

Women

without men

IT'S A GIRL!!!



Illustrations and story by Frederikke Benn

I was walking down the street the other day, sipping a coffee I just bought at the coffee shop, thinking about how the world would look, if there were no men. Would women wear make-up? Or would they wear high heels? And what would happen to some of the things we expect men to help us with, if they suddenly weren't here anymore?

In a time with a lot of focus on gender equality, gender priorities, equality and women's empowerment, discrimination, sex and feminism, this zine is supposed to be a fun input in that discussion, shedding light on a few differences between women and men, and how some of them are outdated, excessive, true or maybe just quite important.



It is the week before period week. The whole city has their menstrual cycles synchronized. This week everything is normal, but we all know what is coming.

This happens every month.

Starting around next Wednesday, we will not be taking any serious decisions.

Judges doesn't even have to work during period week.

Neither does politicians.



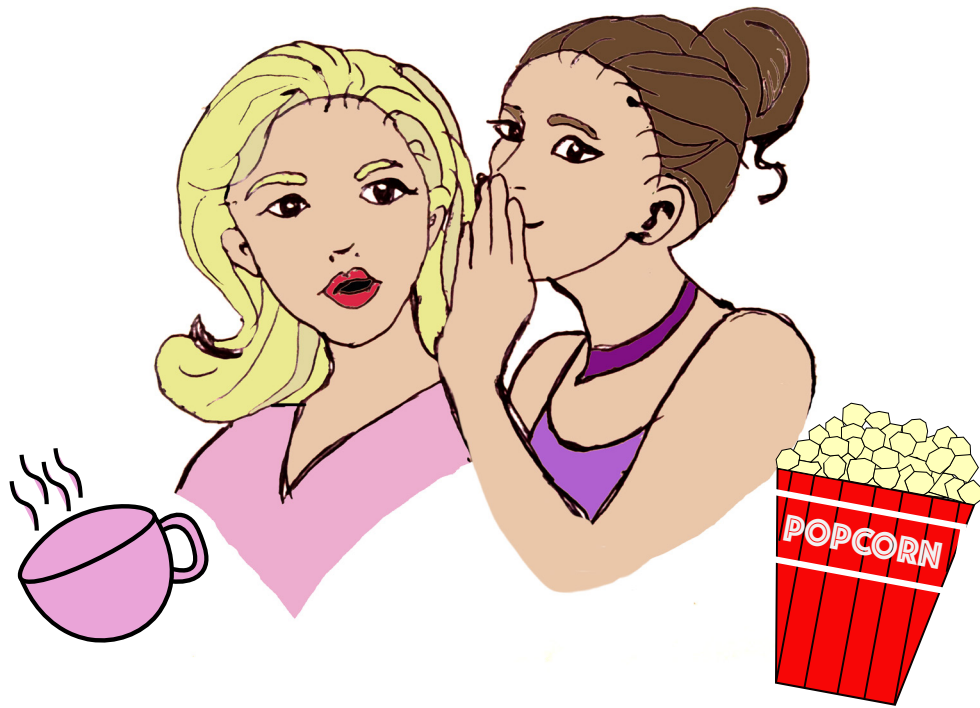
When we all have PMS, which is also almost synchronized, everyone is allowed two days off work. As it is impossible to synchronize the PMS completely, you can choose the days yourself.

Now, you might think - don't these women work at all?

Oh yes, we do.

The rest of the time, when we don't have the flow nor PMS, we work full time. Everyday.

Multitasking and all.



When we are not at work, and we're feeling fine, we meet up with our friends and family at the stadium.

It has become our new hang-out place.

