

# Feminists have achieved many great things

- The right to Vote
- Political Agency
- Economic Security



# But one thing feminists haven't achieved....

- Equality in and support of care-giving



# Why?

- We have sought sex, not gender equality.
- Masculine traits and practices continue to serve as the norm even as men and women cross traditional divides.



# For most..

- Care giving is an **individual** responsibility.



# Unless....

- One can economically command care services....



# But care should also have a **social element...**

- That is more equitably distributed



# Americans rightly value

- Independence
- Liberty
- Freedom



# But these values obscure...

- Interdependence
- Bodily frailty
- The persistent need to give and receive care

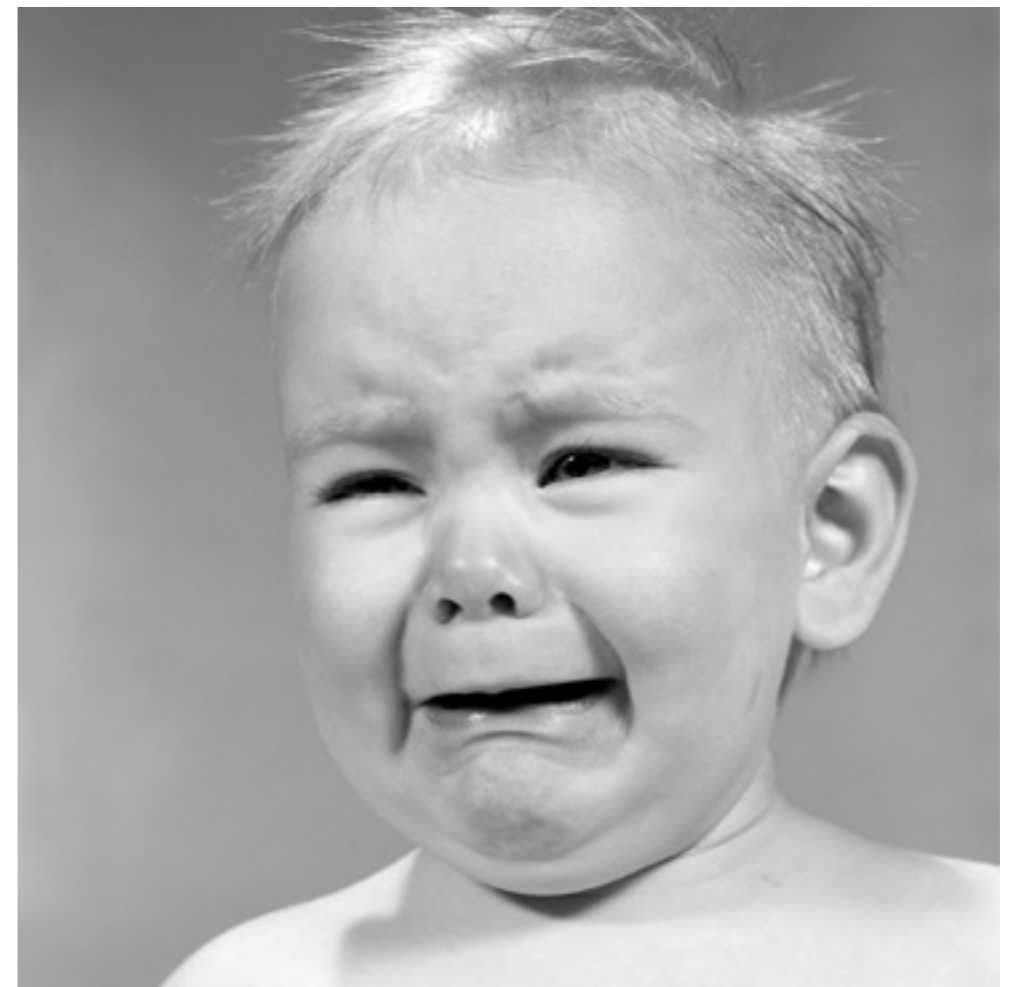


Like mothers,  
care is often in the  
background



Of 39 developed countries,  
the **U.S.A.** is 1 of 3 that...

