

Embracing the Killjoy: Our Editorial Declaration

Let's take the figure of the feminist killjoy seriously. One feminist project could be to give the killjoy back her voice. Whilst hearing feminists as killjoys might be a form of dismissal, there is an agency that this dismissal rather ironically reveals. We can respond to this accusation with a "yes."

—Sara Ahmed, *The Promise of Happiness*

Often, as feminists, our decisions to call out instances of oppression and challenge power dynamics are met with backlash. The word killjoy is meant to first sting, then silence. It is time to reload the term feminist again and respond to this accusation with a resounding “yes.” As a group, we are inspired by Sara Ahmed and her call “to give the killjoy back her voice.” So *Spaces Between: An Undergraduate Feminist Journal* was created as a site where the feminist killjoy is welcome; where we kill joy together in conversation with Marvel’s greatest heroes, visual artist Kiki Smith, country musician Corb Lund, and *Maxim* magazine. Our feminist project is to actualize a forum for undergraduate students to publish research in Women’s and Gender Studies and feminist research within other disciplines. We aimed, in short, to take the feminist killjoy seriously: to wield the power of critique along a radical anti-oppression trajectory. This aim materializes in these first pages of our inaugural issue and will continue to do so in our future publications. We thank you for taking the time to read our collective efforts, and give many thanks to our wonderful contributors for their excellent and creative thinking. We hope that you will be inspired to kill some joy yourself.

Sincerely,
Spaces Between

