

## Op-Ed by Ziyao Yang

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In my Op-Ed, I decided to analyze the different attitudes from countries such as China and Western countries towards Lisa's participation in Crazy Horse, a strip show, combining the perspective of myself as an Asian woman in an international context and from the view of the different development of feminism. As for the traditional Western media, such as ABC and BBC, these platforms usually report more negatively about China and the massive judgment of Chinese netizens.

As the writer, I am from the Faculty of Arts master of Global Media Communication at the University of Melbourne. I chose THE CONVERSATION because this media platform is a non-profit news organization focusing on academically rigorous journalism. It partners with the University of Melbourne, allowing me to convey my views through the media department. The conversation's articles are mainly written in a more specialized field and are both neutral and widely read.

### Pitch

To: Sunanda Creagh ([Senior Editor of Arts and Culture at THE CONVERSATION](#))

Subject: A unique view from Asian female with the perspective of the development of feminism to Blackpink Lisa Crazy Horse Paris Controversy

Hi Sunanda,

I am contacting you with an exclusive article about the different view from a young Chinese woman with the perspective of the development of feminism in China and Western countries to the recent controversy about Lisa Monabal, a Thai member of the famous K-pop girl group Blackpink, who participated in the striptease show at the Crazy Horse Paris.

What makes this editorial special is that I, as the author, am a master's student studying global media Communication at the University of Melbourne. I analyzed Chinese feminism and compared it to Western feminism from a young Asian woman's perspective, trying to express the reasons behind the controversy that has generated a lot of criticism from Chinese female fans to argue that it is an inevitable consequence of the development of global feminism which indicates that feminism needs more diverse voices and discussions.

Also, this Op-Ed is in the field of culture and the arts. It can guarantee academic reliability, readability, and breadth, which also aligns with the editorial content you are interested in.

Thanks for your consideration. Please get in touch with me if this is of interest.

Warm regards,

Ziyao Yang

**Tweet 1:**

Conservative Asian thinking or open-minded Western thinking?

Is stripping empowering or a betrayal of feminism?

OPINION: Behind the Blackpink Lisa's Crazy Horse Paris controversy

The full article can be viewed at

<https://theconversation.com/au/arts/lisacontroversy2023>.

[#LisaXCrazyHorseParis](#) [#Lisa](#) [#Blackpink](#) [#K-POP](#) [#China](#) [#Feminism](#)



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**Tweet 2:**

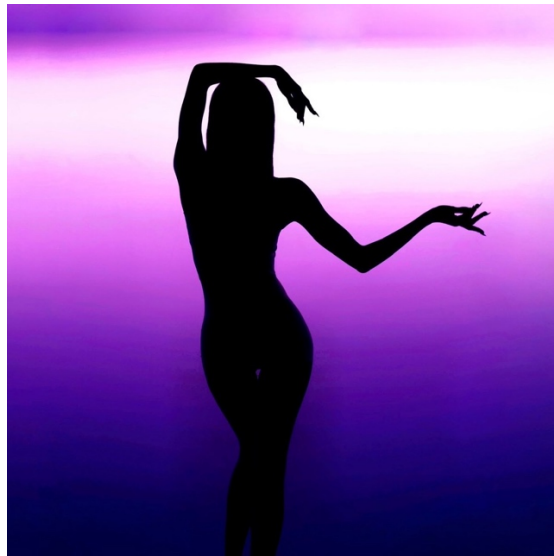
Is [#China](#) once again on the wrong side of the world?

It's strange that female fans in East Asia, especially China, are outraged over the collaboration of Blackpink [#Lisa](#) with [#CrazyHorseParis](#) while female fans in the West treat it as an encouraging topic.

Click here for a unique opinion from a young Asian female on the subject from a feminist perspective to see what's behind the controversy:

<https://theconversation.com/au/arts/lisacontroversy2023>.

[#Feminism](#) [#K-POP](#) [#LisaXCrazyHorseParis](#)



(Retrieved from: <https://x.com/crazyhorseparis/status/1699338479912505707?s=20>)

## Behind the Blackpink Lisa Crazy Horse Paris Controversy: Empowerment or Betrayal of Feminism?

From September 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>, Lisa Manobal, a Thai member of the globally renowned K-pop girl group Blackpink, [gave dance performances at the Crazy Horse Paris](#).

Since the Crazy Horse is known for its sexy dance with women half-naked or fully nude under [psychedelic lights](#), the hashtag [#LisaXCrazyHorseParis#](#) immediately became a trending topic on social media platforms worldwide, which also led to [intense criticism](#), especially among female fans in East Asia such as China, and South Korea. However, female fans in Western countries supported Lisa's sexy performance and thought these fans against the crazy horse were ["lamentable."](#)

Underlying this debate is the interplay of perspectives in the development of global feminism and its inevitable consequences in contemporary global society.

### ● **Sexy or Art? The Crazy Horse Show Paris**

"To complete the transformation of 'Crazy Girl,' Lisa will wear the show's regular costumes while adding her personal touch." The Crazy Horse Paris declared on [its official website](#) about this collaboration.

