

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE HUMAN MALE: A WHIMSICAL(?) SCENARIO

Phase I. EMANCIPATION OF THE HUMAN FEMALE

Stage 1. Social imposition of monogamy by most men cooperating to protect themselves against the few who could be successfully polygynous and in the process disrupt the unity of society and increase the risk that some other society would over-run them and take over *all* the women.

Stage 2. Establishment of the vote for females, promoted and agreed to by males who believed that by so doing they would benefit personally: by getting their wives to vote their way, by getting the votes of the women, or by being seen as part of the magnanimous faction.

Stage 3. Control of conception by females as a result of technology (e.g., the pill), again the result of laboratory work by men who (a) were furthering their own careers and (b) were not interested in curtailing male (i.e., their own) ability to produce live, healthy, active sperm in large numbers that just might induce a pregnancy now and then (i.e., male contraceptives were less interesting to them).

Stage 4. Achievement of more nearly equal opportunities for males and females, as a result of political activities by feminists, encouraged and aided by males who believed that they would gain by "going with the tide," by helping their daughter and sisters, or by giving the appearance of being truly just, sincere, non-macho types.

Stage 5. Increase in female-female activities as a result of women discovering the joys of symmetry in their life partnerships and realizing that they no longer have to put up with that macho crap.

Phase II. ELIMINATION OF THE NECESSITY FOR MALES

Stage 6. Reproduction by the combining of two eggs, or by parthenogenesis, ironically made possible largely through the laboratory efforts of men interested in furthering their own careers by making marvelous technological advances.

Phase III. DISAPPEARANCE OF MALES

Stage 7. Increases in the proportions of females in society, both as a result of the new female-only kinds of reproduction (parthenogenesis and two-egg zygotes) and because women increasingly use amniocentesis to determine the sex of zygotes produced by artificial insemination and destroy the males. And two-egg zygotes retain recombination and parental symmetry!

Stage 8. After being retained for a while in small numbers as curiosities, males disappear. Society is all-female. World peace is finally achieved (briefly).

Note 1: *Stage 1* appeared several thousand years ago; *Stage 2*, about half a century ago; *Stage 3*, about 25 years ago; *Stage 4*, about half of that; etc. We are currently on the brink of *Stage 7*. (All of this after males had won the ancient battle to see who had to invest in the egg and take care of the kids. If males had only realized that the costs of sexuality disappear with equal parental care between the sexes and continued the trend. It just shows what selfishness will get you in the end.)

Note 2: Efforts to create two-egg zygotes have so far failed, suggesting to the experimenters that some kind

of male "factors" are missing. Presumably these factors would have to be in the cytoplasm of the sperm, since nothing in the genome is missing but the Y chromosome, which is also missing from all female (XX) zygotes. The way out of the dilemma, until this little problem is solved, is simply to freeze a few gallons of sperm, from which to provide the cytoplasmic factors necessary to produce the next several thousand years of exclusively female human populations. We can be sure plenty of men will volunteer for the donations, one way or another, and if the women haven't figured out how to replace the male factors by that time, a few Y-bearing sperm can be thawed to create the replacements for the depleted supply of male factors. If worst comes to worst, X-bearing sperm can be used until the problem is solved.