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The choice of Sarah Palin

by [James Bowman](#)

On the Republican vice-presidential candidate and the feminists.

It may seem odd, at first, that the unbending, hard-line “pro-choice” attitude to abortion adopted by so many feminists of a generation now deprived by nature of their reproductive rights came to its present position of political importance just when it did. For that was at the same moment in our cultural history, the early 1970s, when the only good reason for legalized abortion apart from mere personal preference—namely, the social stigma attaching to single motherhood—was on its way, very rapidly, out. Who could imagine such a cruel, unenlightened approach to female sexuality today as the one which was all but universal up until the 1960s? And yet some very enlightened people in the media and the Democratic party would have been happy for an *ad hoc* re-scandalizing of illegitimacy when it was revealed, the day after John McCain’s electrifying announcement of Governor Sarah Palin of Alaska as his choice for the Rep ...

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