

## Feminist Identity Model

Stage I, Passive Acceptance: Passive acceptance of traditional sex roles and discrimination; belief that traditional roles are advantageous; men are considered superior.

Stage II, Revelation: Catalyzed by a series of crises, resulting in open questioning of self and roles and feelings of anger and guilt; dualistic thinking; men are perceived as negative.

Stage III, Embeddedness-Emanation: Characterized by connectedness with other select women, affirmation and strengthening of new identity. Eventually more relativistic thinking and cautious interaction with men.

Stage IV, Synthesis: Development of an authentic and positive feminist identity; sex-role transcendence; “flexible truce” with the world; evaluate men on an individual basis.

Stage V, Active Commitment: Consolidation of feminist identity; commitment to meaningful action, to a nonsexist world. Actions are personalized and rational. Men are considered equal but not the same as women.

Downing, N.E. & Roush, K.L. (1985). From passive acceptance to active commitment: A model of feminist identity development for women. *Counseling Psychologist*, 13, 695-709.