

1 CORINTHIANS

The Gospel
in Community

WHEN FAITH AND LIFE COLLIDE

Study 13

THE GOSPEL AND WOMEN IN CHURCH

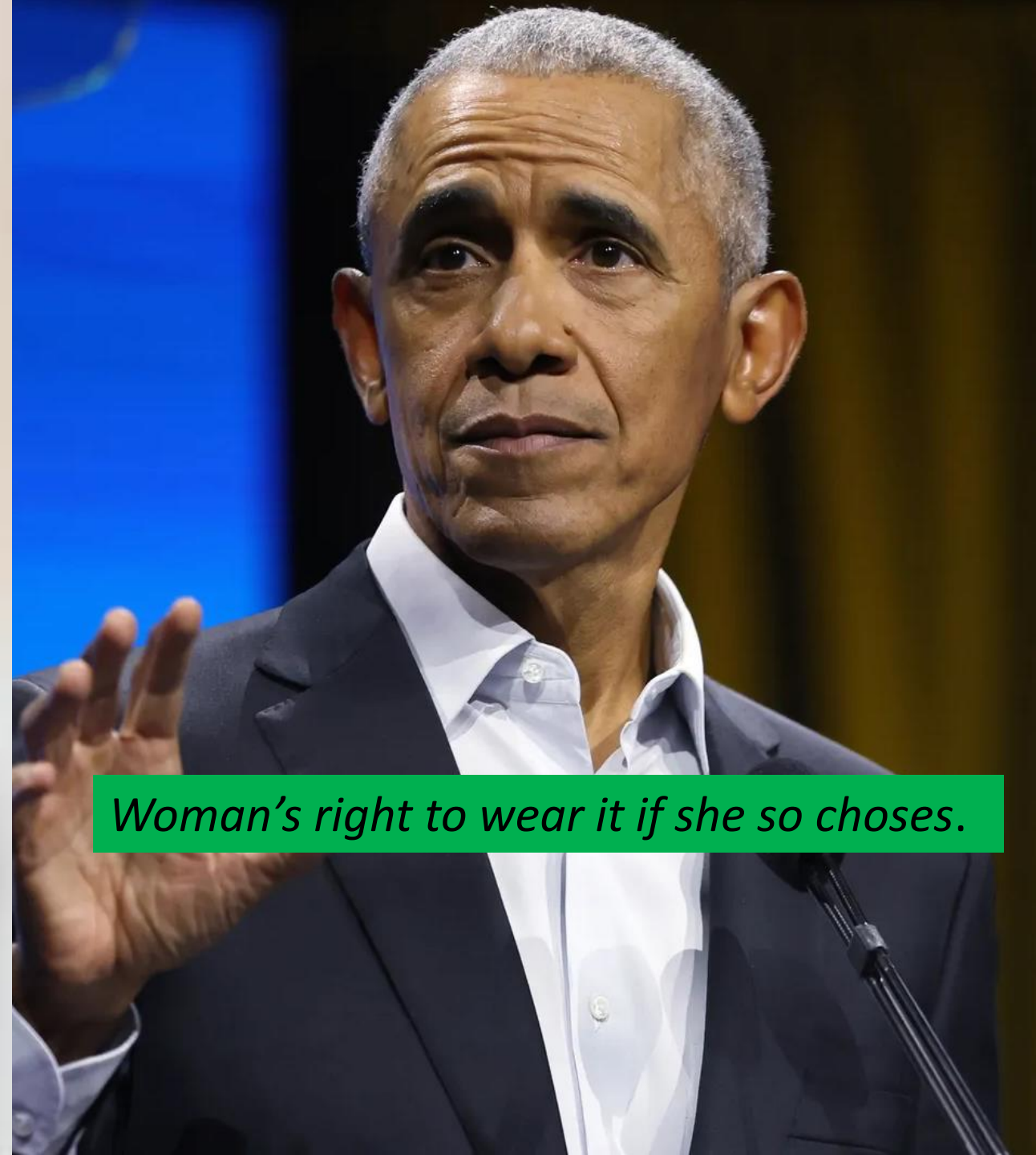
I Corinthians 11:1-16



Symbol of male domination...extremism



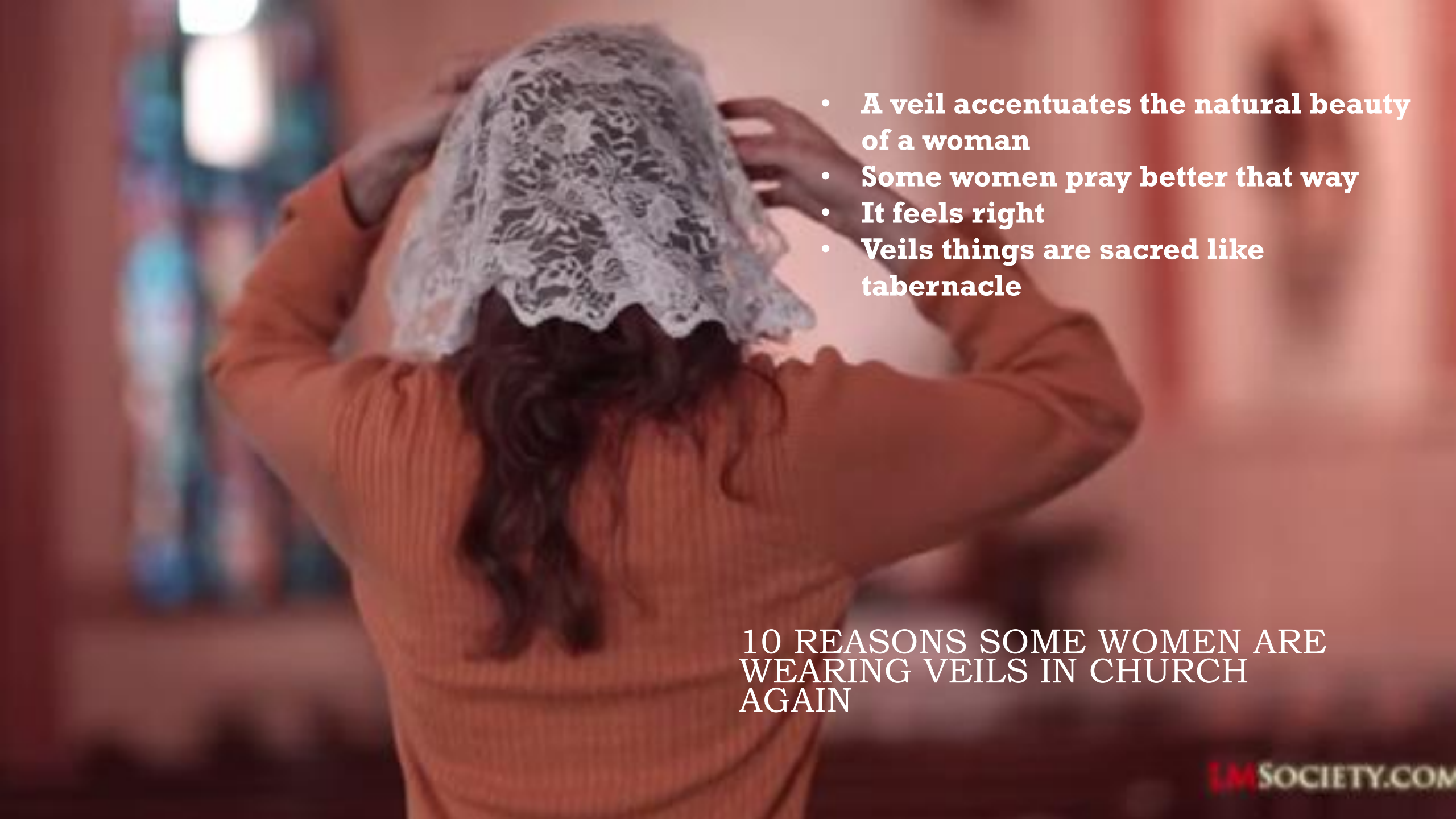
Veils are a threat to French values.



