

1 What is your:

Name: Amanda Maurer

Age: 23

Education Level: Associates in Liberal Arts

Current Profession: Retail

Marital Status: Single

Race/ Ethnicity: Caucasian

Hometown: Egg Harbor Township

Political Affiliation: Republican

Religion: Catholic

Relationship to me: Friend

Do you have children? No

2. 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 know that feminism is women striving for equality in all areas, mostly in areas such as, the workplace and in the home. I would not consider myself a feminist because even though I do believe in equality for women, I feel that I do not know enough about feminism to call myself one. I don't know of another word that would better describe my standings of feminism.

4) What do you think of the media's portrayal of the ideal female body? Does it impact your own perception of your body? How or why not?

I think that the media is very hard on women. The media almost never shows the average women. The ideal body that they show is almost impossible for the average women to achieve. I feel that the ideal body that is being portrayed is unnatural. This has always impacted my perception of my own body, especially in my teenage years when everything and anything can influence you.

5) As a child were you ever told you couldn't do something simply because you were a girl? What was the situation? Were you ever told you couldn't be what you wanted to be when you grew up because you were a girl? If yes, who told you that and why? If no, who encouraged you to be whatever you wanted to be?

I was never told I could not do something because I was a girl. As a young girl I always wanted to be in the military like my father. My parents thought this was great. And even though as I got older I realized that the military was not for me, my parents always encouraged me to do what I thought would be best for myself.

6) As a woman do you feel pressured to be successful in the fields of family/home life, business/work life, income *and* appearance? What defines a successful woman in your mind? What factors influence your opinion of what defines a successful woman? Has your understanding of success changed over the years?

I think that every woman feels the pressure to be successful in the home, work, and appearance, including myself. A successful woman in my mind is a woman that achieves everything she has always wanted in her life. I have never wanted to be a doctor or a lawyer but as long as I achieve my set goals of becoming a teacher I feel that I am a successful woman. My understanding of success has not changed over the years. It does not matter to me that teachers are not the highest paying job. As long as I have a respectable and stable job I am successful.

7) As an adult do you ever feel that you are treated differently due to your gender? How so? Do you like being treated differently because you are a woman or would you prefer it didn't happen? Does it depend on the situation? Please explain.

As an adult I do not feel that I am treated differently due to my gender. Things like a man holding the door for me is just a nice gesture. I do not take this as an insult. In my eyes it does depend on the situation. I feel that I am very independent; however there are situations that I do need a male to do certain things for me.

8) How would you define gender equality? Would you say gender equality is important to you? Why or why not?

Gender equality to me is mostly women getting paid equally for their work as a man would, as well as, equality in the home such as, taking care of the children and the household chores. Gender equality in these places are very important to me because I think that I should get paid the same as a man would for doing the same job. And I also think that the household chores should be equally done throughout.

9) 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 do not feel that women are necessarily more emotional than men. However, I do think that women show their emotions a lot more than men do. Men tend to hold in their feelings whereas, women like to share them. I most definitely do feel that a female would be able to handle the tough situations as a president. However, we have yet to come across a woman that our country, as a whole, feels is worthy enough to fulfill this position.