

从政的女性处境 Women in politics

Hello. This is 6 Minute English from BBC Learning English. I'm Beth. And I'm Neil.

你好。这里是BBC英语六分钟。我是贝丝。我是尼尔。

Differences between men and women have existed forever, but in modern times imbalances in the opportunities for men and woman have widened.

男女之间的差异永远存在，但在现代，男女机遇的不平衡已经扩大了。

One area where this imbalance is widest is politics.

这种不平衡最严重的一个领域是政治。

When we think of female politicians, the names Margaret Thatcher, Angela Merkel, Indira Gandhi, or Jacinda Ardern all come to mind.

当我们想到女性政治家时，我们都会想到玛格丽特·撒切尔、安格拉·默克尔、英迪拉·甘地或杰辛达·阿德恩。

But, while women make up over half the world's population, only 26% of the world's politicians are women.

但是，虽然女性占世界人口的一半以上，但世界上只有26%的政治家是女性。

How much of this is because of misogyny – hatred and prejudice against women?

这在多大程度上是因为厌女症——对女性的仇恨和偏见呢？

It seems that the surprise resignation of New Zealand's prime minister, Jacinda Ardern, was partly because of the misogynistic abuse she received online, so in this programme we'll be asking: why is life so hard for women in politics?

新西兰总理杰辛达·阿德恩突然辞职，部分原因似乎是她在网上受到了歧视女性的辱骂，所以在本期节目中，我们将提问：为什么女性从政如此艰难？

And, of course, we'll be learning some useful new vocabulary as well.

当然，我们也会学到一些有用的新词汇。

But before that, I have a question for you, Neil.

但在那之前，我有个问题要问你，尼尔。

Britain has had three female prime ministers, all from the Conservative party.

英国有三位女首相，都来自保守党。

First was Margaret Thatcher, who was followed in 2016 by Theresa May, and after that by Liz Truss, who resigned after only a short time in office.

首先是玛格丽特·撒切尔，随后是特蕾莎·梅，之后是利兹·特拉斯，她上任不久就辞职了。

But for how long, exactly, was Liz Truss prime minister?

但利兹·特拉斯到底当了多长时间的首相？

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Was it: a) 45 days? b) 1 year and 45 days? or, c) 2 years and 45 days?

是a) 45天? B) 1年零45天? 还是c) 2年零45天?

I think the answer is 45 days.

我认为答案是45天。

OK, Neil.

好吧，尼尔。

I'll reveal the answer later.

稍后我将揭晓答案。

One of the biggest barriers for female politicians is that politics has traditionally been seen as a man's world.

女性政治家面临的障碍之一是，传统的政治被视为男性的世界。

When Margaret Thatcher became prime minister in 1979, she had to manage a group of men who were not used to being told what to do by a woman.

1979年，当玛格丽特·撒切尔成为英国首相时，她不得不管理一群不习惯女性领导的男性。

Here, Professor Rosie Campbell, Director of the Global Institute for Women's Leadership, explains to BBC World Service programme, The Real Story, how Mrs Thatcher's solution to this problem was to appear more masculine.

以下是全球女性领导力研究所所长罗茜·坎贝尔教授向BBC全球服务节目《真实故事》做出的解释，撒切尔夫人解决这个问题的方法是让自己显得更男性化。

She was deliberately coached to change her voice and to behave in a way that was more stereotypically masculine, at the same time as presenting herself, in terms of her attire, in a very feminine way which really showed the tightrope she had to walk in order to seem strong enough to be the leader, but not subverting norms of what it is to be a woman.

她刻意学习改变自己的声音，以一种更典型的男性化的方式行事，同时她的着装，以一种非常女性化的方式展示她艰难的处境，这是为了看起来足够强大，可以成为领导者，但不颠覆作为女人的标准。

So I think, you know, whatever you might think of Margaret Thatcher, that was a very challenging tightrope walk that she had to do.

所以我认为，不管你怎么看玛格丽特·撒切尔，她必须走的这一条“钢丝”非常具有挑战性。

Margaret Thatcher was coached to behave more like a man, for example by lowering her voice.

玛格丽特·撒切尔被教导表现得更像个男人，比如放低声音。

If you are coached, you are specially trained in how to improve at a particular skill.

如果你被教导，你接受了如何提高某项技能的专门训练。

At the same time she was also advised to appear feminine, especially in her attire – the clothes she wore.