[Founded in 1951 by Artist Alain Bernardin](#), Crazy Horse is in a prime location in Paris with the combination of [female nudity](#), lighting, scenery, and dance, creating a show with visual tension. The dancers who perform are called ["Crazy Girls,"](#) the show has been trending for more than 70 years since it was first presented, generating a lot of discussion [among the Parisian high society among the white elite](#).

Lisa performed [two Crazy Horse striptease classics](#) with clothing that covered only intimate parts. Although a representative of Crazy Horse Paris described it as one of the ["most elegant and creative cabaret venues in the world"](#) and said that their dancers are professional and are not porn. However, that still doesn't change [the fact](#) that it's the nature of a strip show and sexism of women and a product of the male gaze.



(Crazy Horse Paris's Official account Releases Photos of Lisa's dance performance of the classic crazy horse show on 5<sup>th</sup> October. From Twitter/X: @crazyhorseparis)

- **Supporters or traitors of feminists? The conflict between different feminism**

Lisa has been portrayed as an excellent female model in K-pop for a long time. Her female fans felt offended and betrayed by Lisa's appearance on Crazy Horse because they recognized Lisa as a ["representative of female power,"](#) conveying confidence, independence, and powerful concepts, breaking away from the traditional image of sweet or sexy females. Such a woman's icon participated in [a show that objectifies women and is controlled by patriarchy](#) that exploits women's bodies and reinforces men's stigma against women. With such contrasts, some fans chose to [disengage and accused Lisa of being a traitor to feminism.](#)

However, her supporters believe that ["true feminists"](#) should respect all choices made by women. The goal of feminism is to give women more autonomy, affirm their value, and expand their space for action, so it stands to reason that feminists should [respect the right to be sexual and naked.](#)

Behind such contradictions in feminist perspectives come the different views on feminism from different positions. [Radical feminism and dominance feminism](#) believe

that women are sexualized and objectified in the strip industry as the product of misogyny in a patriarchal society, the exploitation of women, and the entrenchment of sexism.

However, [Liberal feminism and sex-radical feminism](#) support women's sexual liberation and argue that radical feminism's opposition to sex and sex-related industries is also a form of patriarchal ideology that oppresses women's power to make choices and ignores women's initiative.

Also, the theme of ["empowerment through striptease"](#) influenced some privileged young women in the early 21st century. [Andi Zeisler](#), an American media specialist, indicates that in the media and popular culture, younger generations use the word "empowerment" to express the freedom to "choose," they believe that a choice made by a feminist is a feminist choice.

Therefore, Zeisler argues that with the development of feminism nowadays, the new generation of feminists in Western Countries [favors more tolerance of the commercialization of sex and supports women to express their bodies freely](#). Lisa's involvement in Crazy Horse and the stance of its supporters can be seen as a continuation of this line of feminist thought.

### ● **Different Development of Feminism in China and Western countries**

The current development stages of the global feminist movement are inconsistent. Such differences are the inevitable result of the recent development of transnational feminism and the differences in feminism between countries, races, and classes.

From the 19th century to the 21st century, the [three waves of feminist movements](#) in [Western countries have made the development](#) of feminism move from women's rights to gender equality with the changes in history. Besides, Western feminism is currently developing more openness and inclusiveness toward liberalism.

However, as a socialist country, [China has strict restrictions on social movements](#), so these developments have not kept pace with China for a long time. [As China adopted the policy of reform and opening in 1978](#), in the context of globalization, Chinese women were exposed to the ideas and ideologies of the Western feminist movement through the spread of the Internet. Therefore, [Chinese feminism is based on Western feminism and combines the development of Chinese culture](#) because Western feminism has ignored the [needs of women of color](#) to a certain extent.

The massive popularity of social media has enabled young Chinese women to discuss gender issues, [especially on Weibo](#). Thus, to resist patriarchy, [radical feminism has developed rapidly](#) in recent years. The development of feminism in China is [still in the stage of fighting for women's rights](#). This can be reflected in Chinese female fans criticizing Lisa's participation in Crazy Horse, which contrasts with most of Lisa's Western female fans.

Such contradictions arise not only from [the conservative and feudal ideas about the sex of Asian countries criticized by Western media](#) but also from the different developments of feminism in different countries. As an Asian woman, Lisa's active participation in striptease performances made her Asian female fans feel that they were also oppressed by [white capitalism because men in Western countries sexualized and weakened Asian women for a long time](#), and Lisa's move will undoubtedly increase the stereotype.

### ● Conclusion

No matter what kind of image Lisa has represented as a well-known Asia female idol, whether she performed naked at Crazy Horse or her female fans torment each other is not the focus of this controversy. Instead, the controversy generated by her choice of global social media is the collision and [confrontation of different feminist viewpoints](#).

It is also the inevitable result from the perspective of patriarchal oppression that Asian women have suffered. Arguments like these mean that research and debates about feminists and feminism need to be more patient in the development of society rather than blaming each other.

Word Count:1098

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