

# Should Men Call Themselves ‘Pro-Feminist’ Instead of ‘Feminist’?

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June 26, 2016 by [Ronnie Ritchie](#)

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Have you come across the idea that men shouldn't call themselves feminists?

There are many different approaches to feminism, and some say that men can be more effective allies by calling themselves “pro-feminists” instead.

So what's the difference?

Drop into this conversation for some perspective on why some feminists feel this way – and why others think everyone should be able to call themselves a feminist. If you're a man, this can help you figure out which term is best for you.

With Love,  
The Editors at Everyday Feminism

## Why Some Feminists Think Men Should Call Themselves "Pro-feminist" Instead Of Feminist



For many, extending that idea to feminism is a way that allies can practice humility through language.

Men don't experience misogyny in the way that women and people read as women do, so by calling themselves "pro-feminist," they can decenter themselves from the discussion and work on supporting feminist leaders.



Are there people who don't think that?

Oh yeah!

Some people think that everyone should be able to call themselves feminists, including allies.

Claiming the same title is a statement of support – that there's more people involved in women's liberation other than people for whom it's a personal matter.



Do I know which is better myself? Not really.

There's tons of different approaches to feminism, and this is just another part of that. Just listen to the feminists around you, and you may find something that works with them.



Thanks for the advice. I've got a lot to think about.

Hey, no problem.



Written and drawn by Ronnie Ritchie

an everyday feminism comic

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To learn more about this topic, check out:

- [Feminism Isn't About Man-Hating, Even Though Some Feminists Hate Men – Let This Analogy Explain](#)
- [Building Allyship and Finding Room for Multiple Feminisms](#)

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