

NJ Women's Voices Interview

Conducted on October 8, 2009

1. **Name:** Nikki

Age: 28

Education level: Some college

Current profession: Pet Stylist

Marital status: Separated – currently in a relationship

Race/Ethnicity: Mix

Hometown/where you were born: Camden

Political affiliation: Sort of Democrat, but mostly third party

Religion: Spiritual person

Relationship to me (the interviewer): Friend and coworker

2. **In what format did the interview take place?**

Face-to-face

3. **Do you have children? (How many? What ages/genders?)**

One 3 year old daughter

4. **What do you think about full-time stay-at-home mothers? What about full-time-stay-at-home fathers? If you have or plan to have children, what influenced influences or will influence your decision about how to manage childcare.**

Good for them. If that's the arranged agreement between mother and father good for them, but if the father is just a bum he should get a job. Played it by ear, just sort of happens, having children brings unexpected roller coasters at every turn.

5. **For you, what defines a woman? Is there anyone you can think of that embodies these qualities?**

Boobs and a vagina? I suppose someone that is nurturing, caring, powerful, understanding. My mom.

6. **What do you believe is the most challenging part about being a woman in today's society? What personal struggles have you faced as a woman?**

Being underestimated. Being pregnant. Everyone has struggles both men and women.

7. **Do you think we still live in a society where women are sexually exploited by or oppressed by men? Why or why not? (What examples/evidence would you point to support your ideas?)**

Women are exploited but it's because 99% of women who want to. The porn industry, women working in the porn industry want to be there and there is a lot of money to be made and the work is easy. Not in the United States are women oppressed by men. I think women have equal opportunities because that's what women fault for during the liberal movement with female activist. I think women who are in the position of being oppressed put themselves in that position and are not doing anything to get out of it. Sexual harassed women in the work place and abused women have a place to seek help.

8. Have you personally experienced sexism or know of anyone who has? If you have, briefly describe the situation and its outcome.

Definitely! Yesterday I was dropping my daughter off at the babysitters and accidentally locked my keys in the car. The babysitter's father in-law said, "Leave it to a woman to lock her keys in the car while it's running". Then proceeded to say how God made woman from man's rib and that is why men are faster, stronger and better in general. I then argued with him that God's gender has yet to be proved. My boyfriend is sexist I general, he thinks men are better than women with everything. I told him to try carrying a baby for 9 months! To be honest I am a little sexist as well. I just think some things men just do better. For example, if I wanted something fixed I would go to a man. On the other had a women would be much better as a doctor – especially a gynecologist because she has knowledge with experience.

9. Do you believe there is still a double-standard when it comes to men's and women's sexual behaviors? For example, is society still more tolerant of men who have sex with multiple partners? Are there behaviors that women can exhibit that men cannot?

Absolutely, men can have a larger number of sexual partners the better he is, but if a women does the same she is a whore! It's okay for a man to act sexual but not for a women, she would be considered a slut or overly sexual. Men want a double standard, they want a prim and proper women in public but a porno freak in the bedroom. This does not happen if a women is highly sexual in the bedroom she is going to be flirty and open minded in public. Gay men, when they act like a women, feminine that is looked down upon. I think lesbians are more accepted than gay men because men like the idea of two women together.

10. It's often assumed that women are more emotional than men. Do you agree or disagree with that common assumption? Do you think a female president would be able to handle tough situations as well as a male president?

As far as the percentage goes, I have seen men break down and be extremely emotional. Overall women are more emotional than women. Pause...It depends on the women. I think Hilary Clinton could have done it. This should also include men. It's hard in general to find the right person to be president, so yeah a woman could do it just as well as a man.

11. What do you know about feminism? Do you consider yourself a feminist? Why or why not? If you wouldn't call yourself a feminist, is there another term that better describes you?

Feminism is refers to favoring women over men. I do not consider myself a feminist. I feel a women's responsibility to keep her man satisfied for example. If you want a happy man you have to please your man and keep his interest at home. Although, I don't think women should do all the cooking and cleaning, men should help. Old fashion would better describe me, in so many ways but not everything. Old fashion and open minded, would describe me, they contradict each other, but that's how I am.