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Admiral Zumwalt  
1500 Wilson Blvd.  
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Admiral:

Your May 11 column on women in business and the military was politically correct, but intellectually dishonest.

You claim, with no evidence given, that women "have performed superbly" at the military academies. Oh, really? What they actually have done, as you well know, has caused the lowering of physical standards with things such as "arm hangs" rather than pull-ups, elimination of forced marches, use of running shoes rather than boots and on and on. Ask any male cadet or midshipman (off the record) and you'll find out what they've done for morale.

Then you dismiss the "deep concerns" many of us had on having women on ships or in combat slots as having been proven "grossly overstated." Is that so? How about the 36 of them that became pregnant on one ship during the Gulf crisis, or the women who tearfully refused to drive a truck in Panama because they had been on duty nine hours. Once again ask the GI's and sailors (off the record) and you'll get the real facts.

Women do fine in business, but to state that they have proven themselves the equal of men in the military is irresponsible, and, yes, Admiral, a little bit unpatriotic considering the stakes involved.

*William K Lane* 

CC  
1 Jim  
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