



A guide to the video of Philip Davies’s debate in the chamber of the House of Commons, in relation to International Men’s Day (2016) – 17 November, 2016

The Hansard transcript of this debate is [here](#).

Because International Men's Day (19 November) fell on a Saturday this year, this debate – the first such debate to be held in the main chamber of the House of Commons, rather than the nearby Westminster Hall, the venue in 2015 – was held on Thursday, 17 November.

The debate – which I was watching from the public gallery, along with some supporters – was introduced by [Philip Davies](#) (C, Shipley), one of only two MPs prepared to speak out publicly on men's and boys' issues. The other is [Karl McCartney](#) (C, Lincoln) who didn't attend this debate.

Philip Davies did very well in a hostile climate, with feminist Labour and SNP MPs (some of them men) doing all they could to derail the debate.

The female Deputy Speaker was in place for this debate and the preceding one. The IMD debate was scheduled for 14:30 - 17:00, two and a half hours. She permitted feminist MPs to filibuster for over an hour at the end of the preceding debate, reducing the time available for the IMD debate from 150 minutes to only 83, and didn't extend the debate beyond 17:00 to compensate for the filibustering.

Attendance on the government benches (in particular) was woeful. By their absence, the overwhelming majority of Conservative MPs – male and female – showed their utter contempt for 48% of their voters.

Timings	Content
0:00 – 0:12	The (female) Deputy Speaker introduces the debate.
0:13 – 23:08	(With interruptions) Philip Davies speaks primarily about male suicide, domestic violence, and homelessness.
6:52	Stephen Pound (L, Enfield North): “Though I may not agree with the general thrust of this debate, I think in this particular area (suicide) he has an important point.”
8:02	Philip Hollobone (C, Kettering) shows sympathy for male suicide victims.
15:34	Philip Hollobone makes the point that male victims of domestic violence are often denied access to their children after family breakdowns.
16:50	Joanna Cherry (SNP, Edinburgh SW) employs the ‘best interests of the child’ principle to justify men being denied access to their children. It’s an invitation to women to make false allegations to deny access.

17:49	Joanna Cherry interrupts again, asking if Davies is aware of any empirical research showing courts are biased against fathers. Can she really be unaware that the state will not fund research studies which would lead to this inevitable conclusion? Davies's response is excellent.
20:17	The Deputy Speaker points out that MPs should not take longer than 20 minutes for their introductions, ignoring the interruptions that have taken place.
20:55	Davies quotes Erin Pizzey : "There are a lot of reasons why men are not with their children, not least that mothers won't let them."
23:30 – 28:13	Colleen Fletcher (L, Coventry NE) attributes the relentlessly high male suicide rate to 'toxic masculinity' and 'societal expectations'.
28:14 – 38:01	(With interruptions.) Sir Paul Beresford (C, Mole Valley) makes a point about cancers of the head and neck, which are more common in males. 40% of these cancers could be eliminated if boys were inoculated with the HPV vaccine, as girls are (to give protection against cervical cancer). He seems not to grasp that many of the poor outcomes facing boys are not of their own making, but attributable to the state's actions and inactions, though he does make the point that the NHS isn't male-friendly.
36:49	Richard Arkless (SNP, Dumfries & Galloway), one of a number of SNP manginas in this debate: "Despite the obvious sense of many of the contributions, I feel slightly uncomfortable with the subject of this debate. Although I recognise differentials in terms of suicide, the number of primary school teachers and perhaps even fathers' residence rights, it is not women who caused misogyny, it is not women who caused the pay gap, and it is certainly not women who deprived women of the vote. Should we not be working towards equality, or am I just a man who cannot cry, or a feminist? I am not quite sure." This was followed by a Scottish female MP squawking, "You're a feminist!"
38:02 – 43:52	Margaret Ferrier (SNP, Rutherglen and Hamilton West) appears to be showing sympathy towards male suicide victims but then drifts into 'toxic masculinity', patriarchy, wah, wah, wah,... then drifts back into being sympathetic towards men in a number of areas.
43:53 – 51:32	Mims Davies (C, Eastleigh) makes a number of points.
51:33 – 1:00:37	(With interruptions) It's time for the genuine radical feminist crazies to start making their 'contributions' to the debate. The first is Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh (SNP, Ochil and South Perthshire). A random assortment of her gems: 52:08 – "It's important to recognize the ways patriarchy hurts men. Toxic masculinity hurts men as well as women." 53:20 – "Arguably, 365 days every year are International Men's Days."

