Feminism/Queer Reading Packet #2

Poems by Nayyirah Waheed

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| if we. are with child. and you believe that fatherhood begins when my body pours a baby into your hands. not before. you do not deserve this child. you are a coward.  – you are a father the moment you enter me | what massacre happens  to my son between  him living within my skin. drinking my cells.  my water. my organs.  and his soft psyche turning cruel. does he not remember he is half woman.  – from | if a man  can only show vulnerability  for what is between my legs.  can only be a heart during sex.  if an orgasm is  the only way he can weep.  what is his life  but a cage.  -prison | i will crawl for white beauty. eat my arms. barter my legs (make my thighs into altars of grief). forskin that does not drink night. hair that is not angry. body that is not soil. i place curses on my fleshcall them diets. tell my ancestors they are ugly. howl at my nose until it bleeds. run my heart across my teeth, repeatedly. i am dying. to be beautiful. but beautiful. is something. i will never. Be.  – by the time we are seven |

…..from *Feminism is for Everybody* by bell hooks

“As we seek to rekindle the flames of mass-based feminist movement reproductive rights will remain a central feminist agenda. ...If sex education, preventive health care, and easy access to contraceptives are offered to every female, fewer of us will have unwanted pregnancies. As a consequence the need for abortions would diminish” (29).

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| **Free effective birth control, less abortion**Article Title: Colorado’s Effort Against Teenage Pregnancies is a Startling Success July 5, 2015 by Sabrina Tavernese. New York Times. Colorado gave free birth control - IUD’s Intrauterine Devices. The birthrate among teenagers across the state fell 40% 2009 to 2013. Abortions fell 42%. | **Depression linked to the pill.**  Title of Study: Association of Hormonal Contraception With Depression  Published: September 28, 2016. *JAMA Psychiatry*.  By: C[harlotte Wessel Skovlund,](http://jamanetwork.com/searchresults?author=Charlotte+Wessel+Skovlund&q=Charlotte+Wessel+Skovlund) et al.  1 Million Women participated over 13 years. | **Male Birth Control Injection 96% effective**  Title of Study: Efficacy and Safety of an Injectable Combination Hormonal Contraceptive for Men Study, co-sponsored by the United NationsPublished: October 29, 2016. *Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism.* By: Behren, Herman et al.  320 men participated over 8 years. 20 men dropped out early due to side effects: increased libido, acne, mood swings, and ONE case of depression.75% of the men said they'd be interested in getting the shot if it were available. |