



## LitChat February 5, 2010

Topic of the Week: Shh! That's Taboo!

Guest host: Elissa Stein, co-author of FLOW, THE CULTURAL HISTORY OF MENSTRUATION

Guest Host: @elissastein

LitChat Welcome to #litchat. We're continuing our topic SHH! THAT'S TABOO. -1:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010

ficwriter RT @LitChat: Welcome to #litchat. Were continuing our topic SHH! THATS TABOO. #litchat -1:01 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein Can't wait to hear what people "don't" want to talk about. #litchat -1:01 PM Feb 5th, 2010

BrooksJYoung Joining #litchat for the first time -1:01 PM Feb 5th, 2010

BrooksJYoung RT @LitChat: Welcome to #litchat. We're continuing our topic SHH! THAT'S TABOO. -1:01 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @BrooksJYoung This is my first time too! We're talking FLOW: the Cultural Story of Menstruation, my new book. #litchat -1:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010

omara\_croft Hi all, hi Elissa...Brian O'Mara-Croft, Lost in the Hive (humorous essays)...been a while since I've popped in. #litchat -1:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitChat Joining us in #litchat today is @elissastein co-author of FLOW, The cultural story of menstruation. -1:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke Good evening everyone #litchat -1:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010

yabookwriter sharifwrites RT @LitChat: Join us for #litchat with @elissastein in 15 minutes. -1:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010

WildRiverLibby RT @LitChat: Joining us in #litchat today is @elissastein co-author of FLOW, The cultural story of menstruation. -1:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke @elissastein welcome :o) #litchat -1:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitChat Please intro yourself and welcome @elissastein to today's #litchat. -1:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @omara\_croft Hey! Thanks for being here. It's my first time actually being here—man it moves fast. #litchat -1:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010

BrooksJYoung @elissastein Wow. I can't wait to get to learn more about it. #litchat -1:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke @BrooksJYoung welcome to #litchat -1:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010

MellyStarkers @LexxClarke how u? #litchat -1:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @LexxClarke Thanks! It's lovely to be here. Please, FLOW or writing questions ask away. #litchat -1:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke @MellyStarkers I'm good thanks, how are you? #litchat -1:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010

BrooksJYoung @MellyStarkers Thanks! Glad to join #litchat -1:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein FLOW was published last November. People LOVE it. But even more are ignoring. Hard to be heard these days. #litchat -1:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010

nilkibenitez Happy Friday everyone! #litchat -1:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010

sharifwrites @elissastein Hello, Elissa. #litchat -1:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke @elissastein Firstly I confess that I've not read your book,could you tell me a little about it please? #litchat -1:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010

BrooksJYoung RT @elissastein: FLOW was published last November. People LOVE it. But even more are ignoring. Hard to be heard these days. #litchat -1:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010

ficwriter @elissastein Nice to meet you. What has the response for Flow been from men? #litchat -1:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010

