

I AM A FEMINIST.

You know I'm a self-made woman who has made it my purpose to challenge women to dare. It's an achievement I am immensely proud of, and for that reason I am equally proud to label myself a feminist. But looking back more than a hundred years, I'm even prouder of the progress women have made together.

Today, I believe we're witnessing the dawn of the third wave of the feminist movement. A long-overdue correction in gender inequality is at our doorstep. All the signs point to this moment in time being a new and exciting tipping-point in the history of women. Strong, independent women are stepping forward as powerful role models, inspiring and motivating smart, young girls of all backgrounds to make the most of their many talents.

And that's what we need more of today: forward-thinking women. We need women who understand that achieving equality isn't dependent on external factors; women who understand that equality is not something that is passively received or violently acquired. As masters of our own destiny, the world is asking us to shape a future of opportunity for ourselves. What matters now is action. Action on our part.

'this is our moment and I'm embracing it whole heartedly as part of the third wave'

because I am a feminist.

— Marlies Dekkers