1. What is your:

Name? Elaina

Age? 51

Education Level? BA

Current Profession? Speech Therapist

Marital status? Divorced

Race/Ethnicity? Caucasian

Hometown/where you were born? Newark NJ

Political affiliation? Independent

Religion? Roman Catholic

Relationship to me? Family friend

1. In what format did this interview take place?

Email

1. Do you have children?

Yes, 2. 18 and 14, girl and boy.

1. What do you think about full-time stay-at-home mothers? What about full-time stay-at-home fathers? If you have or pan to have children, what influenced, influences or will influence your decision about how to manage child care?

I have the upmost respect for full-time stay at home mother, and believe that they are able to stay at home, it’s a plus for the child. I think stay-at-home fathers should be commended. I stayed at home for the first 2 years of my daughter’s life, and 31/2 of my son’s. Family and friends along with part time daycare is what I opted for when I returned to work.

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

A woman is a giver, and a nurturer. She is strong, smart and courageous. The person that embodies these qualities is your mom, Annie McCaffery.

1. What do you believe is the most challenging part about being a woman in today’s society? What personal struggles have you aced as a woman?

The most challenging part is juggling a family and a career. A woman often spreads herself too thin, not wanting to shortchange anyone. My own personal struggles have been the ability to hold everything together for those around me.

1. Do you think we still live in a society where women are sexually exploited by or oppressed by men? Why or why not?

I don’t believe that women are as exploited or oppressed by men, but society still has a bit more to go. I feel women need to work harder to prove that they can do the same job, and be given the same opportunity and salary. Statistics show that women are still paid less.

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

Yes, something as simple as speaking with a service representative on the phone. It’s apparent that if they hear a woman’s voice, they tend not to treat the conversation as seriously as they would if it were a man calling.

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

Yes I do believe there always will be a double-standard. I feel that society is more tolerant of men having multiple partners. However, I believe that women can exhibit behaviors, such as crying in public, that men cannot.

1. 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?

I believe that women show their emotion much more freely. That does not mean to say that they are not strong and I have no doubt a female president would be able to handle tough situations as well, if not better!

1. 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?

I think the word feminism has a negative connotation. I do not consider myself a feminist because when I think of feminism, I think radical or extreme. Another term that would better describe me, would be independent.