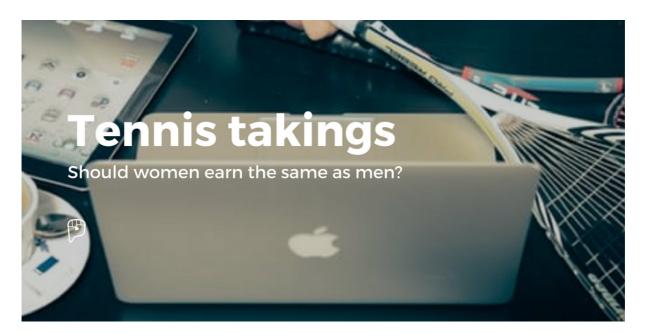


LIFESTYLE

Tennis takings - should women earn the same as men?

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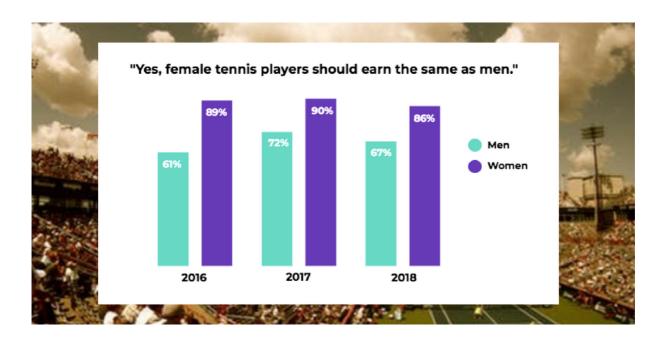


The weather might be cooling down, but Wimbledon's heating up as we enter the second week of the tournament. It just isn't Wimbledon without strawberries and cream, Pimms, and, just as predictably, a debate over equal pay for the athletes involved...

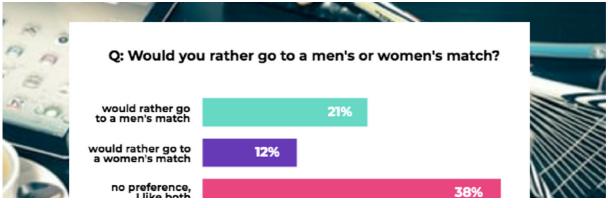
In 2016 Novak Djokovic suggested men deserve higher pay as they bring in more revenue. In 2017 the Madrid Open owner said female tennis players "are not bringing to the table the same thing". And this year, Rafael Nadal has weighed in on the debate by suggesting earnings should be based on viewership.



in June 2017, and a further 2975 respondents in July 2018.



First off we wanted to see if our community thought female players deserved the same amount of pay as male players. Somewhat unsurprisingly, women are much more likely to want equal pay for female tennis players, with agreement peaking at 90% for women and just 72% for men. Interestingly, support peaked for men and women in the same year, 2017, with support from both sexes for equal pay dropping in the last 12 months.





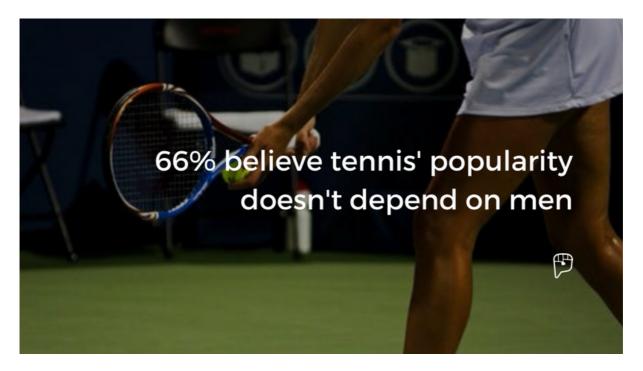
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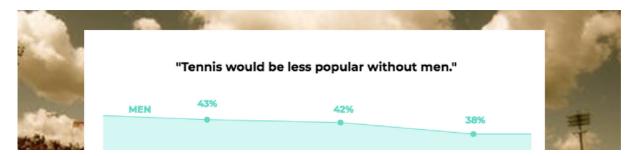
games (21%, down from 24% in 2016), while preference for the women's games has remained more consistent (12% in 2018, 11% in 2016). The largest change we actually saw was





With the majority of our community saying they have no preference between men's and women's games, we wanted to see how people would feel if men didn't play the sport at all. Across all three years, two-thirds of our users believed that tennis' popularity isn't dependent on men's involvement, however men were much less likely to say this than women (56% of men/71% of women in 2018).

This gender gap is narrowing, but interestingly it is doing so in both directions.... Over the last 2 years, while fewer men believe that tennis would be less popular without men (43% in 2016, 38% in 2018), more women are taking on this belief (18% in 2016, 24% in 2018).



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