<p>elissastein @sharifwrites Thanks for being here. I love following #litchat and seeing all the writers out there. #litchat -1:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>omara_croft Was it difficult to find an audience for an "awkward" subject, or was it easier for that reason? #litchat -1:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>rebeccaelia Okay. I'm here this time! #litchat. Let's get this discussion rolling! Elissa,did you see the bit about stem cells found in menstrual blood? -1:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>bookladysblog @elissastein I'm planning to review/blog it in March along w/ Women's History Month. Did period book last yr, so why not one more? #litchat -1:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @ficwriter Far more men have been interested in FLOW than we every imagined. Many said they were curious with nowhere to ask. #litchat -1:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>rebeccaelia RT @elissastein: FLOW was published last November. People LOVE it. But even more are ignoring. Hard to be heard these days. #litchat -1:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @omara_croft It took 15 years to find someone brave enough to take on this subject. 25 editors said no this go round. #litchat -1:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>Greetums RT @rebeccaelia: Okay. I'm here this time! #litchat. Let's get this discussion rolling! Elissa,did you see the bit about stem cells found in menstrual blood? -1:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>BrooksJYoung I will definitely review Flow on my blog #litchat #litchat -1:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>nilkibenitez have you read Lessing's The Golden Notebook? #litchat -1:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>Greetums @rebeccaelia: #litchat. Let's get this discussion rolling! Elissa,did you see the bit about stem cells found in menstrual blood? (WOW) -1:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>BrooksJYoung RT @elissastein: @omara_croft It took 15 years 2 find some1 brave enough 2 take on this subject. 25 editors said no this go round. #litchat -1:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @rebeccaelia Stem cells in menstrual blood? I've been reading. Fascinating. Amazing no one thought of it before. #litchat -1:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>marisabirns @elissastein Yes, I'd imagine that men would want to read book to learn. It's not as they'd feel comfortable talking about it. #litchat -1:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>nilkibenitez @elissastein 15 years and 25 editors said no? were any of them women? wow. #litchat -1:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein People magazine wouldn't review FLOW because they thought their readers would find the subject too "squeamish." #litchat -1:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: People magazine wouldn't review FLOW because they thought their readers would find the subject too "squeamish." #litchat -1:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: FLOW was published last November. People LOVE it. But even more are ignoring. Hard to be heard these days. #litchat -1:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @nilkibenitez Most scathing rejection was a woman, horrified we'd even consider a book on the subject. #litchat -1:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>bookladysblog @elissastein Now that's just appalling, especially when you consider everything else they WILL cover. And who is their audience? #litchat -1:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>omara_croft I'm not sure all men are uncomfortable talking about it...but I'm sure there are a good many. #litchat -1:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>ficwriter RT @elissastein: People magazine wouldnt review FLOW because they thought their readers would find the subject too "squeamish." #litchat -1:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>rebeccaelia @elissastein We didn't know they were there until 2007.If that doesn't the change the way we look at mens, don't know what does! #litchat -1:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>

BrooksJYoung RT @elissastein: People magazine wouldnt review FLOW because they thought their readers would find the subject too "squeamish." #litchat -1:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez @elissastein, ok i'm sorry I don't want to be negative, but that is like blatant sexism. don't you think? #litchat -1:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog The week they passed Mackenzie Phillips was on the cover. Rape, teen drug use, incest are fine, periods? Not ok. #litchat -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
KatCaverly RT @elissastein: @rebeccaelia Stem cells in menstrual blood? This is HUGE, where can I read more? #litchat -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
sharifwrites @elissastein 15 years? Persistence pays off. Shocked that a woman gave such a harsh reject. #litchat -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @omara_croft I'm not sure that many men are even interested in talking abt it. My male friends are v. progressive, but still. #litchat -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @elissastein that seems very strange,it's not as if advertisers shy away from feminine hygiene products #litchat -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
omara_croft People magazine would cover a story about menstruation if Kate Gosselin wrote about her experiences. #litchat -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @omara_croft I'm finding men often far more open to talking about it than women. They just don't often have the opportunity. #litchat -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @elissastein No surprise that most scathing rejection was from a woman. You & I have had this discussion many times #litchat. -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein And all women have periods! It's not a secret. Why can they advertise for tampons but not review a book about periods? #litchat -1:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
florinda_3rs @elissastein I've been following your blog and want to read/review FLOW, but haven't gotten a copy. Seen great reviews, though #litchat -1:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
omara_croft @elissastein I guess you have to pick your spots to introduce it into conversation. #litchat -1:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein Also, I'm pretty sure they've reviewed menopause books. How does that get through the gate but menstruation doesn't? #litchat -1:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @LexxClarke True. Ad dollars are fine. And I believe 80% of their audience is women. But, people just don't talk periods. #litchat -1:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
ficwriter So true! RT @omara_croft: People magazine would cover a story about menstruation if Kate Gosselin wrote about her experiences. #litchat -1:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LitChat Hope everyone's here--I'm chatting remote today and connection at hotel is wonky. #litchat. -1:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein REDBOOK reviewed FLOW. Said women should spend their money on 3-5 days worth of ice cream instead of the book. #litchat -1:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
AlexCampion I did a study once for a major manufacturer of pads. The CEO wouldn't talk about it! The presentations were all in euphemisms? #litchat -1:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @omara_croft At this point I can talk about it with just about anyone! #litchat -1:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
AlexCampion Have you noticed all the blue dye in the TV ads? #litchat -1:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @bookladysblog b/c somehow they rationalize it's easier to talk about when it's gone, than when it's actually there--happening. #litchat -1:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @ficwriter HA! Celebrity period stories. That would get coverage. #litchat -1:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010