Woman's right to wear it if she so choses.

Congress voted to lift 181 year ban on headwear



- 
- **A veil accentuates the natural beauty of a woman**
 - **Some women pray better that way**
 - **It feels right**
 - **Veils things are sacred like tabernacle**

10 REASONS SOME WOMEN ARE WEARING VEILS IN CHURCH AGAIN

BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD

The place of women in ministry



THE CONTROVERSY

- Repressive subjugation of women
- Discrimination



- Defense of a woman's modesty against the assault of modern society



Cultural

Direct application

Timeless principles



Hidden at home

Supervise slaves

Attend certain events –
weddings, funerals

Very short visits to
female friends

Cannot own property

Cannot choose
husband

Limited education



SPARTAN WOMEN

- Can own property
- Military training
- Athletic training
- Can mix freely
- Educated
- Simple life no jewelry
- Expected to look after property in husbands absence
- Short hair



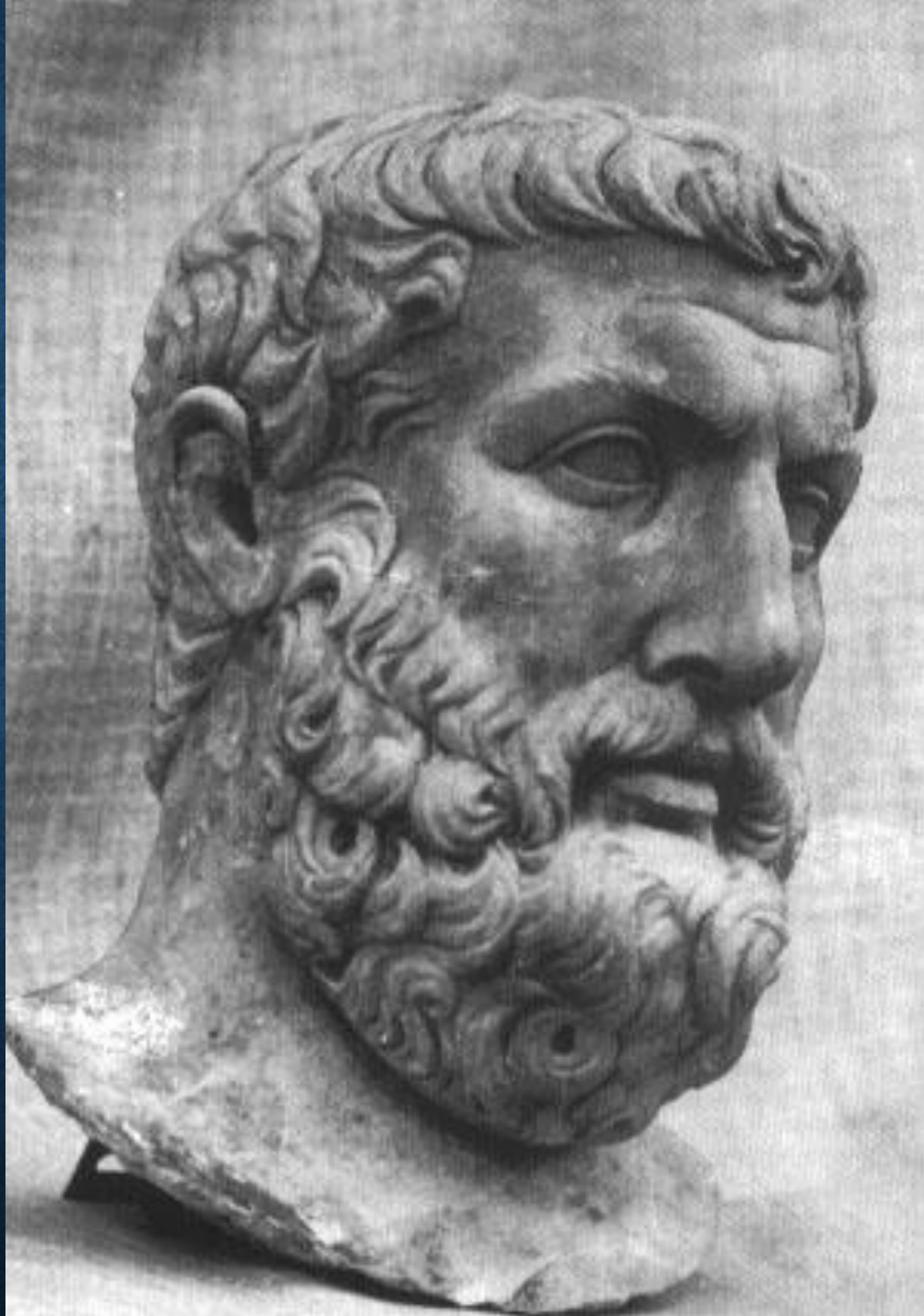
QUEEN GORGO

Why are the Spartan women the only ones who can rule men?

Because we are the only ones who give birth to real men







British Museum
Sculpture 2307





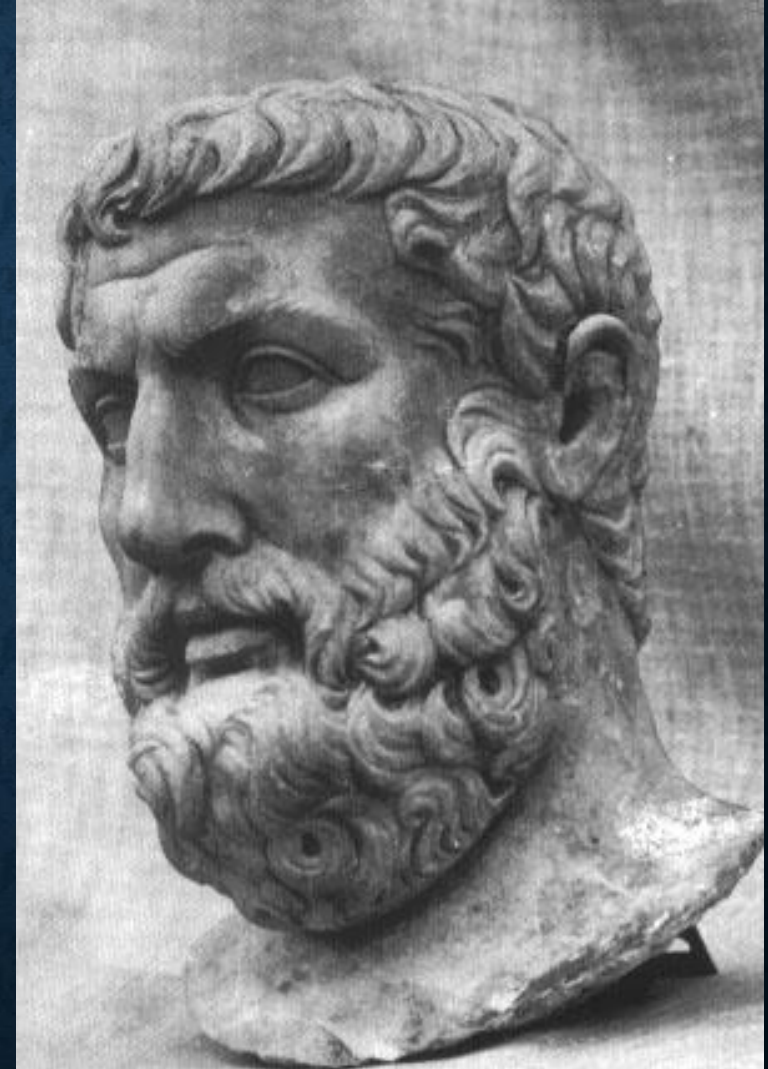
Shame

Breach of Societal Norms



No head veils
Prophesy or speak in public

SHAME



ESCHATOLOGICAL REALITIES VS SOCIETAL NORMS

Men and women
filled with the
Spirit and Equal

Societal Norms



To seek the things
that build up

To seek the good
of others

PRINCIPLES OF LIVING





THE GOSPEL SOLUTION

Let the Women
Speak

Keep the Head
coverings

1 Corinthians 11:2 (ESV) Now I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you.

HEADSHIP

1 Corinthians 11:3 (ESV) But I want you to understand that the **head** of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.

