

Fortunately male attitudes changed for the better as well.



Now returning to that party nearly 40 years ago. I did advise my friend, the hostess, that "before we came here tonight, my husband bathed the 3 kids and got them ready for bed so I could get ready for this party. That's chivalry to me because it's the help I needed. I can open my own door."

For the record, as I approach a door I open it and hold the door for whoever is coming behind me, whether male or female. It's the friendliest and most efficient thing to do.

Edit: Boilham makes a good point that should be considered as well.

It's always hardest for the first generation confronting new attitudes. Perhaps my perspective is colored by coming of age in NYC. I saw behavior like holding a door or giving up a seat on the subway as a matter of need rather than gender. Was the person using a cane? Were they carrying packages or perhaps a small child? That's why I always equated respect with non manly things like helping with housework or changing diapers.

I would never respond to any kindness with contempt, however. Even now when occasionally some young person defers to me, I say thank you, although I feel perfectly fit and capable of managing by myself. Of course, now the help is probably offered because of my age and not gender.

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#### WATERMELLEN

Great blog! I'm a feminist, for sure . . . and at my age experienced plenty of discrimination to achieve the (traditionally "male") stuff I've done.

But basically I'm a humanist. Courtesy for everyone, based upon need, is much more important to me. Read in the paper just today that the strongest marriages are those in which small everyday courtesies are the norm . . . not the big romantic gesture so much! 3036 days ago



#### BROOKLYN\_BORN

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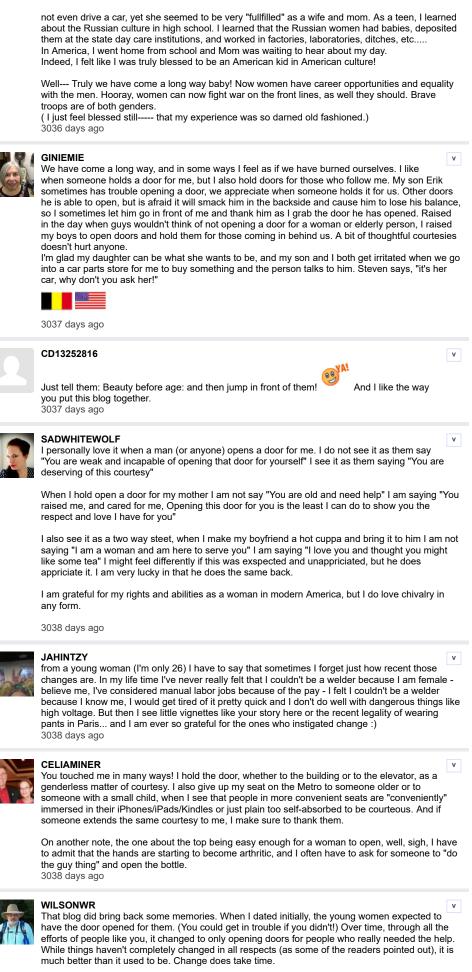
I can't thank BAMAJAM for her comment (or include my input) on her Sparkpage since she doesn't have one. So I'll just do it here. I reread my blog and the comments and except for one description of misunderstandings in the early days of the women's movement, I can't find any mention of anyone reacting badly to a display of courtesy. In fact, most have written that they are courteous to BOTH genders. Both genders need help occasionally.

Regarding women working outside the home or not, it's about having the choice. Forcing women into factory work as she described in Russia is not choice.

The last thing women of any generation need is antagonism between those who made a different choice than others did. 3036 days ago

# BAMAJAM

I was taught to extend courtesy, and I am always grateful to receive it! Too bad that some folks are so easily offended by gracious acts of consideration. Geeeez, are they just looking for a grievance?!--- I am from the old school; grew up with mom practically tied to the house. She did



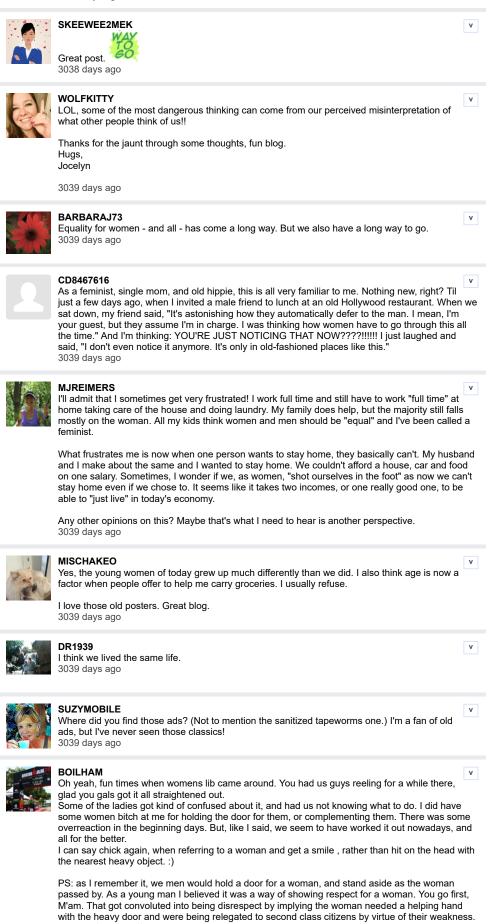
I like your approach of not criticizing the person offering help -- it was really confusing when I was







younger. Sometimes you got in trouble for helping; other times you got in trouble for not!! 3038 days ago



Very confusing stuff.

3039 days ago

	Comment edited on: 2/17/2013 8:28:13 AM	
0	KELLIEBEAN v   Amazing how things used to be. We've come a long way baby! 3039 days ago	
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