	<p>(Stop, Tasmina, my sides are sore from laughing at your wit!)</p> <p>55:22 – “Women face glass ceilings every single day of their lives.”</p> <p>(All women, every single day? OK. Wow. It must be tough being a woman!)</p> <p>57:49 – (referring to Davies) – “At the International Conference on Men’s Issues (2016) the Honourable Member for Shipley said, ‘Equality... but only when it suits.’ ”</p>
58:24 – 58:59	<p>David Nuttall (C, Bury North) poses an excellent question:</p> <p>“The hon. Lady has stood up and made some interesting points. Does she not accept that every time there is some positive discrimination in favour of a woman, by implication a man is being discriminated against, and it may well be a working-class boy or someone from a working-class background who suffers as a result of positive discrimination in favour of women?”</p>
59:00 – 59:42	<p>Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh’s woeful and evasive response:</p> <p>“I am extremely grateful to the hon. Gentleman for his intervention. Although I accept some of the points about discrimination against working-class men, I have to say that coming from those on the Tory Benches, the comment absolutely beggars belief. Those of us who actually believe in equality prefer to use the term “positive action”. The reason why we need positive action is that there is not equality in our society. We are 52% women, but we cannot even be properly represented in this Chamber. I would welcome any efforts that he might wish to make, working with me and with others from the Conservative party and across the Chamber, to achieve gender equality, because gender equality will mean a better society for all.”</p> <p>(In plain English, “Working-class men and boys can go to hell.”)</p>
1:00:38 – 1:08:28	<p>Paula Sherriff (L, Dewsbury) was selected as a prospective parliamentary candidate from an all-women shortlist, the same process which has delivered numerous genius feminist MPs, including Jess Phillips.</p> <p>Ms Sherriff witters on for over six minutes about toxic masculinity, societal expectations, male body image concerns... then threw in some feminist lies for good measure, including their narrative on the ‘gender pay gap’ and that old favourite, ‘Two women a week in the UK are killed by partners or ex-partners’. She was then interrupted by a second SNP mangina, who appeared to be unaware the debate was being held in recognition of International <i>Men’s Day</i>.</p>
1:06:49	<p>Gavin Newlands (SNP, Paisley and Renfrewshire North), another mangina:</p> <p>“Does the hon. Lady agree that we are doing men a disservice if we do not address our shortcomings during this debate, given that men still perpetrate about 80% of all domestic violence cases? As we approach the international day for the elimination of violence against women, will she join me in calling on all male MPs to take the White Ribbon pledge ‘never to commit, condone, or remain silent about men’s violence against women in all its forms’? ”</p>

1:08:29 – 1:11:03	<p>To everyone’s amazement, Ms Sherriff agreed with Mr Newlands’s highly controversial position. Then she started attacking Davies, adopting the expression we assume she favours for such occasions, resulting from chewing on a thick slice of lemon, whilst her face is being stung by a swarm of wasps:</p> <p>“Although I have congratulated the hon. Member for Shipley on securing the debate, I do not think it would be unreasonable to suggest that he has made something of a name for himself in vociferously standing against feminism. He has gained notoriety in that regard, including by speaking this summer at an event organised by the Justice for Men and Boys party, which garnered media attention. I find that regrettable, as that organisation is sadly—I shall put this charitably—on the less constructive side of the argument.</p> <p>The most cursory look at that organisation’s website brings a whole new meaning to the word “patronising”. It celebrates articles such as “13 reasons women lie about being raped”, and currently harbours awards including “Lying Feminist of the Month”, “Whiny Feminist of the Month”, “Gormless Feminist of the Month” and “Toxic Feminist of the Month”. As several of my hon. Friends appear to have been added to those lists for simply standing at this Dispatch Box doing what I am doing today, I dare say that I may well be at risk of ending up on one of them myself. Suffice it to say that I am not afraid.”</p> <p>(The woman’s a veritable Amazon.)</p> <p>The nature of the organisation’s discourse is little better than that of the Twitter trolls who constantly confront female Members just for daring to speak up. I find the hon. Gentleman’s association with that organisation most regrettable.”</p> <p>The camera turns to Davies, whose expression pleasingly evokes that perfected by Catherine Tate, “Bovvered? Do I <i>look</i> bovvered?”</p>
1:11:04 – 1:21:06	<p>Caroline Dinéage (C, Gosport) is the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Women, Equalities and Early Years at the Department for Education. Most of her speech was feminist-compliant and Paula Sherriff was nodding her head in agreement for much of it.</p>
1:21:07 – 1:22:42	<p>Philip Davies winds up the debate, ending with this gem:</p> <p>“Finally, I am pleased that we agreed on one thing—equality. I believe in gender equality, and I very much hope that after this debate, men and women will be treated equally by the courts when they get sentenced.”</p> <p>We salute him for a solid performance in a truncated debate, under fire from Labour and SNP MPs, some of them men, and with a shameful lack of support from his colleagues.</p>

**Justice for Men & Boys
(and the women who love them)**

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