Women must not be defined by stance on sex, virginity

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"Your virginity is sacred."

"You should wait until marriage to have sex."

"Your first time will change you forever." Everyone views the idea of virginity differently, but when you think about it, that's all virginity really is — an idea. No one really loses anything from having sex.

If you're going to wait until marriage to have sex for the first time, that's great — this is not at all about glamorizing sex the way it typically is in TV shows or movies. But there will be people who are going have sex before exchanging their "I do"s.

Either way, there is no right or wrong way to view sex.

There is not a right or wrong time to have sex.

It's all about who you're having sex with and why. It's about whether the decision you make to have sex is your own and whether or not it will make you happy.

For a woman, there's a double standard when it comes to sex.

If she waits too long, she's considered a

"prude" or a "tease," but if she has sex "too soon" or with "too many people," she's considered provocative.

But for men, it's socially acceptable to have consensual sex with whomever — and whenever — they want.

Say a woman has premarital, meaningful sex with five separate men who felt the same way towards her.

Now say a man has premarital, meaningless sex with five separate women.

Why does society still consider the woman in the wrong?

Why does society only consider the number and not the meaning behind it?

If a woman chooses to have sex prior to walking down the aisle, it does not make her any less righteous nor does it decrease her worth whatsoever.

The belief that a woman is forever changed after losing her virginity implies she's less of a person. This only perpetuates the old-fashioned concept that men are superior to women and that a man is so important he has the ability to "change" her forever.

It is nothing to be ashamed of, especially if you're content with the choice you've made to have sex.

Women have complete control of their bodies and should have sex when they feel they are ready, regardless of when that may be. It is no one else's decision but their own, and there should be no judgment passed on them for making that choice.

That being said, women also have the right to dress as they please without feeling demoralized by another person.

She is not "asking for it" by wearing a short dress or a low-cut shirt. Provocative clothing does not indicate a woman has been with a lot of men nor does it indicate that she wants to be. It goes hand-in-hand with the idea that women should be able to have consensual sex with whoever they want — whenever they want — just as a man is able to — without being thought of as anything less than they were before.

Again, this is not at all about embellishing the idea of sex or condoning meaningless sex with multiple partners. You should never feel obligated to have sex with anyone because it is viewed as a more casual thing than it has ever been, but you should never feel ashamed if you feel you're ready, either. Ultimately sex is a personal decision that shouldn't be influenced by the media or other people.