

Annie Mandart
Intro to WMST

SLUT Manifesto

It isn't easy to be a slut in today's world. When patriarchy defines us, he tells us that we are women without character, women without morals. We are women who expose ourselves and don't give a shit about doing so. We lack poise and embrace promiscuity. We are America's most un-prized possession. In fact, patriarchy wants us gone so badly that he teaches our youth to view us in a highly stigmatized paradigm. This becomes the guiding force in our culture of slut-shaming—our youth learning that it is okay to put a woman down and disregard her based on what she is or isn't wearing and how she so chooses to express her sexuality.

Well, patriarchy, let me tell you something. If I am going to be a slut, I am going to do it by my own standards—by our standards. Reclaimed sluts are sluts of power, sluts of pride. They are women who own their sexuality and don't care about the bullshit double standards. They are women who are strong, powerful leaders. We are white women, women of color, women of varying abilities, women of privilege or a lack thereof. We get shit done and do it with a passionate fire burning inside of us—all while wearing either the tiniest shorts or the world's longest skirt. We play by our rules, not yours.

In a world where our words are our everything, there exists a need for a dynamic rhetorical revolution around the word slut. We need to ban together and reclaim our bodies, our selves, and our words from patriarchy in our slut-shaming world. We will work together as a collective and form a movement that allows us to rebuild our name as women. We will demand the freedom to identify how we so choose—slut, whore, bitch, straight, gay—whatever. We are women and we are the future. The time for our rhetorical revolution is now.