

18. "*Male legislatures have already gone far in giving women statutory protection.*" Women do not ask protection. They ask justice. They ask recognition of their powers, and of their rights to use them. They ask freedom to perform their duty as they conceive it. True women resent man's ideal that they are weak and delicate beings to be protected. From what are they to be protected? The only protection they need is from man himself in his assumption of their just rights and privileges. Woman claims liberty, not protection. She is not content with barbaric or oriental subordination, nor with the equally degrading ideal of an extravagant chivalry. She asks recognition as a good, sensible, human being, with powers as distinct and as essential as man's, which she purposes to use in co-operation with man in working out human destiny.

19. "*Women should have confidence in men.*" Women have confidence in the justice of enlightened and unprejudiced men, and they are now engaged in enlightening man, and freeing him from his dwarfing prejudices. The fact that the ablest modern theologians and social scientists, and many of the greatest statesmen are in favor of woman suffrage, gives woman confidence in man's justice. The recent majority in the British House of Commons naturally strengthens the confidence, but it does more; it increases woman's faith in the justice of her cause. Woman asks man to undo a great wrong, and she believes he will be wise enough to recognize woman's responsible individuality, and just enough to free her from the restrictions of a primitive civilization. The fact that woman appeals to man for justice, does not prove that woman should be satisfied to allow man alone to continue to make laws, but the reverse. She appeals to man because at present he holds the power in his own hands, so that her appeal cannot logically be used as the basis of an argument against woman suffrage.

Men should trust women as much as they expect women to trust them. Women love and respect men quite as much as men love and respect women. Women would be as fair to men as men could be to women, but none of the men who urge women to be satisfied to allow male parliaments, responsible to men alone, to make laws for them, would themselves be willing