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Dear Sirs,

This is my formal submission regarding mandatory reporting of the gender pay gap. This is unnecessary because the gender pay gap does not exist. It is not so much a myth as an outright lie that is promoted tirelessly by the Fawcett Society and similar so-called feminist organisations. There are many reasons why women - as a whole - earn/are paid - less than men - as a whole- in the UK.

The 1970 act made it an offence to pay women less FOR THE SAME WORK. That remains the case. If women were indeed paid less for the same work in the private sector, employers would employ women rather than men. Therefore there are other reasons than discrimination. Here are a few.

Almost all dangerous and especially dangerous manual jobs are performed by men. Very few women work on building sites, and even fewer want to.

Engineering, sewer work, refuse collecting are all male professions.

Women have babies, men do not. If a woman wants to raise a family she will need to take some time out of her career; most want to.

Many women work in part-time reasonably low paid jobs. At one time these would have been housewives earning pin money. Married women working so should really be counted as part of a couple for income purposes because it is still considered the duty of a man to support his family including his wife.

Almost all the really high earners are men, from rock stars to sports people to entrepreneurs. It is common knowledge that male football players are paid obscenely high money while women's football is a very poor cousin. Whose fault is this? If more people - women included - supported the sport, it would be better paid.

Although many women run their own businesses, the really big companies of today - old and new - were started by men, including Apple, Facebook, Google, Microsoft and Kentucky Fried Chicken. How do you propose to alter this, ban men from starting successful companies? Compelling women to?

The women who make the most noise about the non-existent gender pay gap are not those in low paid jobs but those who have been university educated, including in worthless non-subjects like gender studies. These women are already much better off than most men, but they still want special privileges and special treatment. Most of them don't really care about the working poor or those without livelihoods, be they women or men.

Pandering to this feminist nonsense will impose extra costs on industry; a quota system may also lead to the most talented people being set to one side.

A Baron