NPR Listening Party Kit: March 2016

Pick a story, gather friends and spark thoughtful conversation through a shared listening experience.
1. **Stories: Women’s History Month Edition**

   Our stories this month are organized into four categories so you can choose your own adventure. Pick one theme, or mix and match stories.

2. **Bonus Reads: Advice From Wise Women**

   As a bonus, this month we revisit a beloved NPR essay series: She Works. Check out thoughtful and heartfelt advice from NPR’s leading ladies.

3. **March Playlist from NPR Music**

   Set the mood while planning and hosting your Listening Party this month with our NPR Music-curated playlist.

4. **Guide To Hosting A Listening Party**

   If you’re new to this, our guide materials help you bring your listening party to life.
March Stories: Women’s History Month Edition
Interviews With Bad*ss Women

• Terry Gross Interviews Gloria Steinem
• Kelly McEvers Interviews Nina Jacobson
• Susan Stamberg Interviews Erica Jung
At 81, Feminist Gloria Steinem Finds Herself Free Of The ‘Demands Of Gender’

Host: Terry Gross on Fresh Air
Time: 37 min 10 sec

There are so many juicy ideas in this interview. What stood out to you most? At the end of the piece, Gloria talks about aging and how gender expectations seem to go away later in life. Discuss.

‘We All Have To Do Something’: Nina Jacobson On Diversifying Hollywood

Host: Kelly McEvers on All Things Considered
Time: 7 min 57 sec

What did you find most interesting about Nina Jacobson? What do you think of her approach to solving diversity issues: by putting a finger on the scale?

40 Years Ago, ‘Fear Of Flying’ Showed Women Like Sex, Too

Reporter: Susan Stamberg on Weekend Edition
Time: 9 min 29 sec

How did this story make you feel? What did it make you think about? What did you think of Erica and Susan’s reflections on contemporary shows like Girls?
Women In Pop Culture & Politics

- The ‘Girl’ In The Title: More Than A Marketing Trend
- Barbershop: Feminist Pioneers, Young Women And Hillary Clinton
- Single By Choice: Why Fewer American Women Are Married Than Ever Before
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>Host</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Question</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning Edition</td>
<td>The ‘Girl’ In The Title: More Than A Marketing Trend</td>
<td>Steve Inskeep</td>
<td>7 min 7 sec</td>
<td>Have you considered this idea before? Have you purchased a book more readily because it had ‘Girl’ in the title? Why do you think that is?</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Things Considered</td>
<td>Barbershop: Feminist Pioneers, Young Women And Hillary Clinton</td>
<td>Michel Martin</td>
<td>10 min 23 sec</td>
<td>Which speaker’s perspective resonated most with you? Do you think that young women don’t understand what women before them went through? What do you think of Hillary? How much does her gender play into your perspective?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresh Air</td>
<td>Single By Choice: Why Fewer American Women Are Married Than Ever Before</td>
<td>Terry Gross</td>
<td>37 min 51 sec</td>
<td>Did anything in particular strike you about Rebecca’s research and perspective? What are your personal thoughts on marriage? What would you say has most influenced your ideas?</td>
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Women & The Workplace: The Pay Gap Endures

- 50 Years After The Equal Pay Act, Gender Wage Gap Endures
- Why Women Don’t Ask For More Money
- Some Companies Fight Pay Gap By Eliminating Salary Negotiations
50 Years After The Equal Pay Act, Gender Wage Gap Endures

Reporter: Yuki Noguchi on Morning Edition
Time: 5 min 1 sec

Did this story surprise you? Why or why not? Do you have a personal story about becoming aware of this pay gap? What might a solution be?

Why Women Don’t Ask For More Money

Reporter: Ashley Milne-Tyte on Morning Edition
Time: 5 min 33 sec

If you’re a women: share a story about asking for a raise or a promotion.
If you’re a man: share a story about a female colleague asking for more money.

Some Companies Fight Pay Gap By Eliminating Salary Negotiations

Reporter: Yuki Noguchi on Morning Edition
Time: 4 min 1 sec

What do you think of this approach to fighting the pay gap? Do you agree or disagree? Why? Do you have other ideas for facing this problem?
4

Tough Topic: Violence Against Women

• Jon Krakauer Tells A 'Depressingly Typical' Story Of College Town Rapes
• #FreeKesha Puts A Legal Battle In A Public Spotlight
• How The 'Rolling Stone' Story Could Hurt Future Victims
Jon Krakauer Tells A 'Depressingly Typical' Story Of College Town Rapes

Host: Rachel Martin on Weekend Edition
Time: 7 min 47 sec

This is a tough interview. How did it make you feel listening to Jon describe the process of writing the book? Did his findings surprise you? Why do you this sexual violence against women is so hard to address?

#FreeKesha Puts A Legal Battle In A Public Spotlight

Reporter: Rose Friedman on All Things Considered
Time: 3 min 26 sec

What do you think of this story? Should Kesha be freed from her contract with Dr. Luke? Why or why not? What, if anything, do you think this case says about our broader society?

