SUBMISSION FROM CLAIRE GARDINER

Here are a few replies I have received in regards to the equal opportunities inquiry.

‘this is a huge issue as you all know - however I would focus on education in terms of changing attitudes and the clustering of women into caring professions etc. Educating girls separately from boys does seem to make a difference, with more girls taking sciences and technology subjects when educated separately - although I know this would not be an option for state schools in this climate. But perhaps having separate classes for IT and sciences etc within states schools might be an option.’

‘i dont feel that doing anything will help. There will always be inequality, there will always be gender inequality, there will always be a pay gap...why fight a losing battle when men will always want to stay superior to women, they are the ones at the top, they are the ones who can make the change.’

‘having worked for a male who’s whole staff was female, it was easy to see why men are the superior ones in the workplace, This man treated us like rubbish, giving us the bare minimum to survive and survive we had to as the option of having no job or no money was worse. Even when the minimum wage came in, this man still found ways of keeping costs down: making us work twice as hard and lowering our hours.’

Claire Gardiner
6 February 2013