Authority , Supremacy ,Leadership

Source

Pre-eminence

GOD



Authority , Supremacy ,Leadership

In normal Greek
κεφαλή does not
mean lordship

HEADSHIP



=AUTHORITY

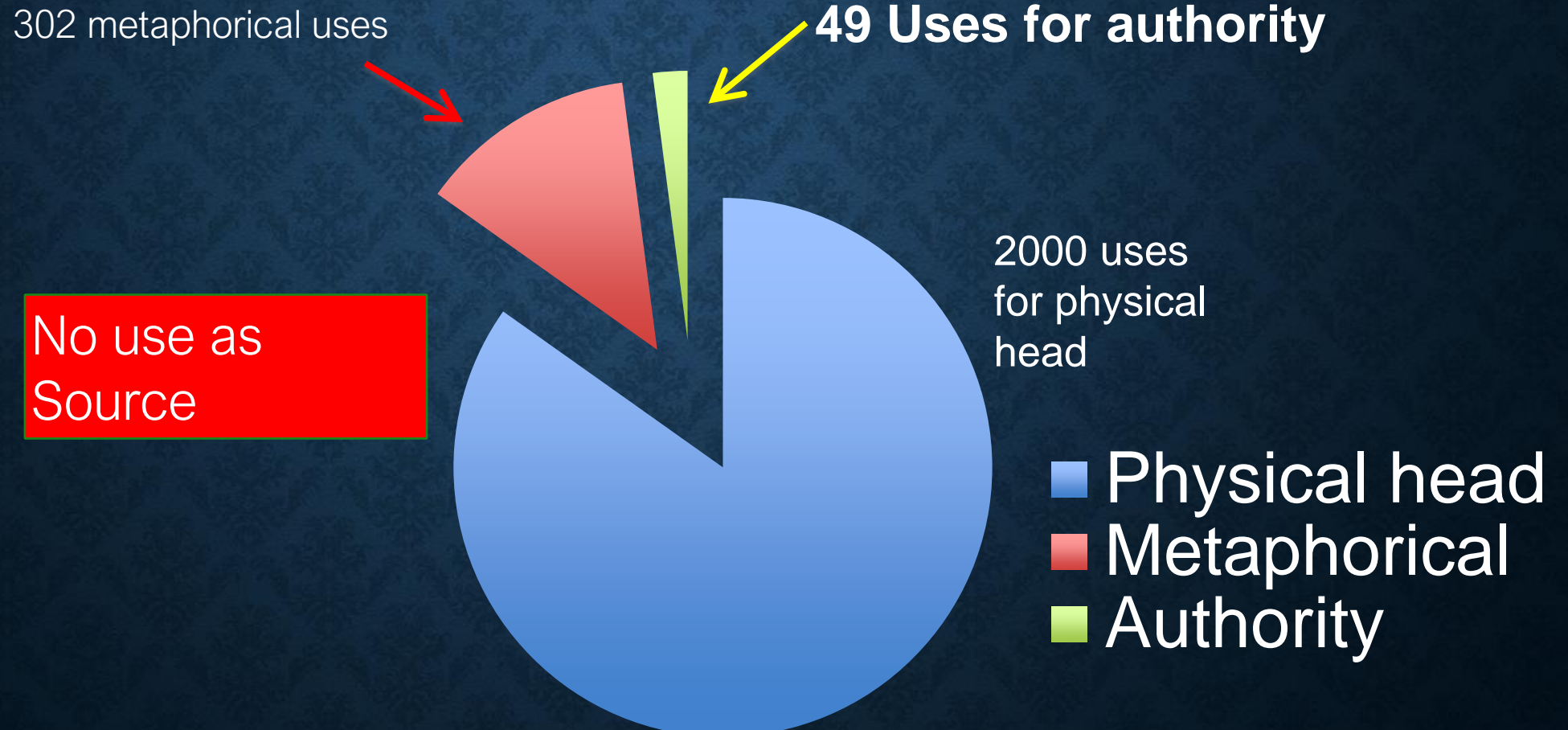


Authority = Hierarchy=Women inferior

WHAT ABOUT “SOURCE”

1 Corinthians 11:7-9 (ESV) For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man. 8 For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. 9 Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.

THE USE OF KEPHALE



Wayne Grudem 36 Greek authors 8th century BC to 4th century AD



LXX

KEPHALE- PRE-EMINENT FOREMOST AND SYNECDOCHE FOR REPRESENTATIVE ROLE



Jewish texts

More commonly used in 1st century Greek text than ruler or source

SYNECDOCHE

- 50 head of cattle



SYNECDOCHE

- All hands on deck





**HEAD PROMINENT PART OF
BODY
REPRESENTATIVE ROLE**

WHY DID WOMEN HAVE TO COVER UP?



1.ABSENCE OF HEAD COVERING CAUSES SHAME TO THE MAN

V4..Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head, 5 but every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven.



NO HEAD COVERING = BALD=DISGRACE

since it is the same as if her head were shaven. 6 For if a wife will not cover her head, then she should cut her hair short. But since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head.

SHAMEFUL



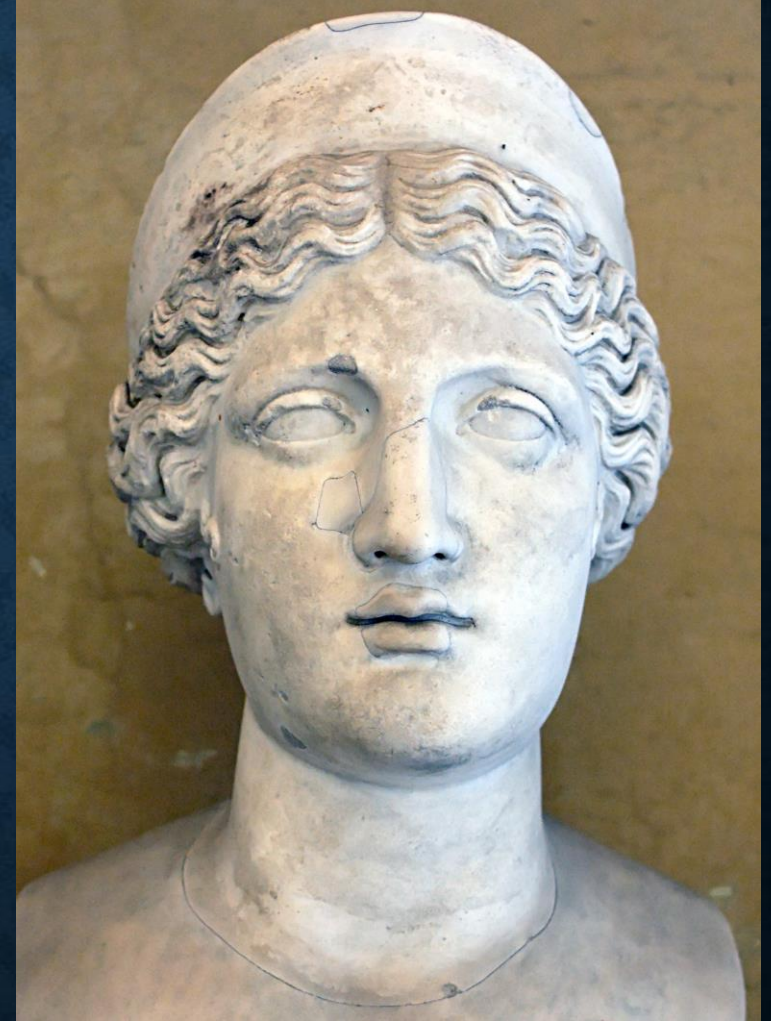
HONORABLE



SHAMEFUL



HONORABLE







v

HONOR SHAME SYSTEM GENDER DIFFERENTIATION

HONOUR

Paul's concern is not with subordination but with gender distinction



v



SHAME

TESTAMENT OF JOB (FIRST CENTURY B.C. OR A.D.)



