

"WOMEN, GENDER AND POLITICS: GENDER GENDER EQUALITY"

"LADIES DIARY OF CHANGE" Gordana Čomić



STEREOTYPES (PREJUDICES, BEING BIAS)

- Women don't like, don't know, don't need, don't "feel" comfortable, don't have any use of - <u>The</u> <u>Politics</u>
- Women don't want other women in politics
- Women know that politics will make them "less" feminine
- Women are not "made" for politics, not capable to cope with it
- Women can hardly manage politics and family business
- There is, always, at least one bad example for a woman in politics (for a man, there are so many, but unspoken)



Well, I have a breaking news for all of you:

STEREOTYPES ARE TRUE



SOCIAL BEHAVIOR

- NO ONE CAN ban, erase or forbid stereotypes that people do have, through which people think, which people adopt in the culture they are raised
- BUT, EVERYONE CAN ban & forbid behavior based on prejudice, by the law, criminal or law of any kind
- BUT, EVERYONE CAN educate, campaign, teach, show, learn how to (as slowly as it goes) decrease the power of "stereotype thinking"



ORIGIN OF STEREOTYPE

- Easy and inevitable to handle, think and use
- Product of social model
- Consequence of collective memory
- Common way among humans to "negatively define someone else, so that we can look better"
- "Verum factum" truth is what we made the truth to be (G.Vico)
- Perception is believing, so it is the truth, as well, no matter how far from facts



Wise people say that usually people "think in the box" they put themselves in

N'T THINK IN THE BOX, DON'T THINK IDE THE BOX THINK LIKE THERE IS



PERSONAL - POLITICAL - PHYSICAL

- What is political is also very personal, someone out there make decisions that shape your personal life for good, bad and worse
- Political is political it is work, like any other work with rules, knowledge and skills, should be demystified
- What is political is also very physical and depends on the number of people involved in decision making process, sort of people involved and access to all kind of people



MAKE IT LOUD AND CLEAR

- Quotas fight to adopt, struggle to implement, stubborn to improve, strong will to survive all the obstacles
- Political parties "old habits die hard", ideas & quotas within the party, support for women, decreasing hypocrisy
- Allies everyone is welcome, from NGO`s and trade unions to media and experts, from influential people to who ever can be "an ally made"
- What is good for women in politics, should be good for men as well



POWER & POLITICS

- Power can never be "shared", only controlled, taken away, decreased by the law, "banned", redefined, given new shape by the law
- Women don't want to share power, women want to share responsibilities
- Changing the shape of politics is inevitable with women in, not out, changing priorities, changing approach to common interest, "access matters"





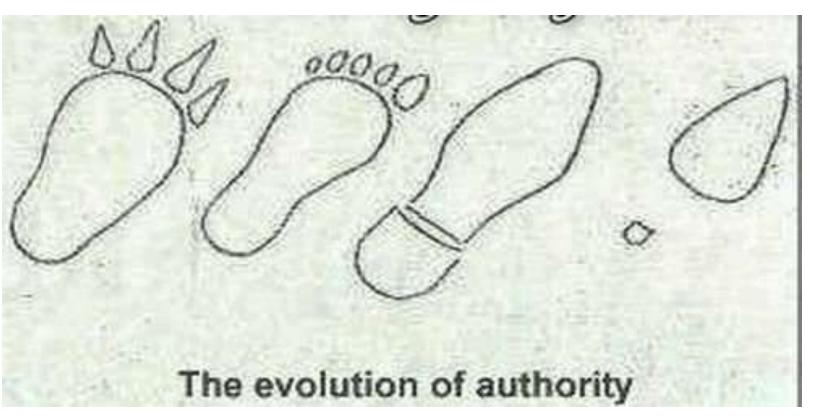
VISIBILITY

1. When you are a woman, you have to make yourself visible, by yourself and by strategies you make for visibility of other women

2. Never forget to leave a smile, so everybody can track you, visible or not ©

NOVOSADSKA NOVINARSKA SKOLA

It takes time to change the perception, to implement the law, to educate women, to give them strength, to encourage them, to build up self-esteem, to let them discover that **they are born for politics**, because politics should be the job of taking care of others, and that is what women are taught to do all their life, they can do it for the people they don't know, not just for the people they know and love and take care of



STRATEGIES "LIKE THERE IS NO BOX"

- Learn the rules, use the rules, change the rules (politics is a cruel arena, sometimes, where rules are changed during the game, catch that change, you can do it)
- Quote other women, spread the good news about great women around you
- It is not about how it used to be in the past, it is all about how it will be in the future, it is a "battle" for next generation
- Cooperation is invincible, everybody is an ally



I AM NOT **UPSIDE** DOWN, IT ONLY LOOKS LIKE I AM © Thank you!