

NEWS

Tory Shepherd: Pathetic bid for victimhood by portraying women as villains

TORY SHEPHERD THE ADVERTISER JANUARY 14, 2014 11:04PM

IF you accuse a bunch of men's rights extremists of calling women whores and bitches, be prepared for them to deny they call women whores and bitches.

And then prepare for them to call you a whore and a ... well, worse.

Which is no big drama - I learned long ago what happens if you cross these guys. Besides, last week I was called ShortHairLargeArse and ButchHairBargeBum. Far more accurate insults, although my hair has really grown quite long lately.

But I'm pretty keen to go over some of the ground that's been covered this week after uncovering plans to have a Male Studies course at the University of South Australia.

Most of the courses now won't go ahead - the uni says they were never approved, while other materials they say were pending sufficient interest, and a swag of proposed lecturers seemed to think they were locked in.

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Big ups to UniSA for having the sense to reject anything linked to those at the very fringe of the men's rights spectrum, and instead focus on men's health, taught by their own lecturers, not overseas ring ins.

You'd think I'd shut up now the plans are off the table, but it's really important to get across the bigger picture. See, most people probably think that the men's rights guys I was talking about - the ones who habitually call women names, argue that they routinely make up rape, and put it about that women either incite their own domestic violence or are the abusers themselves - are just circle-jerk misogynists.

They are - misogynists, I mean. And we're talking old-school misogyny - the hatred of women - as well as the new-school misogyny - entrenched prejudice against women.

Not just harmless condescension or unthinking stereotypes, but some serious anger.

The problem is, the circle is no longer closed, no longer just a bunch of angry guys in a basement. They're trying to get up the stairs and into the light.

They want to play outside with legitimate experts in men's issues and male disadvantage.

It's a classic tactic, used by pseudoscientific fraudsters. Adopt the language of the actual scientists. Find odd reports and old stories, random statistics and shocking anecdotes, and stitch them into a Hannibal Lecter-style creation that mimics valid inquiry.

Try to sound like the real deal, and look enough like them to fool some people, some of the time.

The good news is most of them struggle to keep up the farce. Paul Elam, editor of *A Voice For Men*, which is the global hub of men's rights delirium, popped up on FiveAA yesterday and said it was a lie that his site referred to women as bitches. That is, in turn, a lie. Any doubters should just Google it.

I suspect that Mr Elam's defence, as it is entirely clear that he loves to call women names, that he thinks women sometimes are "begging" to be raped, that he scoffs at domestic violence and seems to think women deliberately provoke violence against themselves to somehow get at men, is rather piss weak.

Maybe he just uses those words to describe feminists. He may even follow his managing editor's line of logic. Dean Esmay, talking about *The Advertiser* story on how their site likes to call women whores and bitches, said yesterday:

"We do not regularly call women as a class whores or c**ts... we will on occasion call a woman, like Tory Shepherd or a man like (University of Wollongong lecturer) Michael Flood a whore, a c**t, or a bitch... yes, we use heated rhetoric."

Yes, they do use heated rhetoric, and they do bang on interminably about how hard done-by men are.

Not in the important areas of health, where men are behind, or even education, where the same thing is happening. Or suicide.

No, not because of that, but because they keep getting ripped off and attacked by crazy bitches and feminazis out to oppress them.

Poor boys, trying desperately to claim the mantle of victimhood. It would be pathetic if it wasn't for the fact that they are trying to make women into villains at the same time.

It could be dismissed if they weren't trying to creep in where they are not needed, or wanted. If they weren't trying to lobby for law changes or to brainwash people into thinking black is white.

The shades of grey, of course, are that sometimes men are victims - of domestic violence, of false rape accusations, of gold diggers.

But these guys drown out any real discussion with their endless angry spittle. And that's the real bitch.