How The 'Rolling Stone' Story Could Hurt Future Victims

Host: Arun Rath on Weekend, ATC
Time: 4 min 19 sec

Another tough story. Do you remember how you felt when the story broke that there were problems with the Rolling Stone article? How do you think something like this shapes cultural thinking around rape?
Bonus Reads: Wise Words From Storied Women
What does ‘having it all’ mean to you at this moment in your life? Do you think that definition may evolve?

Have you been the only woman in the room? Share your experience.

Which piece of Susan’s advice hit home for you? What’s something you wish you could tell your younger self?

She Works: Advice To Your Younger Self
Reporter: Susan Stamberg

She Works: The Only Woman In The Room
Reporter: Nina Totenberg

She Works: Having It All
Reporter: Audie Cornish
March Playlist
In celebration of Women’s History Month, this month’s playlist is as varied as women themselves. From nostalgic to empowering, from optimistic to low, these songs together offer a small window in the female experience and celebrate the myriad of amazing artists - both female and male - telling the stories of women through song.
How to Host an #NPRListingParty
WHAT IS A LISTENING PARTY, ANYWAY?

Bring together friends for a fun, refreshing social experience that’s usually solitary: listening to radio stories.

At an NPR Listening Party, great audio storytelling gives you and your crew the chance to take a break from screens, listen together, and go deeper with thoughtful discussion and stories of your own.

It’s easy. All you have to do is:

- Pick a story
- Gather friends in a cozy place
- Hit airplane mode, listen and discuss!

Each month, our themed toolkit offers a section of stories curated to help spark discussion and includes conversation catalysts.

Show us how you #HostYourOwn #NPRListeningParty and together we can spread the mission of public radio for a more informed, engaged, and empathetic world.
### HOW TO GET STARTED

1. **Pick a day and time.**
   
   Weekend brunch works great, as do weekday evenings. Consider other events happening in your community already and schedule around them so you don’t have to compete. We recommend carving out about 90 minutes for the whole event.

2. **Pick a venue.**

   We recommend hosting at your house to keep things cozy and casual. But if you have other ideas or access to an intimate space, go for it! Ideally, aim to keep the group no larger than 20 people so that everyone gets a chance to speak.
3 Send your invite.

You can use email, Facebook, or whatever you like. Please include the NPR Generation Listen logo or feel free to use our invite graphic. Have fun with it! A day or two before the Listening Party, send your guests a reminder to be on time and include any key information about arriving to / parking at your home, etc.

4 Choose a story or podcast.

Think about what will connect with the friends you’ve invited. You can choose one longer piece, or pair a couple of shorter segments. Generally aim for no longer than 45 minutes. Stories with a bit of tension or controversy make for a more lively discussion. Listen ahead of time and prepare some conversation starters to kick off your discussion. Also, consider which friends may have some interesting ideas to contribute based on subject matter expertise.
5 Prep the space.

Coziness is key. You want people to settle in — kind of like watching a movie. Put out lots of pillows and blankets. Keep the lighting soft. If possible, arrange seating into a circle, which will help conversation flow. It’s a good idea to have a focal point for folks to settle their gaze on (it may feel strange at first to not be looking at a screen). We also recommend setting out paper and pens so people can take notes and/or doodle while they listen.

6 Mind the details.

Identify the device you plan to play the story from ahead of time. Make sure it’s fully charged and notifications are off. You may consider downloading the piece if your Internet is spotty. Make sure your speakers are powerful enough for everyone to hear with no problems. Oh, and stock up on some light snacks and drinks for folks to munch on.
Quick Checklist

- Set date + time
- Send invite
- Pre-listen to story
- Jot down a few discussion-starting questions
- Create a cozy feel where you’re hosting:
  - Arrange seating in a circle if possible
  - Pillows, blankets, comfy chairs
  - Soft lighting
  - Pre-download story or make sure you have solid Internet connection

- Turn off notifications on streaming device
- Set out some notepads and pens / markers
- Stock up on light snacks & beverages
- Know the room: are there some subject matter experts you can pass the ball to during the discussion?
- Snap some pics for the socials
- Be creative! Make your Listening Party uniquely yours
5 TIPS ON HOW TO MODERATE A CONVERSATION

NPR’s Guy Raz is an award-winning journalist and host of NPR’s TED Radio Hour

As a host and correspondent, he has interviewed and profiled more than 6,000 people that span the gamut from Jimmy Carter to Mark Zuckerberg to Taylor Swift. Suffice it to say, Guy is a true master of the art of opening people up. He was kind enough to share his top tips for moderating an incredible conversation.

   Give something, get something. If you make yourself vulnerable, others will be willing to open up to you.

2. Be open and curious in your conversation.
   Find moments of common experience whenever you can. (i.e. I like jazz! Me too!)

3. Acknowledge silences and awkward pauses.
#HostYourOwn

SEND AN INVITE
visit our website for more information

 generationlisten.npr.org/listening-party

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