In the 23:7—25:8 Job's wife is reduced to having her hair cut off in exchange for food. It is done "disgracefully in the market, while the crowd stood by and marveled" (24:10).

**Modern Equivalent
Effeminate men**



2. THE HEAD COVERING REFLECTS CREATION ORDER



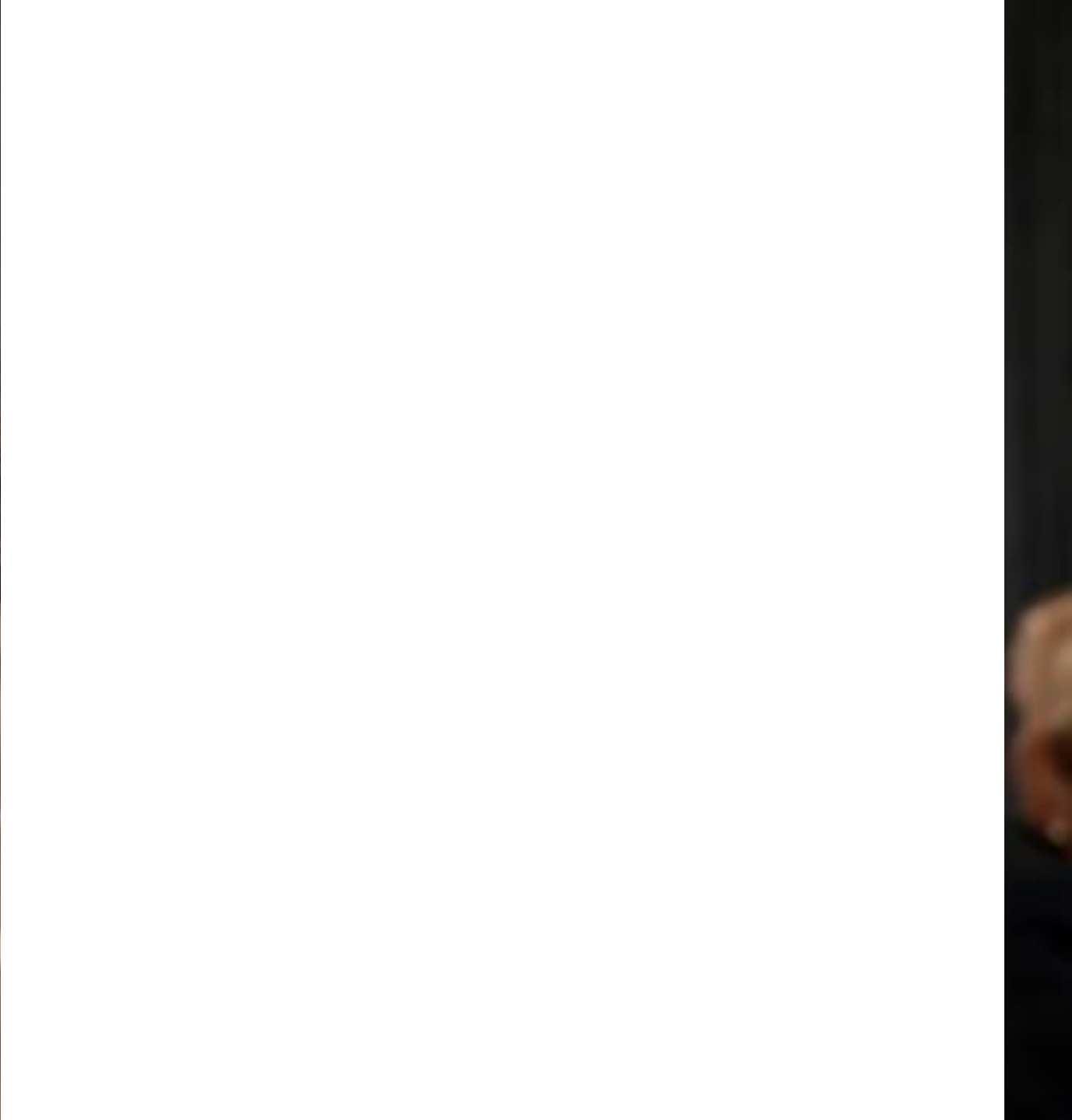
For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man. 8 For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. 9 Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.

Creation order- implies purpose

CREATED ORDER



- Glory = Sign of honor
- Image
- The function of the image is to bring honour





Proverbs 12:4 (ESV) An excellent wife is the crown of her husband, but she who brings shame is like rottenness in his bones.

QUALIFYING STATEMENT ORDER BUT EQUALITY

1 Corinthians 11:8-12 (ESV) For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. 9 Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. 10 That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels. 11 Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman; 12 for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God.

DIFFERENT ROLES BUT SAME QUALITY

John 12:49 (ESV) For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak

John 14:10 (ESV) Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.

John 10:30 (ESV) 30 I and the Father are one.’’

3.IT PLEASES THE ANGELS

10 That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels

POSSIBILITIES



Priests

Rev2:1



Horny angels



Holy or Guardian Angels

It is pleasing to them
Mimics them Isaiah 6:2

DEAD SEA TRADITION



Angels are present in
human worship

They are upset the the
disruption of the natural
order of authority

4.NATURE TEACHES US IT IS DIGNIFIED FOR A WOMAN TO WEAR A HEAD COVERING

13. Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a wife to pray to God with her head uncovered? 14 Does not nature itself teach you that if a man wears long hair it is a disgrace for him, 15 but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her for a covering.

NATURE



- Inborn sense of what is fitting
- The way humans were created
- Physical reality of how world was ordered
- What was accepted by common consent and usage at the time in his culture