omara_croft @elissastein you should include coupons for ice cream with every copy of the book, just to get a dig in. #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @KatCaverly Study mentioned in # 6 here. You can try googling it: <a href="http://bit.ly/cDU2nK">http://bit.ly/cDU2nK</a> #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
BrooksJYoung @deberryandgrant That was very "cold" of Red Book! #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: REDBOOK reviewed FLOW. Said women should spend their money on 3-5 days worth of ice cream instead of the book. SMH #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: REDBOOK reviewed FLOW. Said women should spend their money on 3-5 days worth of ice cream instead of the book. #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @AlexCampion yes, why blue?? #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @deberryandgrant Yes, but menopause comes with its own set of squeamish symptoms. Don't understand why they're more acceptable. #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
KatCaverly RT @elissastein: @ficwriter HA! Celebrity period stories. That would get coverage. (yes it would!) #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
omara_croft @omara_croft How did you finally break through with the book? #litchat -1:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein Have you read MY LITTLE RED BOOK? Great collection of period stories, but again, small audience. #litchat -1:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaroyce RT @ficwriter: So true! RT @omara_croft: People magazine would cover a story about menstruation if Kate Gosselin wrote about her experiences. #litchat -1:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @omara_croft Someone did a parody called BLEDBOOK. It was pretty brilliant. #litchat -1:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
SpeakHealth At least it was ice cream, not an oil change or something. @elissastein REDBOOK reviewed FLOW. #litchat -1:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez @elissastein, what is it with a totally natural, life-sustaining occurrence being turned into a negative thing? #litchat -1:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @bookladysblog Women and our bodies as objects=acceptable. Our bodies as functional=not acceptable. #litchat -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke Ok, so half the world has periods and we're supposed to be squeamish about it?? #litchat -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog It's a terrific book. And got terrific media attention. FLOW's having a hard time, in spite of great reviews. #litchat -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @elissastein When Cond. Rice had procedure for fibroids, I thought that would open up the discussion #litchat. -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
AlexCampion @LexxClarke Cuz it ain't red, I guess. I'm impressed more people don't mock it. #litchat -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @deberryandgrant: @bookladysblog Women and our bodies as objects=acceptable. Our bodies as functional=not acceptable. #litchat -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @omara_croft I found an agent who believed. First one ever. And a publisher, the only one who bid, who did exactly what I wanted. #litchat -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
omara_croft @elissastein I write about controversial stuff (masturbation, fetishes) within my humor. I suspect critics may have similar issues. #litchat -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM Evening all - just put kids to bed, have I missed much? #litchat -1:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein I liked it, but from looking at FLOW can tell it is even better. Makes periods fun and interesting. Not an easy task! #litchat -1:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein RT @deberryandgrant: @bookladysblog Women and our bodies as objects=acceptable. Our bodies as functional=not acceptable. #litchat -1:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010

BrooksJYoung RT @deberryandgrant: @bookladysblog Women and our bodies as objects=acceptable. Our bodies as functional=not acceptable. #litchat -1:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010

bookladysblog @deberryandgrant Now that I certainly understand. But it's ridiculous. #litchat -1:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @nilkibenitez It's been going on for thousands of years. I was shocked about the Bible and Koran calling menstruation unclean #litchat -1:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010

nilkibenitez RT @LexxClarke: Ok, so half the world has periods and we're supposed to be squeamish about it?? #litchat -1:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @omara\_croft Menstruation is still the ultimate taboo. Masturbation second, I've been told. #litchat -1:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010

donquig @elissastein Amazon reviews describe Flow as a coffee table book. Some of the more interesting reviews are of men reading the book #litchat -1:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @AlexCampion Again, people have to talk to mock. Loved the MadTV ipad skit going viral last week. #litchat -1:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010

adamslisa Maybe we need Sports Illustrated" Swimsuit Edition about periods. It would be "Spots Illustrated." #litchat -1:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke @elissastein I believe there are certain remote tribes where the women have to stay in huts outside the village while menstruating #litchat -1:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @bookladysblog Everything about FLOW has been an uphill battle. #litchat -1:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010

bookladysblog @elissastein Really? I'd guess masturbation is more taboo. I talk periods w/ girlfriends. But masturbation? Not so much. #litchat -1:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010

nilkibenitez @elissastein I know!! it's oppression, really. Did you do any research into first moon celebrations in your book? #litchat -1:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010

omara\_croft @elissastein Good. So when I take some heat, I'll just say, "Oh yeah? Have you read FLOW?" #litchat -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @donquig FLOW is history, politics, religion, sex, the FDA, advertising. It's a lot more than just how the plumbing works. #litchat -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

donquig RT @elissastein: @omara\_croft Menstruation is still the ultimate taboo. Masturbation second, I've been told. #litchat By who Redbook? -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

