THE FEMINIST FANDOM MANIFESTO: ABRIDGED

FOR THE NERD/GEEK/FAN CULTURE BY: M_L_K

SELF-ABJECTION WITHIN COSPLAY

One is the cosplay community. This community improved in recent years, but I feel that it is still important to discuss the issue on people who self-abject themselves where they cannot take a part in cosplaying. Within the cosplay and fan community tend to jeer and reject of cosplayers who are fat, who crossplay (cosplaying a character of the opposite sex), and people of color because they have they didn't have the right skin tone for the character they're cosplaying. The fan community set standards for fans who want to cosplay. Not only is it bad and rude to tell people what they can and cannot cosplay, it results in people learning to hate and reject their body and prevent them from participating in an aspect of the fan community.

ABJECTION WITH FEMALE COSPLAYERS AT CONVENTIONS

Conventions are usually a time for fans to get together to express the love for their interests. That expression can come in the form of people cosplaying their favorite character. Usually people go up to cosplayers compliment them and ask to take a photo of them. But some of the time, that is not the case. At conventions, female cosplayers are harassed for cosplaying characters who have sexy, revealing, and or stripperiffic outfits. Fans harass them by taking photos of the female cosplayers without permission or using selfie sticks to take upskirt photos. Female cosplayers are also harassed by the internet when they post a picture of their cosplay of this sexy character. The internet feels like they have the right to call them a whore for cosplaying that sexy character. Yet character who's wearing the sexy outfit is never called out despite the fact that the creator chose to depict the character that way. Even when cosplayers want to bring up this issue, the "Cosplay is not Consent", they're met with anger from other fans on the internet who tell us to stop making this an issue. Or that it is a choice to cosplay sexy characters and deal with the "consequences" of dressing like this sexy character. The fan community fails to bring up these issues which makes female cosplayers uncomfortable and not as welcomed in the community.

ABJECTION WITHIN THE GAMING COMMUNITY

One last example I give is how the gaming community abjects women. If a female gamer decides to put on headphones and turn on the mic to play online games like Call of Duty, she is met with harassment that tells her: .

"Go back to the kitchen and make me a sandwich!"
"Shut that fucking bitch up!"
"Hey, you shut up slut! Shut your mouth girl, before I put my dick in it!"

These are real quotes are from male gamers. These quotes definitely do not sound like something from a welcoming community. And these quotes don't also apply to online gaming towards women, but to other online fandom communities targeting people of color, all genders, and their sexual identity. Even when women and others try to discuss about these issues, they're immediately met with harassment or blown off. They're told that they shouldn't complain about this or learn to take a joke by both male and sometimes female gamers. So it is no wonder why some people do not feel welcomed in the gaming community, because almost everyone in the community aren't willing to listen.