与此同时，她也被建议要显得女性化，尤其是在她的着装上。

In trying to present both male and female sides of herself, Mrs Thatcher walked a tightrope – an idiom meaning to be in a difficult situation that requires carefully considered behaviour.

在努力同时展现自己男性和女性方面时，撒切尔夫人如履薄冰——这是一个成语，意思是处于需要谨慎考虑的困境中。

The point is that none of these demands were made of the men in Mrs Thatcher's government.

关键是，这些要求都不是针对撒切尔夫人政府中的男性提出的。

Even today, the way women in politics behave or dress is commented on and criticised far more than men, with the result that fewer women are willing to expose themselves to public scrutiny – a situation which has only got worse since the internet, and with it, sexist and misogynistic abuse on social media.

即使在今天，女性在政治上的行为或着装受到的评论和批评也远远多于男性，结果就是愿意将自己暴露在公众监督下的女性越来越少——自互联网出现以来，这种情况只会变得更糟，随之而来的是社交媒体上的性别歧视和厌恶女性的辱骂。

Paradoxically, it is often said that the qualities of empathy and understanding – often associated with women – are most needed in politics today.

矛盾的是，人们常说，同情和理解的品质——通常与女性有关——是今天的政界最需要的。

According to former prime minister Helen Clark, who was New Zealand's first female elected leader, it's not just that women are more caring – they also bring a different leadership style, as she explained to BBC World Service programme, The Real Story: I think that women are known for more collaborative styles and politics, less likely to be the, you know, top down, heavy-handed... you know, my way or the highway, more open to evidenced debate.

新西兰首位民选女性领导人、前总理海伦·克拉克在接受BBC世界服务节目《真实故事》采访时表示，女性不仅更关心他人，她们还带来了一种不同的领导风格：我认为女性以更协作的风格和政治观点而闻名，不太可能是那种自上而下、严厉的人，不按我的方式行事，就滚一边去，是更愿意接受有证据的辩论。

I think it's certainly informed the way that that I led.

我认为这肯定影响了我的领导方式。

I think it also informed the priorities that I had.

这也告诉了我应该优先考虑的事情。

Helen Clark believes women leaders are more collaborative – they prefer working cooperatively with several people to achieve a common goal.

海伦·克拉克认为，女性领导者更具协作性——她们更喜欢与几个人合作，以实现一个共同的目标。

She contrasts this with a stricter, more dictatorial leadership style by using the expression, my way or the highway – an idiom used as a warning that someone will only accept their way of doing things.

她用“不按我的方式行事，就滚一边去”这个习语来与更严格、更独裁的领导风格进行对比，这个习语用来警告某人只会接受自己做事的方式。

In fact, adopting such dictatorial approaches has been the end of many political leaders, including Mrs Thatcher and, more recently, Liz Truss... which brings me back to my question, Neil – how long did Liz Truss last as prime minister?

事实上，采取这种独裁手段已经成为许多政治领导人的最终选择，包括撒切尔夫人，以及最近的利兹·特拉斯，这带回到了我的问题，尼尔——利兹·特拉斯担任首相多久了？

I guess it was 45 days.

我猜是45天。

Was I right?

对吗？

That was... the correct answer!

那是.....正确答案！

Liz Truss was prime minister for just 45 days, the shortest premiership of any British leader ever, male or female.

利兹·特拉斯的首相任期仅为45天，是英国历届首相中，无论男女，任期最短的。

OK, let's recap the vocabulary we've learned in this programme on women in politics, starting with misogyny – the dislike or hatred of women.

好了，让我们回顾一下在本期关于女性参政的节目中学到的词汇，从厌女症开始，即对女性的厌恶或憎恨。

If you are coached in something, you are trained or instructed in how to improve that particular skill.

如果你在某件事上受过训练，你被教导如何提高某项技能。

Attire means the clothes you are wearing.

着装是指你穿的衣服。

If you have to walk a tightrope, you're in a difficult situation that requires careful behaviour.

如果你如履薄冰，意思是你处在一个需要小心行事的困境中。

The adjective collaborative involves several people working together for a particular purpose.

形容词“协作的”指的是几个人为了一个特定的目的一起工作。

And finally, the idiom it's my way or the highway can be used as a warning that someone will only accept their own way of doing things.

最后，习语“不按我的方式行事，就滚一边去”可以用来警告某人只会接受他们自己的做事方式。

Once again, our six minutes are up.

六分钟又到了。

See you soon! Bye!

再见！再见！