- **Provides no paid maternity leave**



The U.S.A. is nearly ALONE in

- **Providing no paid family medical or paternal leave**



# The **U.S.**A. stands nearly **ALONE**

- **In providing no secure health care provision**



**This can be very STRESSFUL  
on mothers, fathers,  
children, and families!**



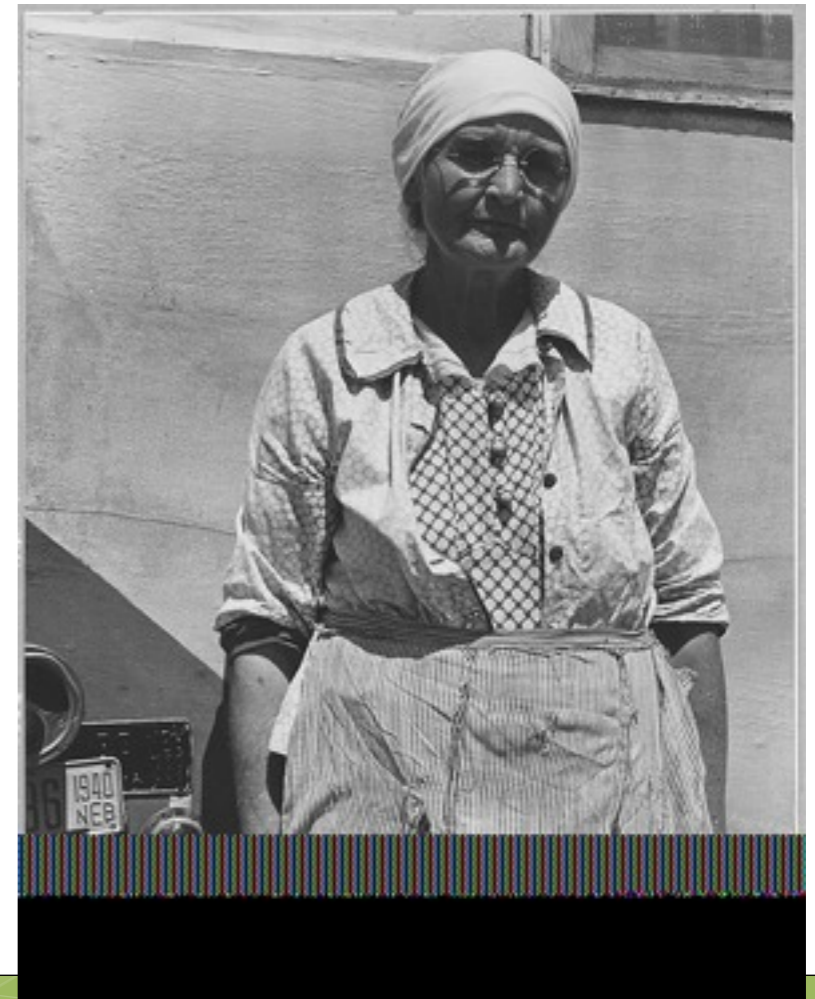
# Care is an economic issue!

- **The “Wage Gap” between men and women is largely a “Mommy Gap”.**



# Gender, Poverty & Age

- **Motherhood is the single most predictor of poverty in old age for women.**



# Care is a political Issue

**Fatherhood is typically seen as a political asset**



# Motherhood is a political risk



- Queen Elizabeth, Janet Reno, Jane Swift and Mama Grizzlies



# What vision for the future?

- Recognizing care as a basic practice of human maintenance
- Creating equality between gender AND sex



# Sharing care work—men, business and government

- René Veaux - **“The feminist movement has helped open minds and kitchens to the notion that men can be at home on the range.”**
- This *shifts*, but does not *alleviate* the costs of care.



# Practical Change?

- Making the distribution and costs of care equitable, and reasonable
- More consistent and reasonable schedules
- A fully integrated politic

