

Parity of the Sexes



Sylviane Agacinski has never shied away from controversy. Vilified by some—including many feminists—and celebrated by others as a pioneer of gender equality, she has galvanized the French political scene. Her articulation of the theory of parity helped inspire a law that went into effect in May 2000 requiring the country's political parties to fill 50 percent of the candidacies in every race with women. Sylviane Agacinski, according to *The New Yorker*, is sometimes credited with making *parité* respectable. Agacinski begins with the notion that sexual difference should be affirmed rather than denied. Sex, Agacinski points out, is not a social, cultural, or ethnic characteristic—it is a universal human trait. In her argument for the necessary recognition of sexual difference, she enters into today's most controversial social territory. Agacinski's model of parity does not strive for the nebulous ideal of equality between the sexes; instead, it demands a concrete formula for political contests: an equal number of female and male candidates in every election. It is a theory that has sparked impassioned debate across France: Are female politicians necessarily different from male politicians? Is parity democratic? Is it truly feminist? Agacinski's sophisticated polemic will stimulate debate on American shores as it has in France. *Parity of the Sexes* sheds light on one of the crucial spheres of public life in which earlier French feminists left their work unfinished—the realm of political power.

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School of Economic and Social Studies, University of East Anglia. **Parity of the Sexes Books** **Columbia University Press** Department of Mathematics, University of Oklahoma, 601 Elm Ave. PHSC 423, Norman, OK 73019 telephone: (+1) 405.325.4071 fax: (+1) 405.325.7484 **Parity for the sexes? The BMJ** **Sylviane Agacinski, Parity of the Sexes - PhilPapers** achieved parity of the sexes among its undergraduate majors. Furthermore, the proportion of women majoring in IE at OU had more than doubled in the space of **Battle of the sexes: charting how women in tennis achieved equal** Title, Achieving Parity of the Sexes at the Undergraduate Level: A Study of Success. Publication Type, Journal Article. Year of Publication, 2007. Authors, Murphy **Book Review Parity of the Sexes. By Sylviane Agacinski - JStor** Synopsis: Sylviane Agacinski has never shied away from controversy. 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