

WHY REDEFINING FEMININITY BENEFITS US ALL

AN HONEST REVIEW OF THE BARBIE MOVIE
FROM A FOURTH-WAVE FEMINIST

KAAVYA G - 9JP

The 'Barbie' movie has made over \$1.18 billion dollars. It was satisfying finding out that around 61,762,547 Barbies could be bought with that money. But what was even more refreshing was the amount of fun people seemed to be having, embracing their femininity by wearing pink in celebration of 'Barbie', and the messages it carried.

One of these was to extend to wider society the importance of showing young people that movements that bring about change don't have to encourage constant rebellion against stereotypes.

In understanding this, many more will feel encouraged to join these communities, and the safety and inclusivity their diversity provides. In feminism, this is that we no longer have to force pressure on women, with ideas that they must sacrifice their femininity to be a feminist, but can honour it, and incorporate it in their success.

'Barbie' was monumental in the globalisation of this idea, that women have been attempting to perpetuate for generations. Hence, it was daunting to see so many on social media dismissing it as 'insufferably woke'.



Yet, 'Barbie' carried one of the most vital messages since the birth of the gender equality movement- femininity, and the people who embrace it, need to cease being synonymous with weakness. A woman should be able to wear a hot pink suit, with ribbons in her hair, while still being regarded as highly qualified in her field. In other words, one should not need to dress like a man to dress 'professionally'.

 **visionary T**
@awhtee · Follow



did anyone watch Barbie and suddenly want to break up w their boyfriend or was that just me? 🤔

As for real-life change inspired by 'Barbie', many women have left their partners upon realising the harm their patriarchal values caused.



omg_pwnies · 28 days ago

This is like the third post about the Barbie movie breaking up a couple.

It's because it brings out the worst misogynist/anti-feminist tendencies in some people.

Good riddance to those men that couldn't handle it.

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Hence, liberating them from the impossible standards that America Ferrera's character described so accurately as, "having to always be extraordinary, but somehow [always] doing it wrong."

'Barbie' helped to reshape so many minds shaped by patriarchal beliefs by complementing incredibly developed ideas with pop culture to make the film hilariously honest. While not everyone loved it like I did, it certainly got them talking, which is the first step to actualising change that moves society towards a more equal, more pink future.