Twitter Thread by #BeingHuman

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@MenAtWork_MC

Men. Brothers:

I absolutely, unreservedly support women in defending their sex-based rights to women-only spaces, services & opportunities for a host of reasons.

Among them:

1. If SOME males obtain the right to those things, on the basis of 'self-identitifying' 1/

as having a nebulous #genderidentity which functions as a magic key, then ALL males obtain the right, irrefutably. ALL men would acquire the right which we could choose to exercise or not. Like masters of everywhere & everything. No checks, no balances. Just our choices. 2/

If we are capable of empathy we will know that that's an intolerable assault on the safety and dignity of women and girls. A sexual totalitarianism laid on top of the already deeply misogynistic cultures we have developed.

Do we have empathy enough with women to see this? 3/

2. The idea that only gentle, vulnerable, harmless males -whether they believe themselves to qualify as 'women' or not - would exercise that new universal right is so absurd as to not deserve consideration. History shows us why.

3. A let's ask ourselves why some men are so 4/

Very keen to tell women to accept males in their spaces, services and opportunities. What are the motives? On the surface they are a desire for 'kindness', 'acceptance' - by women, toward men. Hmmm... So women are the nurse-class of humans, the sponges, the buffers?

Sexism 5/

Why don’t we think about how we men regulate our own spaces, rules of ‘manhood’, ‘masculinity’ & ‘maleness’? What is it that some of our brothers cannot bear to live in / as? Our suffocating expectations, demands, limitations, judgements? If someone wanted to leave your social 6/

group wouldn’t you be curious as to why? Or would you tell another social group that they should accept them ‘or else’? No reflection? No soul-searching? Just ‘good riddance’ & ‘let them in or face our wrath?’. Hmmm...

Maybe we find men performing ‘woman’ (femininity tropes) 7/

Threatening of our own sense of ‘man-ness’ - maybe it scares, confuses and disgusts us because it goes against our own socialization as males? Maybe that’s not something we want - or are able - to acknowledge? Easier to tell the women to accept them than we do that, right? 8/

That’s women’s work anyway, looking after us. Right?

4. Women need space away from the male gaze, respite from vulnerability, chance 2 relax, enjoy, organise, think, talk without us. We respect that - right? When I was younger I might have felt somehow rejected or slighted 9/

But we grow up & learn. Men who don’t accept boundaries are dangerous, regardless of whether those men are perpetrators or merely immature - cognitively & emotionally. The former enacts abuse, the latter facilitates it. The damage is the same.

There’s so much more to say... 10/