5. ARGUMENT FROM REFLECTING GLORY

1 Corinthians 11:15 but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her for a covering.

16 If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God.

LONG HAIR IS HER GLORY

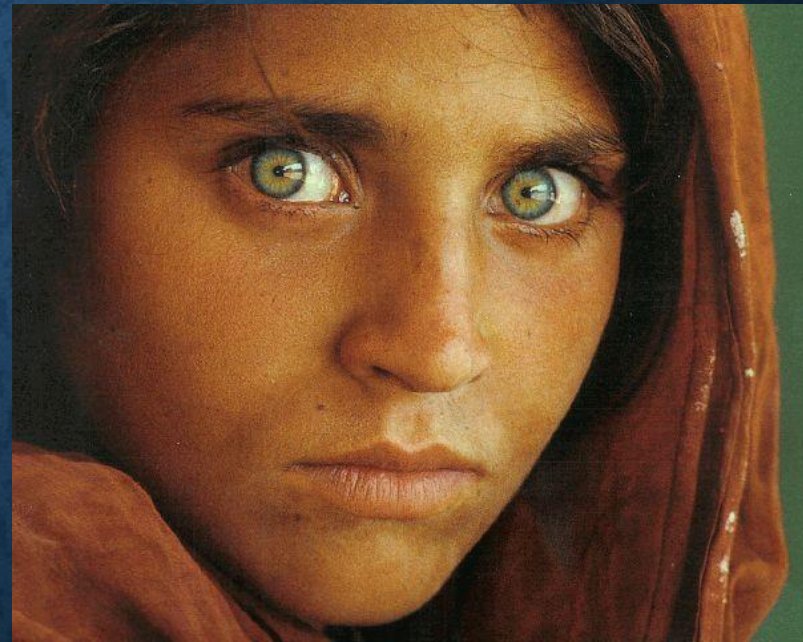


The head covering is like her natural covering

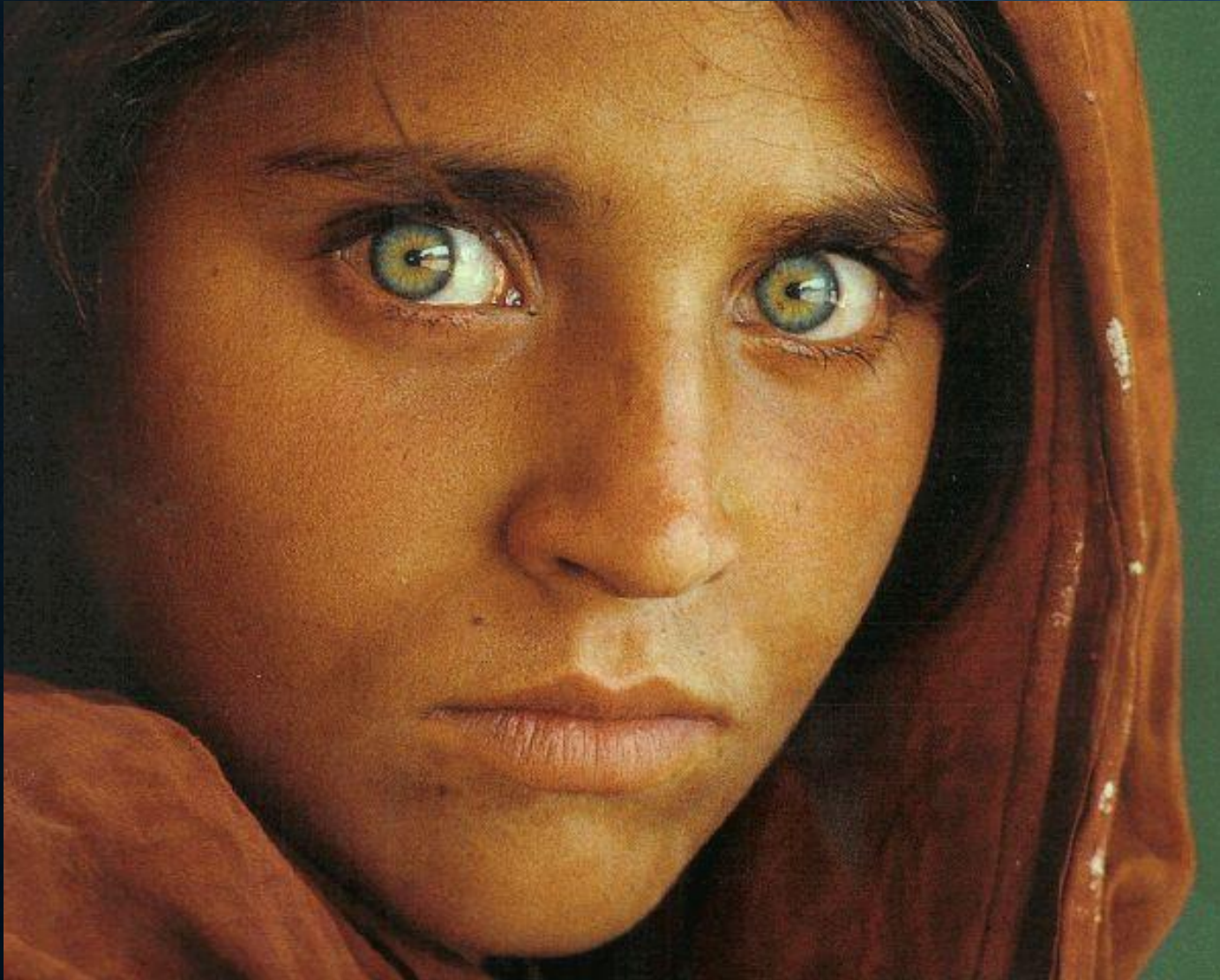
THE STRUGGLE



Assertive autonomy



Self control or ethic of moderation



WHY HEAD COVERINGS ?

cover her glory so
that only God's glory
recognized

WORSHIP MEETING

1. Absence of head covering brings shame to the husband as it breaches the headship of man



Makes her look like prostitute

WORSHIP MEETING

2. The absence of head coverings breaches the symbols of created order



WORSHIP MEETING



God



5 ARGUMENT FROM PRACTICE

VIOLATION OF GENDER DIFFERENCES BRING SHAME

1 Corinthians 11:16 (ESV) If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God.

WHY WEAR A HEAD COVERING

- Absence of head covering brings shame to the husband as it breaches the headship of man
- The head coverings reflects created order
- It pleases the angels
- Nature teaches us it is dignified for a woman to wear a head covering

CONCLUSION



- Head coverings might reduce the impact of women prophesying in public avoiding the shame to the men and impairing the witness to their society
- It is a good compromise as it allowed women to speak up in ministry
- Criticism : whether it will make a difference in that male dominated society

A photograph of a church service. In the foreground, two women wearing traditional white Korean headscarves (magnum) are seated in wooden pews. The woman on the left is wearing a black and white striped top and is looking down at an open Bible. The woman on the right is wearing a pink traditional Korean top (hanbok) and glasses, also looking down at an open Bible. In the background, many other women, also wearing white headscarves, are seated in rows, some looking at their Bibles. The lighting is warm and focused on the women in the foreground.

- **Dignity ,Shame, Created order?**

HOW DO WE APPLY IT TODAY?

TODAYS WORSHIP MEETING

Head covering does not convey dignity to the woman nor shame to the man nor created order



It is behaviour



Gender distinctions
misinterpreted or discarded



Gender Distinctions



WHAT PAUL ADVOCATES



Gender Equality

A woman wearing a black hijab and a young boy in a camouflage-patterned shirt are shown from the chest up. They are both looking downwards with somber expressions. The background is slightly blurred, showing some red objects, possibly tomatoes, on the right side.

FEMALE GENDER IS OF LESS WORTH AND WEAK

I have no worth that's why my husband left me

there are really a lot of issues
for women in Afghanistan.

Female gender blamed

OBEDIENT WIVES CLUB



- (Ishak Md Nor, 40, (2nd L) and his two wives, June 4, 2011
- domestic violence, infidelity and prostitution stemmed from a lack of belief in God and a failure of women to satisfy their husbands.

Female gender oppressed






AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY
WOMEN

AMONG POSTDOCTORAL APPLICANTS

Women had to publish three more papers in the most prestigious journals, or 20 more in the less-prestigious ones, to be considered as productive as male applicants

A woman with long brown hair is sitting in a bed with a wooden headboard. She is wearing a light blue sweater and is looking down at two white pills held in her right hand. In her left hand, she holds a clear glass of water. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

*Equality is like Medicine
it is only useful if you are
sick
Tim Keller*

WOMEN TRY TO BECOME MEN



We Can Do It!



