

ABSURDLY USEFUL RESOURCES / READER NOTES

The Basic Needs Feminist

Feminism that starts where life is actually hard.

READER NOTES

SUMMARY + ACTION GUIDE

INSPIRED BY HOOD FEMINISM BY MIKKI KENDALL

ORIGINAL SUMMARY AND PRACTICAL TRANSLATION. READ THE FULL BOOK WHEN YOU WANT THE WHOLE ARGUMENT.

Mikki Kendall argues that feminism fails when it treats survival issues as side quests. Food security, housing, safety, education, healthcare, and freedom from violence are feminist issues because real liberation cannot begin after basic needs are ignored.

Keep These

1. A feminism centered on already-secure women will keep misnaming the crisis.
2. Food, housing, healthcare, safety, education, and wages are not extras; they are the agenda.
3. Race, class, geography, and violence shape what feminism must actually address.
4. Representation without material change can become a prettier version of exclusion.
5. Solidarity requires listening to women whose problems are treated as inconvenient to the movement's image.

Useful Translation

This is the version to carry into meetings, parenting, work, money, politics, conflict, and the ordinary Tuesday where most theories go to prove whether they are useful.

FRAMEWORK 01

Intersectionality: gender never arrives alone; race, class, disability, geography, and power change the stakes.

FRAMEWORK 02

Material feminism: rights have to touch the conditions that make daily life survivable.

FRAMEWORK 03

Movement accountability: a movement has to be judged by who it protects, not who it flatters.

04 / ACTION ITEMS

1. Audit whether your feminism includes rent, food, safety, time, rest, and care.
2. Ask who is missing from the room before celebrating the room.
3. Support policies and organizations that change material conditions, not only narratives.
4. Notice when a problem is being marketed as empowerment while leaving the burden intact.
5. Move one basic need from the margin to the center of your advocacy.
6. Replace the question what looks feminist with who becomes safer because of this?

05 / ONE-PAGE FIELD GUIDE

If the feminism cannot survive a grocery bill, a clinic wait, a dangerous street, or a childcare gap, it is not practical enough yet.

Absurdly Useful Resources. Placeholder email-gated PDF asset. Connect the form to the final provider before launch.