citizen Girl* hits much closer to home.) To my reading, this is part of a larger conflation of pop culture and "feminism," whereby anything that happened on, say, *Sex and the City*, is *The Truth For Women*. While I think art and fiction and television do reflect reality, they are not exact replicas and should not be taken as such. This leads me to my larger question, which is whether a book like this is speaking to or only trying to reach self-described feminists or a larger audience, the "I'm not a feminist but..." person or (gasp!) even men. I think a lot of what Siegel discusses re: the third wave is in fact about women who don't necessarily need or want labels (including, at times, the feminist one) and how they do or don't relate to "feminism," and though I would definitely call myself a feminist, I often feel that the label is often used as some sort of arbitrary litmus test flung about at random rather than anything concrete. It seems like anyone who publicly calls herself a feminist can, in an instant, be dismissed by other self-identified feminists with some form of "You think you're a feminist, but you're not." Which is precisely as old an argument as the ones Siegel describes, bringing us, again full circle. Siegel's impassioned argument in favor of a "truce" between the mothers and daughters of feminism is worth reading even if you think you know the whole story. Even if (or especially if) you grew up reading *Sisterhood is Powerful*. Siegel delineates the various branches of feminism (then and now) and by getting down to the nitty gritty (accusations of feminists being sellouts or, conversely, too radical), she makes it okay to discuss these issues reasonably, rather than simply vociferously. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. building a tenuous bridge By Elevate Difference As if we needed more proof of the very existence of feminism - and how it has been interpreted through the mainstream culture - Deborah Seigel has handed us a history lesson wrapped in a hot pink love letter. In her nonfiction book, *Sisterhood Interrupted*, Seigel imparts that not only has feminism had its mis-steps, it's fallen clear away from its foundation. But maybe that foundation needs a shake. Don't misunderstand me: Seigel's words aren't an attack on the "f-word." Rather, she's building that tenuous bridge between the young and seemingly unmotivated, feminists and their burnt-out mothers. As a 26-year-old, self-identified woman in America, I can look around and see where the American feminist movement has failed my generation more than I can see its successes, at times. And that's where Seigel makes her best historical point. I, with all my privilege, have the power of choice based on the historical outcomes of the movement. And I have feminists - past and present - to thank for that choice. *Sisterhood Interrupted* is a quick and exciting read; Seigel exposes knowledge on where (and why) the movement split, between the more highly profiled Betty Freidan and Gloria Steinem, as well as the justification for retiring some words, like, "sisterhood." "But now I realize that sisterhood is phony. Even when there's consensus, there isn't," says Amy Richards, co-author of *Manifest*, in a conversation with Seigel. "I think younger women have a better sense that it is a big faade." This 'faade' is not a backlash, or an attempt to dis-empower feminism, it's just a reality of the movement. We're not sisters based on gender alone or simply based on feminist history. I believe

opening the discussion to a few things that have been deemed `sacred' isn't such a terrible thing at all.

Contrary to clichs about the end of feminism, Deborah Siegel argues that younger women are not abandoning the movement but reinventing it. After forty years, is feminism today a culture, or a cause? A movement for personal empowerment, or broad-scale social change? Have women achieved equality, or do we still have a long way to go?