AlexCampion I think masturbation gets even worse press in the bible than menstruation. After all, it's voluntary. #litchat -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

adamslisa @bookladysblog @elissastein agreed. masturbation more taboo. #litchat -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

marisabirns @elissastein Has the educational system called for FLOW, to be read by middle school students in Sex Ed classes? #litchat -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

deberryandgrant @bookladysblog Yes, it is ridiculous. #litchat -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

wrightallison @elissastein I recommended FLOW to my class today! #litchat -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @LexxClarke Remote huts? Yes. Many believed menstruating women held negative power and could cause all kinds of horrors to happen #litchat -1:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein RT @adamslisa: Maybe we need Sports Illustrated" Swimsuit Edition about periods. It would be "Spots Illustrated." #litchat -1:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010

BrooksJYoung RT @adamslisa: Maybe we need Sports Illustrated" Swimsuit Edition about periods. It would be "Spots Illustrated." #litchat -1:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @adamslisa Yes, except w/ very close friends. You can talk periods w/ strangers in bathroom when you need an emergency tampon. #litchat -1:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @marisabirns I live in NYC/ there's no standard for middle school sex ed until 8th grade, no 5th grade educational films. Shocking. #litchat -1:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @elissastein I suppose that even in the 'civilised' world we do the same although more subtly #litchat -1:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @adamslisa: @bookladysblog @elissastein agreed. masturbation more taboo/not according to many publishers. #litchat -1:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia You have to go back pretty far in time (ie: ancient religions of Artemis) before you find acceptance of natural balance inc. menst. #litchat -1:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @wrightallison: @elissastein I recommended FLOW to my class today!//cool!!! #litchat -1:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
ficwriter @elissastein Do you think it would help if powerful women would be more upfront and honest about the subject? #litchat -1:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein Clearly they haven't read ARE YOU THERE GOD, IT'S ME MARGARET! Ultimate period book. For teenage girls! #litchat -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @LexxClarke Big FLOW topic. The language of menstruation's been created to keep it a shameful secret. Check any ad. #litchat -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
wrightallison I fail to see how masturbation is taboo. Very popular topic, no? #litchat RT @elissastein @omara_croft <a href="http://tl.gd/780ki">http://tl.gd/780ki</a> -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Saffy masturbation surely only more taboo with male friends? I have friends who tell you when they get new vibrators! #litchat -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibentez yes & they could all have little strings hanging out their bikini bottoms, & we would never be paranoid at the beach again!! #litchat Imno! -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
wrightallison RT @adamslisa Maybe we need Sports Illustrated" Swimsuit Edition about periods. It would be "Spots Illustrated." #litchat < I love you, Lisa -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @ficwriter Yes, absolutely #litchat -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
adamslisa I'm over on #litchat doing a conversation with @elissastein about her book FLOW. That was where the period tweet came from... -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
omara_croft @elissastein I hope readers and editors soon recognize a market for those who write about what most won't openly discuss. #litchat -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @bookladysblog:@elissastein Clearly they havent read ARE YOU THERE GOD, ITS ME MARGARET! Ultimate period book.For teenage girls! #litchat -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @ficwriter It would be amazing if people would come out and talk. We're trying to get a FLOW TV show off the ground. Hard. #litchat -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @wrightallison I think it's popular in context of a joke. But so are periods... #litchat -1:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
wrightallison @LexxClarke Anita Diamont's Red Tent #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Saffy @elissastein periods never appear in teen novels I note :/ #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibentez RT @elissastein: @marisabirns I live in NYC/ there's no standard for middle school sex ed until 8th grade, no 5th grade educational films. Shocking. #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @wrightallison: RT @adamslisa Maybe we need Sports Illustrated" Swimsuit Edition about periods.It would be "Spots Illustrated." #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010

