

## Outline for course Men v. the Law

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As Sir William Blackstone said in 1765, “So great a favorite is the female sex of the laws.”

Theme: Since the industrial revolution (1760-1830), common law countries such as the U.S., England and Australia have established legal systems that discriminate against men largely to their detriment while discriminating against females mainly to their benefit.

### Week 1

#### Lecture

1. Similarities of U.S. and Australian common law legal systems
2. *Stare decisis* and the power it gives judges to rule in accordance with their personal beliefs rather than the law.
3. Three men’s rights cases in which the judges ruled in accordance with their Feminist and political correctionalist ideologies.

#### Assignment 1:

Familiarize yourself with Australia’s Sex Discrimination Act of 1984 and how to file a complaint under the Act.

Then come up with an example where you or someone you know was treated differently than their opposite sex and draft up a sample complaint of around 250 words or more.

### Week 2

#### Lecture

1. Some of the history of British and U.S. laws that gave females preferential treatment and how some of those laws compare to today’s.
  - a. Employment
  - b. Crime
  - c. Private relations
  - d. Financial support for females
  - e. Property
  - f. Divorce
  - g. Illegitimate children
  - h. Seduction

#### Assignment 2:

Read the *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, by William Blackstone, Book 1, Chapter 15, Of Husband And Wife, 1765. It's on the Internet

Research and list the 25 most dangerous occupations in Australia, the percentage of men in each, the death rates for each and why you think those occupations have so many male employees—250 words.

Or

Find a story or stories of an Australian man who spent time in prison for rape but was later exonerated, summarize the story or stories—250 words.

Or

Find a story or stories about a divorce father who deserved custody of his children, but a court awarded custody to the mother who then harmed the children. Summarize in 250 words.

### Week 3

#### Lecture

1. Criminal sentencing of females compared to males
2. Female specific defenses that allow them to murder males with little or no punishment.
3. The last remaining course of action for men to fight for their rights—civil disobedience.

#### Assignment 3:

Read Howard Zinn's *Disobedience and Democracy—Nine Fallacies on Law and Order*.

In 725 words, do one of the following:

Find an example of one of the female defenses used in Australia, summarize it and comment on how it could be prevented,

Or

Find a new female only defense and do the same

Or

Write up a civil disobedience action that will bring the attention of the public and government to discrimination against men, include why you think such an action would have the required effect.