U. S. 15 TO FEB. 28



WAR PRODUCTION CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

WOMEN TRY TO BECOME MEN

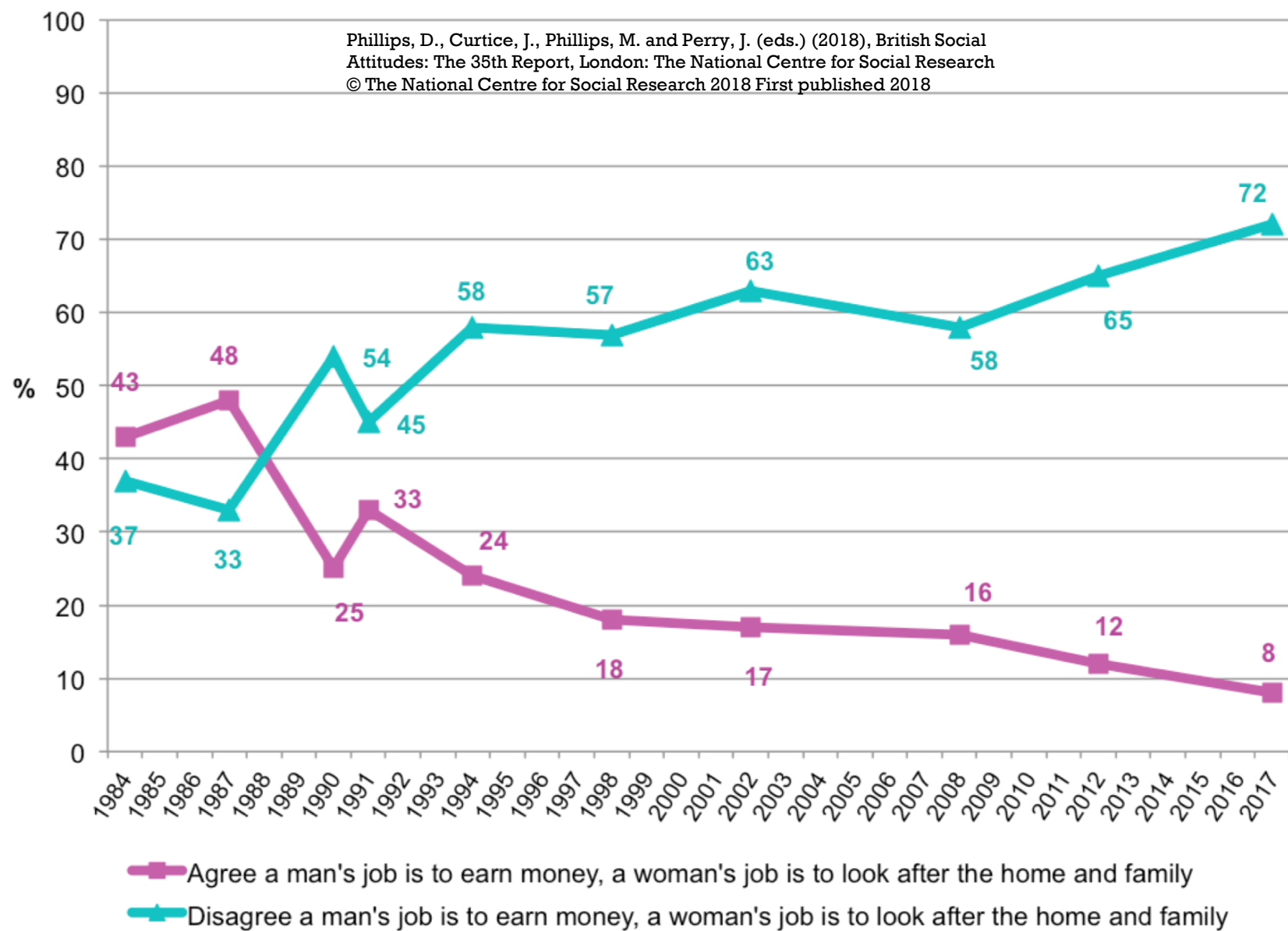


Against male leadership or any distinctions of headship in family

Gender stereotypes
Women abandon them



Views on traditional gender roles, 1984-2017



COMPETING IN THE MAN'S WORLD SELF ASSERTION

Aggressive," "ambitious," or "out for herself."

"confident" and "strong."



Gender distinctions misinterpreted
Women must be like men



More Likely to be called

“emotional”,
“annoying” or
“unfair”

“helpful”,
“pleasant”

Less Likely to be called

“genius”,
“interesting” or
“influential”

“experts” or
“experienced”