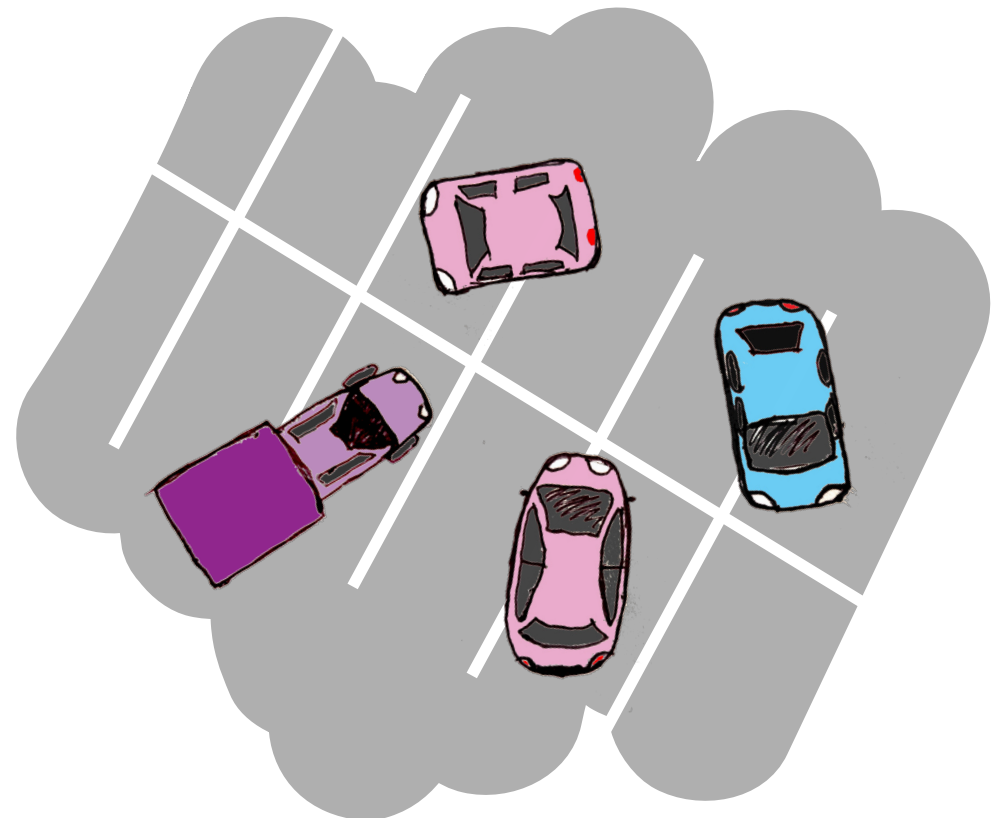
It's where you have fun quality time with everyone you have dear. It's where Lisa tells you all the drama that's going on between Sarah and Olivia.

It's where you eat popcorn and drink sodas.

All while watching the game, with one eye only.

When we drive our cars, whether it is on our way to the stadium, work or just anywhere actually, there are no "bad drivers" anymore. There is only one kind of driver now. The semi-hysterical, panic struck driver, who is afraid to drive more than 10 KM/Hour less than the speed limit. And don't even get me started on the parking.

The city has actually decided to build more parking spaces now, as almost every car is taking up what used to be two separate parking spaces.

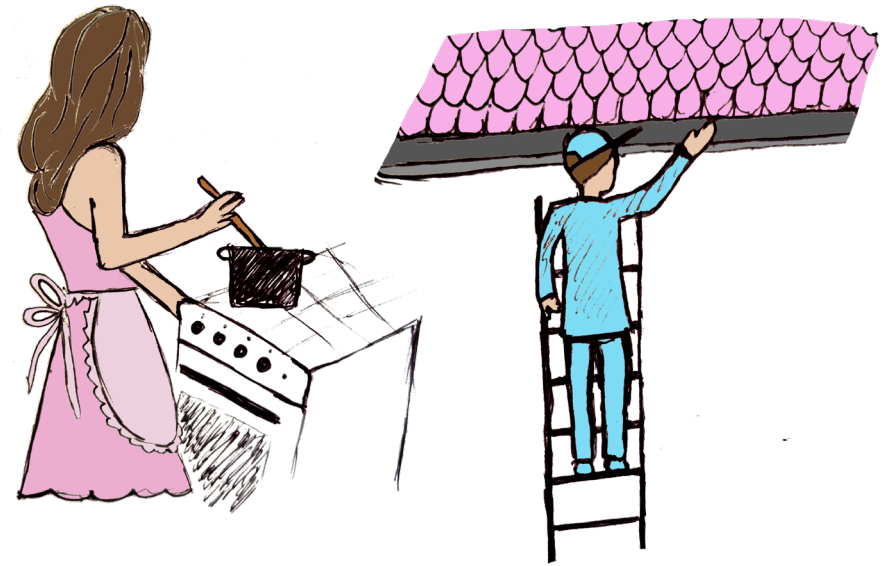
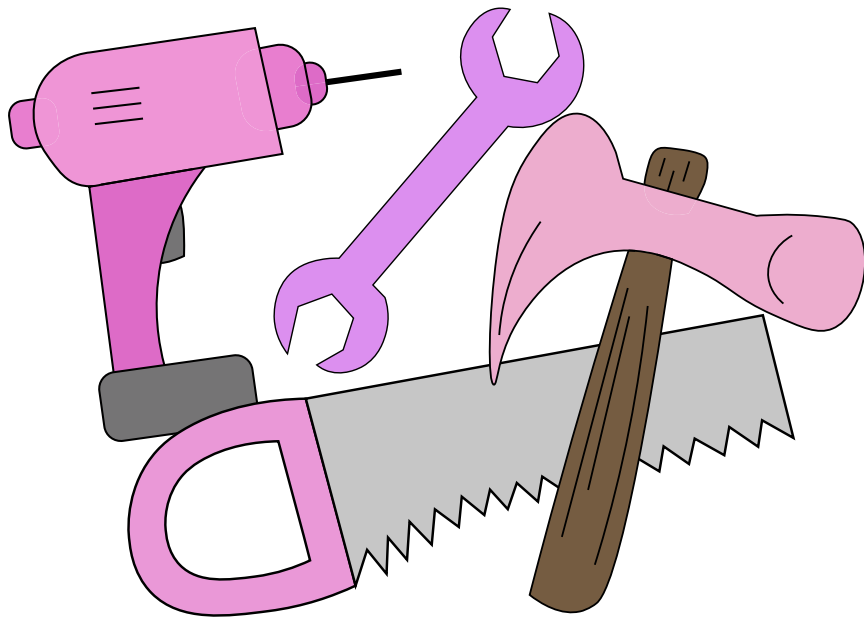


