Our talk about gender inequality and Feminism seemed enjoyable and fruitful. Our very first question got many people talking rather fast, a good variety of students chimed into the discussion and had a lot of good things to say. I figured the strong feelings people may have toward Feminism and how the media portrays gender would bring up some strong reactions. Because of so many hands being raised to talk it made it hard to keep track of who wanted to speak next.

One of the main things I loved was how some students played devil’s advocate and tried to challenge Feminism from different viewpoints. For example, Feminism claims that it supports the rights of both genders – but is legislation being passed for both men and women? Maybe it is favoring women? Is this okay or should legislation be more leveled out? Or should the goals of Feminism be better portrayed or even changed? I love hearing different viewpoints as I feel more educated and rounded as an individual by hearing a story from as many angles as possible.

An interesting idea I had after the discussion was that Feminism talks seems to talk primarily about gender being more binary-like. But how does Feminism or gender inequality play out in the transgender community? Perhaps Feminism is favoring the more “female/feminine” side of the gender spectrum. It’s interesting how many topics that have been brought up in class mix together. Gender inequality could even mix into body politics in how we have different standards for different genders.

Overall the discussion seemed very smooth and relaxed. I was worried about the amount of content Tony and I had but it appeared to be quite adequate as we didn’t even get through all of our content. One of the main battles was trying to gauge how much the class would want to talk about each question/topic. I learned a lot about what people thought about Feminism and gender equality as a whole. I wanted people to take away the idea that even though there are groups out there that despise Feminism there will always be extremists in any belief system (Whether it be the “man-hating Feminists” or misogynists). I wanted the class to have a deeper understanding of what Feminism stands for (or attempts to stand for). I believe the consensus was that gender equality is important, It’s just how the community goes about it that matters to others.