

‘WOMEN-ONLY’ AND SELF-EMANCIPATION

Our charter’s introduction claims it clearly : our work is constantly the target of gendered questions, pressures and discriminations that don’t experience our male colleagues.

Our purpose as a collective is to compose a group of speech and decision where female comics creators can speak freely about how they are discriminated for being born in a woman’s body or identifying as a woman, and where they can search together ways to improve their condition. It’s as simple as that.

Subsists this legend that the improvement of human rights, of women, ethnic rights, sexual liberation etc, that they’re all due to social progress. When actually [History has been written differently](#). For fighting for their own rights, minority groups gained some social improvements, that the majority accepts afterwards as a good thing, as normal, but... while [continuing to depreciate](#) these minority groups. Feminist struggles are a good example of it.

Our collective follows on from these struggles since no one else than us can decide how to improve our own condition. And it would be only delusion to expect social progress to happen by itself.

The ‘women-only’ group we chose, where we don’t share our power of decision with our male peers, led some of them to misunderstanding, vexation even immediate rejection. This phenomenon brings us back to the topic of privileges. White privilege, heterosexual privilege, male privilege. Our male co-workers have the privilege to not see their artistic work constantly perceived and explained through the prism of their sex or gender. We say it with no aggressive ton, we only wish they would become fully aware of this because it’s one less problem in their life, an advantage based only on luck. Such as most of us will never experience the difficulty to come out to our colleagues, to have a name sounding «foreigner» to put on an apartment request. Some awareness about [our privileges](#) would help a lot to reduce ordinary discriminations.

We didn’t choose to gather as a ‘women-only’ group because we don’t want men. We chose to gather that way to make sure that people suffering directly from misogyny in their work would speak FREELY all together. We won’t come back on our decision because being a ‘women-only’ group is a vital necessity to that freedom, to the ability for women to express themselves.

That being said, we ask in our charter that everyone understands their moral responsibility in front of sexism. This means that all of us can help to fight it. Therefore, if you agree with our charter, if you wish to follow our news, to participate to our activities, to raise awareness, to join public talks... well if you really want to help us to fight sexism, please give us your contact! We’ll soon be releasing a newsletter that will inform you about our activities. We don’t pretend to make our comics bubble better all by ourselves, your strength and your enthusiasm will be essential to it! Subscribe to our newsletter on the right column of our blog! We’ll try to keep it up in English.

Poorly translated from French for www.bdegalite.org!
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