

— OPINION —

WALSH: It's Time For The #MeToo Movement To End

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#MeToo equates very unequal kinds of sexual misdeeds.

#MeToo has taken all sorts of sexual improprieties and put them all on the same spectrum, and then bunched them close together on that spectrum. Now, if a woman says she is a victim of sexual assault, she could mean anything from forcible rape to awkward flirting. She could mean that a felony was committed, or she could mean that a coworker propositioned her. Flirting is called harassment and harassment is called assault. Molehills are made into mountains and mountains into molehills.

In reality, there is no spectrum connecting rape to untoward comments. There is a vast chasm separating the two categories. On one side of the chasm is criminal violence and on the other is behavior ranging from normal to merely inappropriate.

#MeToo infantilizes women.

Feminists claim that they want to empower women, but at the same time they treat women like fainting damsels. Now, because of #MeToo, we call a woman a “survivor” if she was sexually harassed when she worked as a Denny’s waitress 12 years ago. Or we may call her a survivor if she survived rape.

Obviously the word is appropriate in the latter context but completely absurd in the former. It makes women seem so emotionally helpless and fragile that any uncomfortable or awkward situation will lead to a lifetime of trauma.

#MeToo is mass hysteria.

The #MeToo movement does not facilitate a thoughtful discussion about sexual assault. It impedes the discussion. It prohibits it. That’s how hysteria always works.

The hysterical mob demands our unthinking participation. It does not want to answer any questions or entertain any rational critiques. It is not interested in nuance. You must jump on the Bandwagon of Outrage or crush underneath it.

And so it should be opposed.