There's also a bunch of other things that has had the need to be replaced and/or re-produced.

Like tools.

I've never given it any thought before, but all tools are made for really big hands. That's why it has always been so tricky to use them. So now, all the old products have been taken off the market and new ones has been launched. They are all in appropriate, normal sizes, in pretty colors and easy to use.

So, we're all handy-people now.



I can think of an endless number of things that women used to think they couldn't do.

There used to be so many gender-determined things, and a lot of the things we do today were definitely not considered "female". The tools and the jobs that come with them is one thing, but there used to be a clear distinction between jobs done at home. They were gender-determined, like;

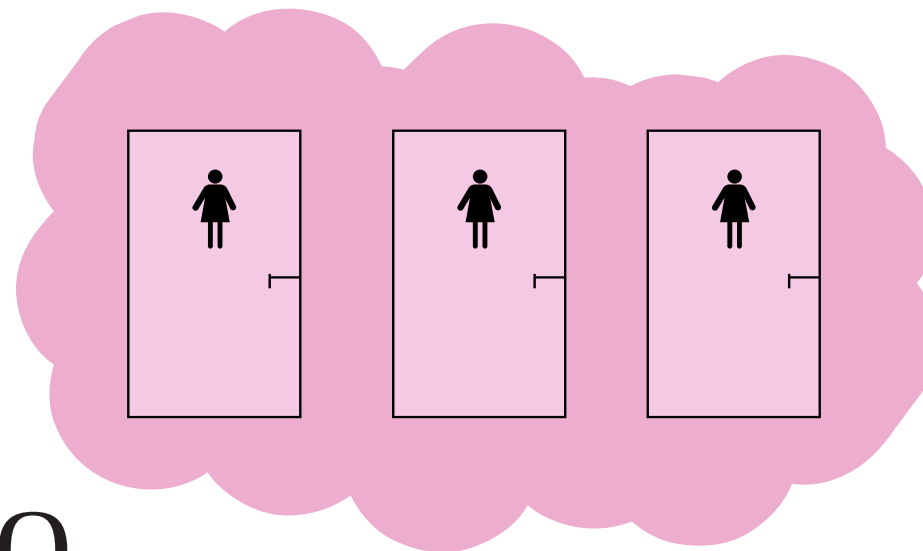
Cleaning, laundry, breakfast, lunch, dinner, kids.

Mowing the lawn, refueling the car, anything to do with the car actually, fixing the rain gutters on the roof.

I know, that you know, who used to do those things.

There are some things that takes a lot longer now though. Like when you meet someone on the street, on your way to the bakery, and they're all "Heeeeeeeey!!!! How are you? It's been forever" and you're trapped! The trip to the bakery is suddenly going to last an hour.

Or when you are trying on clothes in the store and nobody is there to tell you it looks good and that you should go for it! Now it's more like everyone in the store will go "Oh wow, that looks amazing! You should try this one on too, and this and this and this!", and all hell breaks loose.



One of the best things though, is actually, that there's never, ever a line at the restroom anymore!

Because there are way more restrooms around now. And on top of that, no one is peeing on the streets. Except for the cats and dogs obviously. But theirs doesn't smell.

So, there's no urine smell now, when you're walking through the tunnel, on your way back from dinner at Ann's house, or at the train station when you are waiting for the train, on your way to the beach.

It is definitely a whole new world, this world without men.

THE END

