



WEDNESDAY CENTRAL

Hard Truths 1: Gender

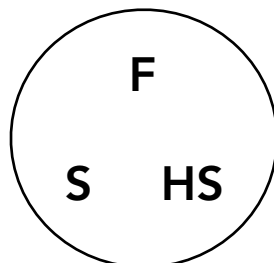
1) Why do we need to think about this?

- A changing worldview in our culture
- A changing worldview in the church

2) Equal, but different

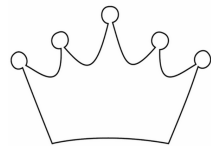
- The order within the Trinity

(1 Corinthians 11:3)



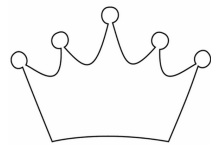
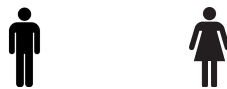
- The order of Creation

(Genesis 2:4-25)



- The order after the Fall

(Genesis 3:1-19)



- The order redeemed in Christ

- ▶ 'Born of a woman'

(Luke 1:26-56)

- ▶ Women are co-heirs

(Galatians 3:26-29)

- ▶ Women are co-workers

(Acts 2:17-18)

3) Implications for the family

- In marriage *(Ephesians 5:22-33)*

- In parenting *(Ephesians 6:1-4)*

- In dating?

4) Implications for the church family

- Women must engage in ministry
 - ▶ As evangelists *(Acts 18:18-28)*

 - ▶ As deacons *(Romans 16:1-5)*

 - ▶ As women's and children's workers *(Titus 2:3-5)*

• Men must take *initiative* and *responsibility* in ministry

▶ As prayers



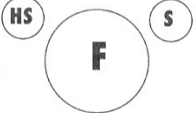
(1 Timothy 2:8)

▶ As teachers

(1 Timothy 2:11-15)

▶ As protectors

(1 Timothy 5:8)

	THE EFFEMINATE LEFT	THE EGALITARIAN LEFT	THE COMPLEMENTARIAN MIDDLE	THE DOMINEERING RIGHT	THE VIOLENT RIGHT
	No differences 'All is one'	Egalitarian removing or denying many differences between men and women	Equality and differences in unity emphasising both equality and differ- ences between men and women	Male dominance over emphasising the differ- ences between men & Women	No equality 'Might makes Right'
GOD	God= creation God as mother <i>Sophia</i> Worship New Age worship	 Mutual submission in the Trinity	 Father, Son and Holy Spirit = value, different roles	 Arianism (Son and Holy Spirit not fully God)	God as one person, not a trinity, not three persons, harsh, unlov- ing warrior God (allah)
MAN/WOMAN	emasculatation of men de-feminisation of women	No gender-based role differences in marriage (no 'mars-venus' dif- ferences)	Husband, wife, equal value, different roles	Men are better than women. Excessive competitiveness to show women as inferior	Men as brutes Women as objects De-humanisation of women
MARRIAGE	Same-sex 'marriages' approved	'Mutual submission' Often: husband as 'wimp' ; wife as 'usurper'	Husband: loving humble leadership Wife: intelligent, joyful submission to husband	Husband harsh, selfish, dictator Wife as 'doormat'	Polygamy, harems female infanticide
CHILDREN	Abortion supported by women who reject feminine roles	Children raised with too little disci- pline, little respect for authority	Children loved, cared for, valued Children raised with discipline and love	Children raised with harsh disci- pline, little love or compassion	Abortion supported by men who reject responsibility for family
FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES	No family—just 'society'	All responsibilities shared equal- ly between husband and wife, or divided according to gifts and interests	Husband: responsible to lead, provide, protect Wife: responsible to help husband by manag- ing household and nurturing children	Wives forbidden to have own job outside the home, or to vote or own property, etc.	Men have all power women and children are to serve them
SEX	Homosexuality/Lesbianism Violent opposition to God's plan for heterosexuality	Men become un-masculine, unat- tractive to women. Women become un-feminine, unattractive to men	Monogamous, equally fulfilling intercourse as deepest expression of a great mystery: equal- ity and differences in unity	Pornography lust adultery	Violence against women rape
NATURAL DESIRES	Temptation: unlimited same-sex sexual activity	Ambivalence toward sex. Moving 'contrary to nature' (Rom 1:26)	Delight in God's plan for sexual expression restrained by bonds of lifelong marriage Natural desires fulfilled	Excessive attention to sex moving in exaggeration and dis- tortion of nature	Violent opposition to God's plan for sex as only within marriage
RELIGION	Feminised Religion in churches Pantheism	No governing or teaching roles in church reserved for men	Some governing and teaching roles in church reserved for men	All ministry is done by men; women's gifts squelched;	Militant forms of religion, advanced by violence
AUTHORITY	Hatred of authority		Authority exercised within boundaries		Abuse of authority
SPORTS	No competition 'everybody wins'	Anti-competition	Competition with fairness, rules winners honoured, losers respected	Excessive competition losers humiliated	Violent harm to opponents gladiators fight to death World Wide Wrestling
CRIME	No respect for authority, rampant crime, esp. by frustrated angry men	Criminal seen as victim to be helped, not punished; punishment long delayed	Punishment is speedy, fair, aims at justice plus restoration of criminal	Repressive governments little freedom debtors prisons	Excessive punishment, dehu- manisation of criminals (e.g. amputation). Little crime no freedom
PROPERTY	No private property; all possessions equalised	No one is allowed to be very rich; large scale dependence on welfare state and government	Laws protect private property and care for poor; more work and skill earns more wealth; = opportunity for all	Women cannot own property	Slavery, dehumanisation of the poor and weak; all property in the hands of a few
EDUCATION	All-male schools prohibited by law. Prohibitions against educat- ing boys and girls separately	Systematic pressure to make boys and girls do equally well in all subjects.	Boys and girls both educated, but different preferences, abilities and sense of calling respected.	Boys given preferential treatment in schools	Girls not allowed to be educated.