Gender distinctions misinterpreted
Women must be like men

The feminists extreme



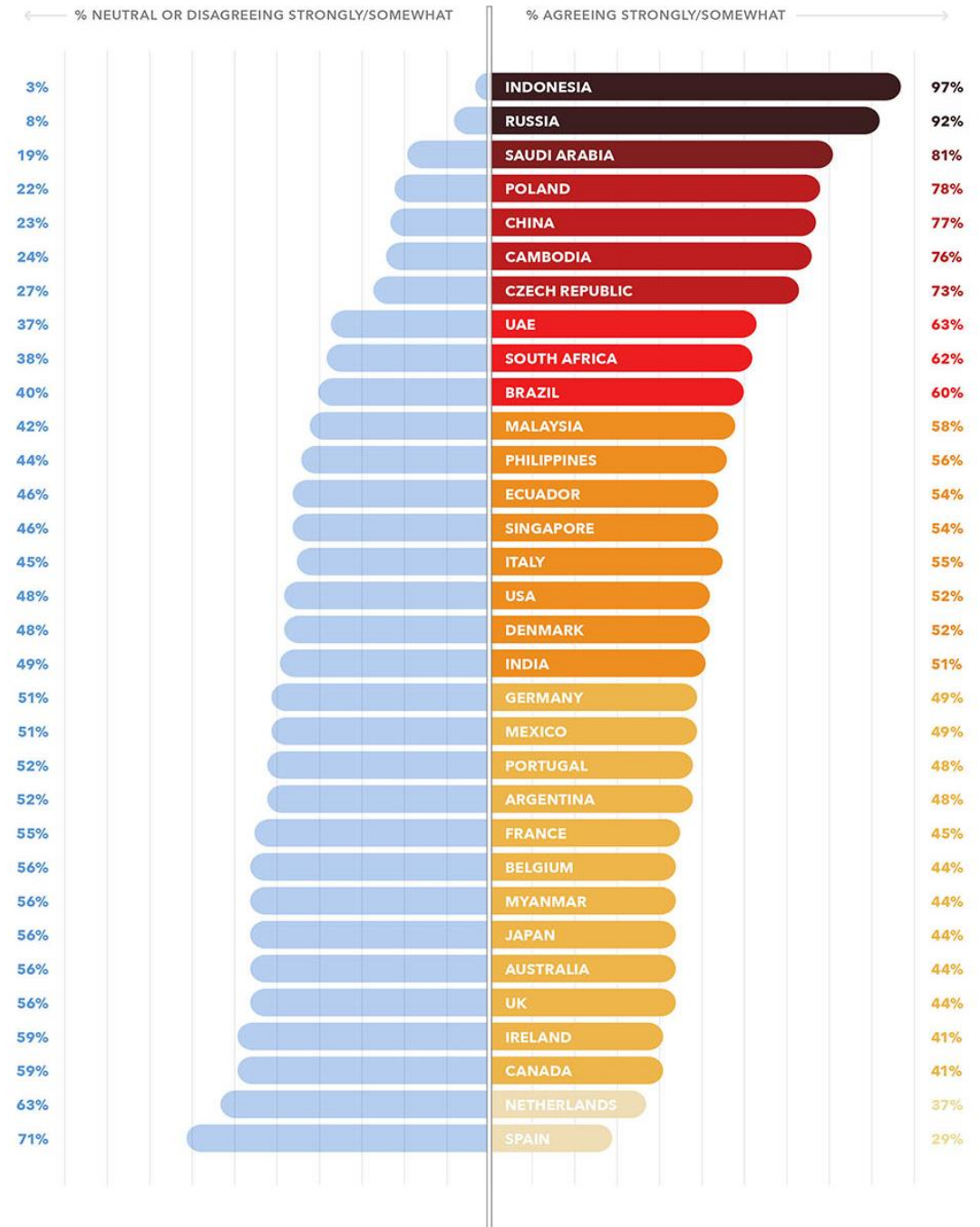


Gender distinctions discarded

- Gender fluidity
- Gender choice
- Non binary people

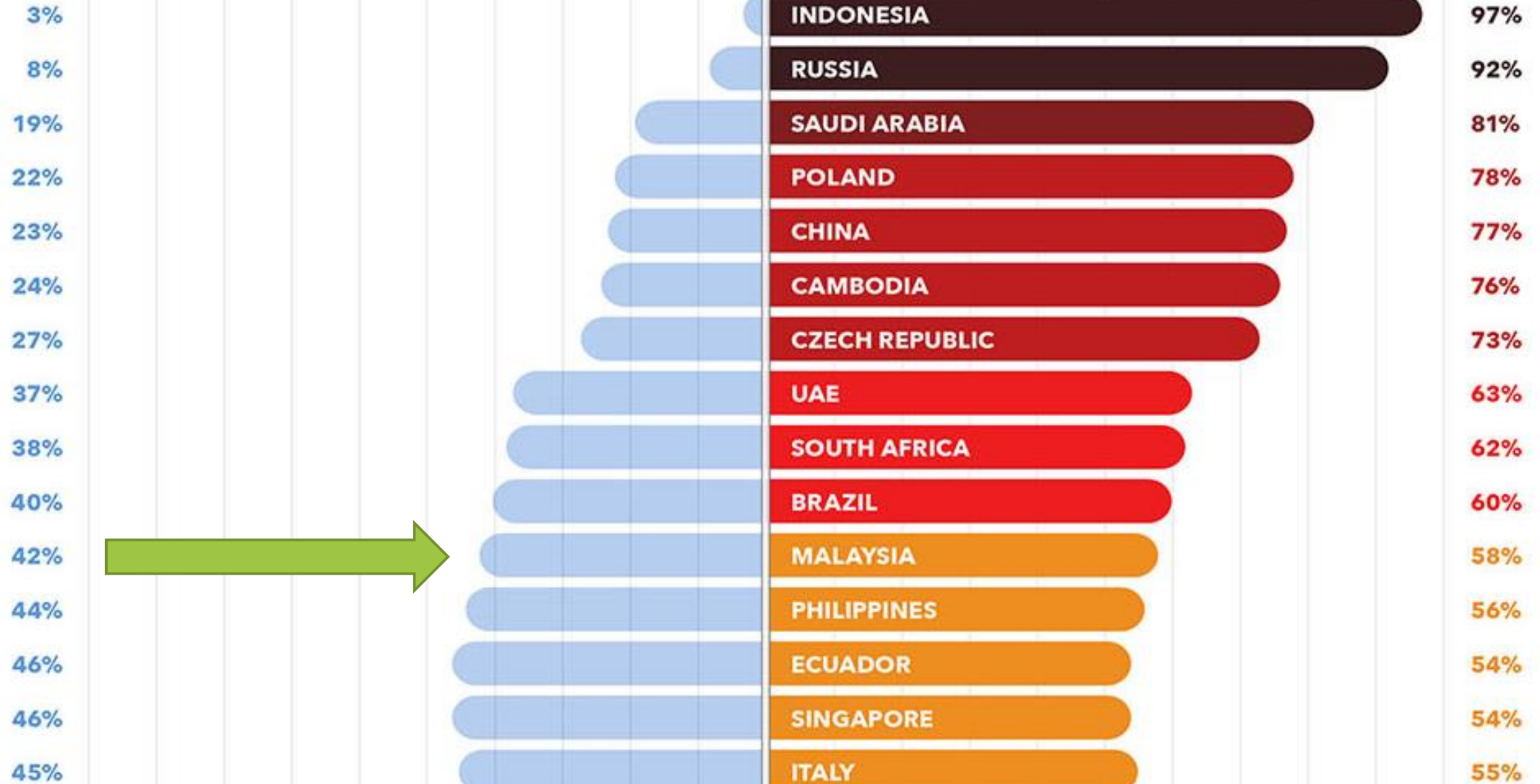
THE FUTURE IS FEMALE HAVAS SURVEY

Girls should be raised as girls and boys as boys



← % NEUTRAL OR DISAGREEING STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT

% AGREEING STRONGLY/SOMEWHAT →







Gender Distinctions



WHAT PAUL ADVOCATES



Gender Equality

Gender Complementarity

GENDER DISTINCTIONS ARE REAL AND DESIGNED BY GOD AND NOT THE RESULT OF THE FALL

Used 21 times in OT and 16 times refers to God

- **G** Psalms 54:4 (ESV) Behold, God is my helper; the Lord is the upholder of my life.

is not good that the man should be alone, I will make him a helper fit for him.”

Kenegdo...corresponding Our differences are our strengths, and denying the intricate design of the complementarity between the sexes is to deface the image of the Creator Himself

INTERDEPENDENCE-GENDER EQUALITY

11. Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman; 12 for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God.

AT FOOT OF THE CROSS

Galatians 3:26-28 (ESV) for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

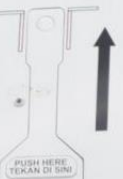
IF IT DID NOT ASSAULT HIS DIGNITY WHY SHOULD IT ASSAULT OURS?

- 1 Corinthians 11:3 (ESV) But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God.
- 1 Corinthians 15:28 (ESV) When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.



