

## Linda's Summary for *Why Are There Still So Few Successful Female Artists?* By Ben Davis:

A critique of counting as an endpoint of analysis. Simply counting the number of "great" female artists then comparing it to the number of "great" male artists didn't by itself explain anything.

Two possible channels by which the outwardly progressive art world might reproduce sexism: The first was that the commercial art industry was about servicing the appetites of the wealthy. Given the not-at-all equal distribution of wealth in society, this reality ultimately meant that it was about servicing the appetites of men—a state of affairs bound to produce bias. The second was that, when you examined how artists achieved gallery representation, it was through relatively invisible personal networks. Grasping this, I thought, might explain how a "boy's club" mentality replicated itself, consciously or unconsciously. But these two factors are still too art-world centric. A third factor is, aspiring female artists may get fewer opportunities because they are less aggressive about promoting themselves: to approach dealers, pitch projects, ask for studio visits. Women are sometimes socialized to ask for less.

Find the full article at <https://news.artnet.com/market/female-artists-pay-gap-307951>