

Journal Entry Week 5.

In this week's class, we spoke about Gender and Sexism and briefly reviewed the checklist on our white privilege and seminars that we completed last week. That topic really hits home for me because of how my parents lived through their childhood. I try and be as appreciative as I can and remain humble. I feel privileged to be in this country so everything that I have is a privilege. The shoes on my feet are a privilege. I thank God every day of my life. This topic can also intertwine with gender and sexism and the privileges men and women have in today's society. My favorite part of this class is that we break up into small groups. It is a more intimate setting and I like hearing other student's perspectives. In our small groups, we discussed how we knew that we were girls. We started to talk about how our parents told us to behave around men and the responsibilities that were given to us from a young age. Gender roles seem to always be there but society is slowly starting to change how we perceive men and women. I spoke about how women are starting to be more independent. Women don't have to be a stay at home wife anymore. There are more opportunities and chances for women to work in the career field they want. Because of the oppression women have faced for many years in the United States, we are now more determined to make sure that we have the same opportunities that men do. One of my classmates in the small groups mentioned that this may take a toll on the women who still want to be a stay at home wife. Some women find fulfillment in that and it's okay. She also said that women become more pressured to do more things outside of the home. I am glad she brought that perspective because I didn't stop to think that some women still want it to be that way. My mother for example loves to be at home. She found fulfillment in taking care of me and my siblings while also taking care of the home. Times are changing with women speaking up about certain injustices we face and I love it. I really liked the discussion we had about how the way a

woman dresses. Sometimes it can feel dangerous to be a woman. We still have to protect ourselves, but the more this gets exposed the more people are aware. I think that overall we are in a good season for change. This class really helps me keep an open mind and see different perspectives.