EXIT
KELUAR

DANGER



BUKA PINTU

KELUAR
EXIT



MALAYSIA



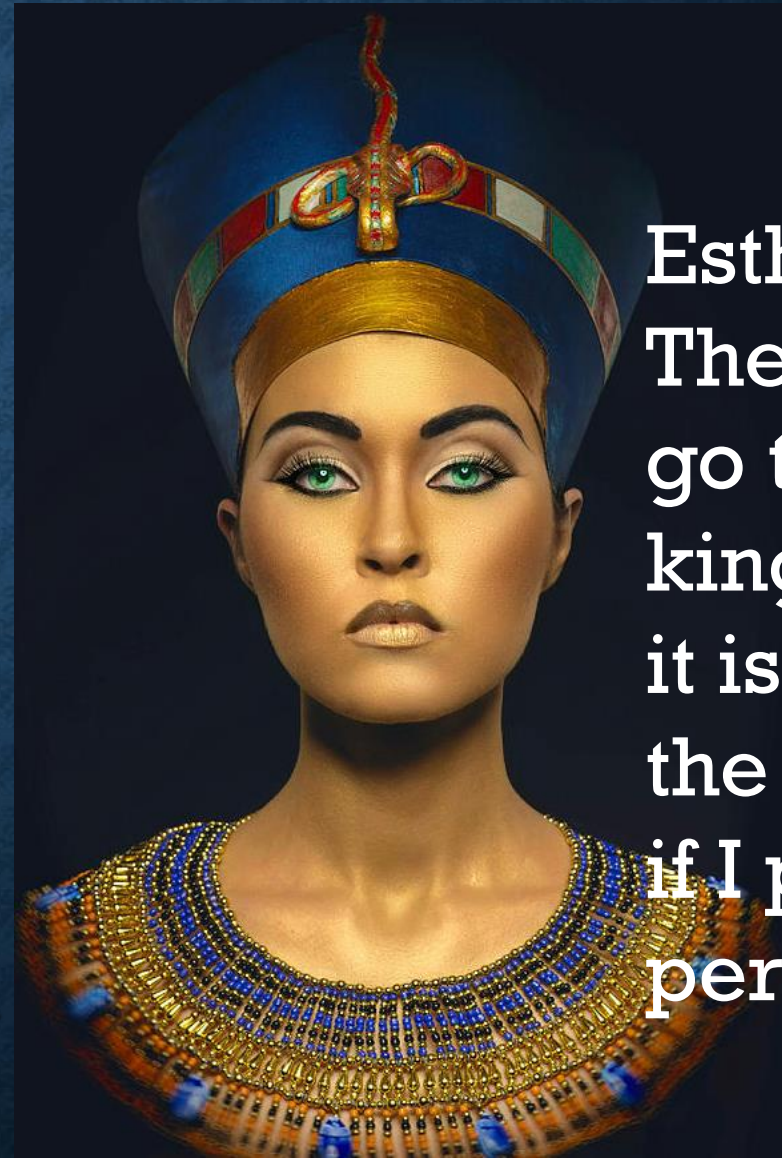
DIFFERING ROLES IN LEADERSHIP

Queen Esther

Shiphrah and Puah

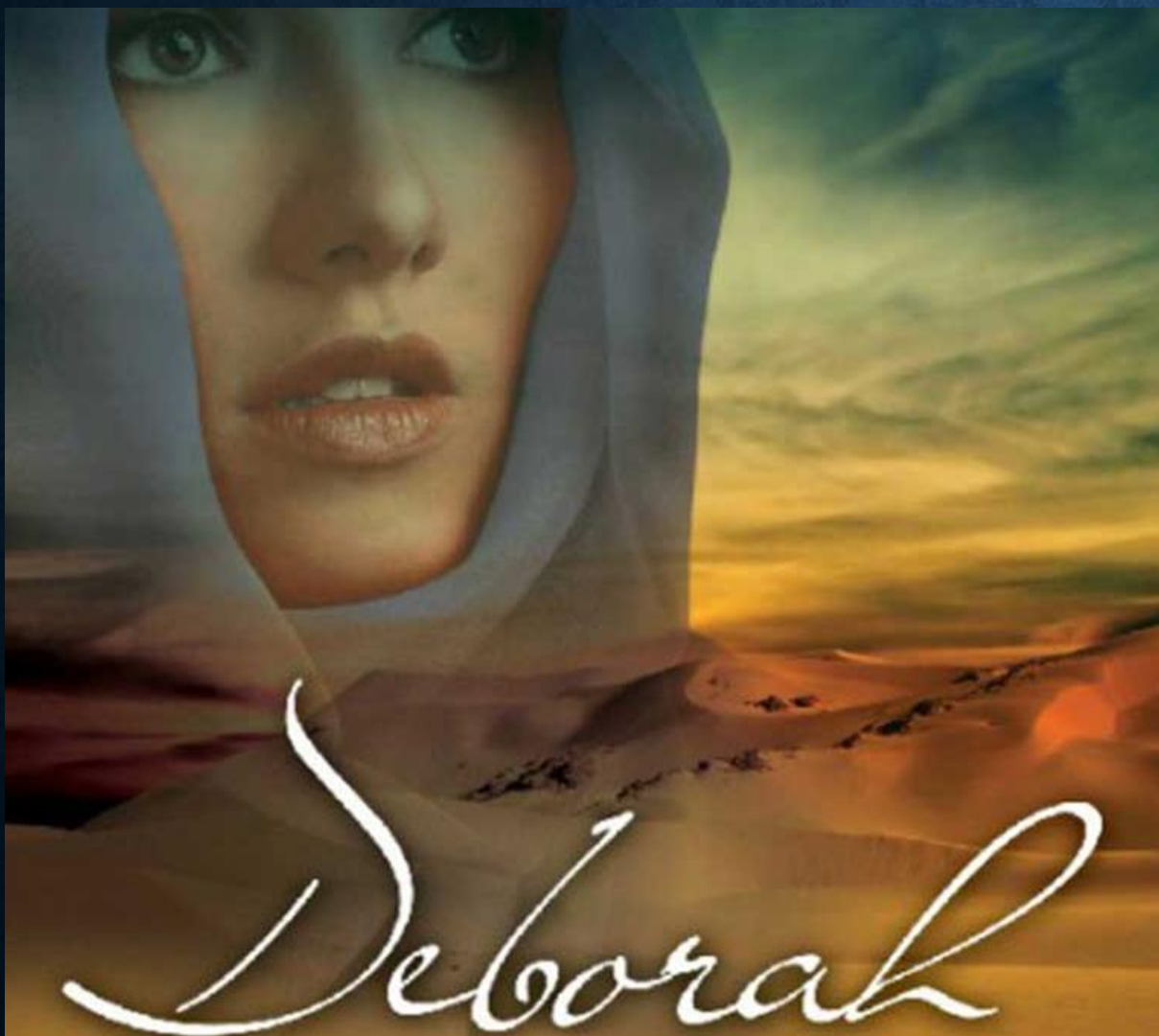


Exodus 1:17 (ESV) But the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but let the male children live.



Esther 4:16b
Then I will go to the king, though it is against the law, and if I perish, I perish.”

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



Judges 4:4-5 (ESV) Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time. 5 She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the people of Israel came up to her for judgment.



Accompanied Jesus suffering and crucifixion

First witness to Jesus' resurrection
Jesus chose her to announce the news to the disciples.

RECONSTRUCTING THE RISE OF CHRISTIANITY: THE ROLE OF WOMEN

Rodney Stark 1995 Sociology of Religion Vol 56



- Christian women had higher status within Christian subculture than pagans
- Women had leadership positions in the church
- Exogenous marriages with secondary conversions

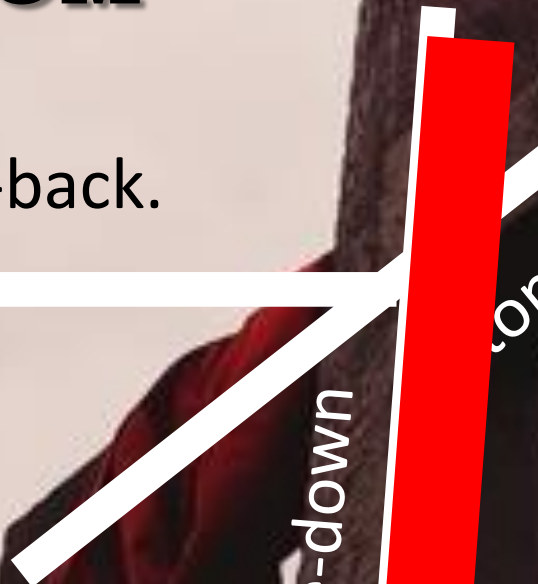
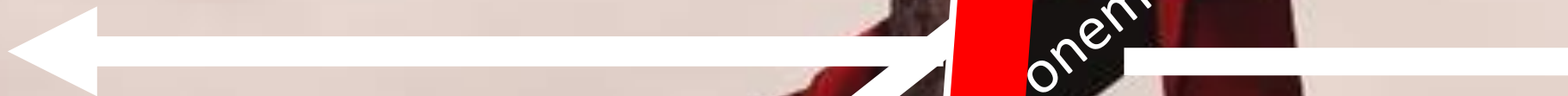
*The world looks for happiness
through self-assertion. The
Christian knows that joy is found
in self-abandonment*

servant HOOD

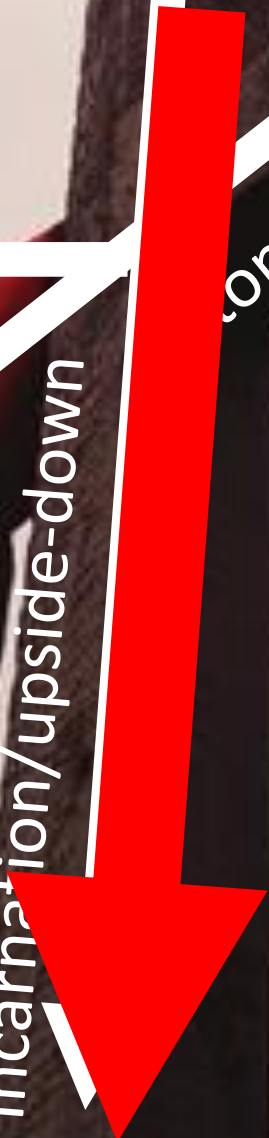
**THE GOSPEL MAKES A
DIFFERENCE**

THREE DIMENSIONS OF GOSPEL WISDOM

Resurrection/forward-back.



Incarnation/upside-down



Conement/inside-out



SUBMIT AND SACRIFICE...A MUTUALITY

Submission is voluntary and glad response

- Ephesians 5:22-25 (ESV) Wives, submit to your own husbands as to the Lord 23 For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ...
- 25 Husbands love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her Commanded to love not to compel submission



The meaning of marriage

the basic roles—of leader and helper—are binding, but every couple must work out how that will be expressed within their marriage.”

Kathy Keller-Complementairan

EGALITARIAN



Rachel Held Evans
NYT best selling author

I do not believe those differences to be universal, prescriptive, or indicative of hierarchy.



Rachel Held Evans

EGALITARIAN

- *As an egalitarian I believe that a truly complementary relationship is one in which differences are celebrated, but not forced*

Marriage and the church

Men : leadership-initiative, provision, and protection

Women :Affirm and receive this kind of leadership and provision and protection

Male Female complementarity

