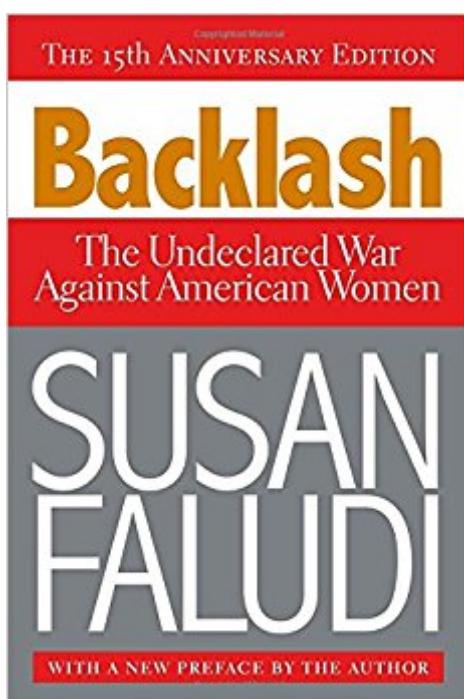


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# Backlash: The Undeclared War Against American Women



## Synopsis

From the author of *In the Darkroom*, a feminist classic and skillful examination of the attack on women's rights. Today's political climate leaves no doubt that American women are still being assaulted by the same antifeminist backlash messages that Susan Faludi brilliantly exposed in her 1991 bestseller. When it was first published, *Backlash* made headlines for puncturing popular media myths like the "infertility epidemic" and the "man shortage." The statistic-defying, willfully fictitious coverage, Faludi pointed out, contributed to an anti-woman backlash. The fifteenth anniversary edition, with an updated preface by the author, brings backlash consciousness into the 21st century. Faludi's words seem especially prophetic in post-Trump America. That glass ceiling remains unshattered, women are still punished for wanting to succeed, and reproductive rights are still hanging by a thread. But *Backlash* is an alarm bell for women of every generation "waking us up to the dangers that we all face."

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*, Faludi lays out a two-fold thesis in this aggressive work: First, despite the opinions of pop-psychologists and the mainstream media, career-minded women are generally not husband-starved loners on the verge of nervous breakdowns. Secondly, such beliefs are nothing more than anti-feminist propaganda pumped out by conservative research organizations with clear-cut ulterior motives. This backlash against the women's movement, she writes, "stands the truth boldly on its head and proclaims that the very

steps that have elevated women's positions have actually led to their downfall." Meticulously researched, Faludi's contribution to this tumultuous debate is monumental and it earned the 1991 National Book Critics Circle Award for General Nonfiction. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Far from being "liberated," American women in the 1980s were victims of a powerful backlash against the handful of small, hard-won victories the feminist movement had achieved, says Wall Street Journal reporter Faludi, who won a Pulitzer this year. Buttressing her argument with facts and statistics, she states that the alleged "man shortage" endangering women's chances of marrying (posited by a Harvard-Yale study) and the "infertility epidemic" said to strike professional women who postpone childbearing are largely media inventions. She finds evidence of antifeminist backlash in Hollywood movies, in TV's thirtysomething , in 1980s fashion ads featuring battered models and in the New Right's attack on women's rights. She directs withering commentary at Robert Bly's all-male workshops, Allan Bloom's "prolonged rant" against women and Betty Friedan and Germaine Greer's revisionism. This eloquent, brilliantly argued book should be read by everyone concerned about gender equality. First serial to Glamour and Mother Jones. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This book is one of the most comprehensive looks at the 1980's I think I've ever read. Being born in the early 1990's I was also raised in an era that called itself post-feminist, but this book is really eye opening. My only quibble is that the book in one sense ducks certain internal debates within feminism, but as a text meant for those who aren't necessarily feminists, that makes it more accessible.

Even though I have not finished reading it as with many books on women's issues; "Backlash" gives the background story to events in America and that was helpful. Makes me feel more at ease being a women, as some women feel "oh women do not do that, or do not feel like that".

Very early and very good feminist tome, although beset by some factual shortfalls and requiring some leaps of faith.

A beautifully written and expertly argued book. The hands down best book I have read this year.

I READ THIS BOOK MANY MANY YEARS AGO AND IT IS AS STILL IMPORTANT A READ  
ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG WOMEN OF THIS GENERATION

Excelently researched book.

Used for a college course by a student in our family.

Best Book EVER!!!

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