

Whiny Feminist of the Month

Dr Heather Savigny



J4MB presents its November 2014 ‘Whiny Feminist of the Month’ award to Dr Heather Savigny, a senior politics lecturer at Bournemouth University, for a forthcoming article in *Gender and Education* which would appear largely to consist, judging by a report in the *Independent*,¹ of anecdotes from whiny unnamed female academics. The fact that only one in five professors in the UK are female is presented as anti-female discrimination – reflecting British universities being ‘bastions of sexism’ – when that ratio is precisely the proportion we’d expect from Dr Catherine Hakim’s Preference Theory (2000), to which we referred in our blog piece on this matter.² An example of the whiny anecdotes Dr Savigny sees fit to inflict upon us:

Another academic, “Leanne”, says: “The body language of my male colleagues makes it clear my voice is not worth listening too, I am made invisible in meetings. If I do get to speak, then people look out of windows, or hold their hand up to shut me up.”

¹ <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/women-trapped-in-universities-ivory-basements-9908457.html>

² <http://j4mb.wordpress.com/2014/12/10/dr-heather-savigny-whiny-feminist-of-the-month/>