florinda_3rs #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein You should do a FLOW blog tour. Many bloggers (including me) would happily tell their period stories to support book. #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @deberryandgrant ARE YOU THERE GOD is about so much more! Religion, family. But it'll always been known as the period book. #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @wrightallison: @elissastein I recommended FLOW to my class today! #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @wrightallison Thank you :o) #litchat -1:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Saffy Opps have I butted in again #litchat? I'm really bad at that - will be quiet now :/ -1:26 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Saffy Amazing how no one talks about menstruation in an open way, when half of us get periods every month. #litchat -1:26 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein ARE YOU THERE GOD is still one of the top banned books. Amazingly sad. #litchat -1:26 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @bookladysblog: @elissastein You should do a FLOW blog tour. Many bloggers (including me) would happily tell their period stories to support book. #litchat -1:26 PM Feb 5th, 2010
littlefluffycat @elissastein son told me the other day they hadn't been told anything in school about girls, just boys. :P #litchat -1:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010
florinda_3rs I'd sign on. RT @bookladysblog: @elissastein Do a FLOW blog tour. Many bloggers would tell their period stories in support.#litchat -1:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @nilkibenitez: RT @bookladysblog: @elissastein You should do a FLOW blog tour.//I'd LOVE that. Be in touch and we'll make it happen #litchat -1:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @elissastein Indeed. I remember when I was teaching English & Patricia N,the first student of mine who did a book report on the bk #litchat -1:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010
omara_croft @omara_croft In wife's school district (she teaches), censorship is common. She can't show tasteful nude paintings. A ways to go... #litchat -1:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Saffy @elissastein amazingly my college had 7 men to every women and they got talked about lots - its so silly my nan wouldnt mention it! #litchat -1:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia I feel strongly, that we need to empower & support our girls (& boys) by 5th grade, if we ever want to change this. #litchat -1:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein So is PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER w/ masturbation scene. #litchat -1:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein In NYC they gave up on 5th grade films. Kids know less now than when I was growing up. #litchat -1:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @elissastein She told me she would have done another book if she'd had to do an oral report, or if she had a male teacher. #litchat -1:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010
latta @litchat tv i consume aimed@ men. I must sit through countless ads for erectile dysfunction. Rarely for fem needs #litchat -1:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez I haven't read it but heard Doris Lessing's The Golden Notebook has a great menstruation segment-anyone read? #litchat -1:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @rebeccaelia: I feel strongly, that we need to empower & support our girls(& boys) by 5th grade, if we ever want to change this. #litchat -1:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010
wrightallison @bookladysblog True, true...and I must confess I succumbed to gender bias (was thinking of male masturbation = popular) #litchat -1:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Saffy We had talks about periods in junior school at age 9 - periods can start at 8 edu has to happen surely? #litchat -1:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010

nilkibenitez RT @rebeccaelia: I feel strongly, that we need to empower & support our girls (& boys) by 5th grade, if we ever want to change this. #litchat -1:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein I first thought of FLOW after my period stopped for over a year and I was too scared/ashamed to talk about it. #litchat -1:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein RT @rebeccaelia: I feel strongly, that we need to empower & support our girls(& boys) by 5th grade, if we ever want to change this. #litchat -1:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

deberryandgrant @wrightallison I was thinking the same thing--male masturbation is a "wink" female is a taboo #litchat -1:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

latta @lexxclarke the other half has erectile dysfunction. #litchat -1:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Saffy @rebeccaelia what age is 5th grade? #litchat -1:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein These days there are so many menstrual suppression/birth control pill ads on tv/in mags. Kids are seeing with no education. #litchat -1:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Saffy @elissastein why were you ashamed - or should I get the book to find out? #litchat -1:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke Ouch! RT @latta: the other half has erectile dysfunction. #litchat -1:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

sharifwrites @elissastein They sure do. I hear more misconceptions from them. #litchat -1:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: I first thought of FLOW after my period stopped for over a year and I was too scared/ashamed to talk about it. #litchat -1:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

AlexCampion @deberryandgrant That's very true. There isn't really even any slang for it. #litchat -1:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein RT @LexxClarke: Ouch! RT @latta: the other half has erectile dysfunction.//HA! #litchat -1:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

adamslisa @elissastein My 6th grade daughter can't even say "reproductive system" without stammering. #litchat -1:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

wrightallison @elissastein 4th grade "sex ed" for me (in '80s) = separating boys & girls & showing videos. I recall almost dying of embarrassment. #litchat -1:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Hayley\_DM I remember Judy Bloom being removed from my school library - I went to a Catholic school #litchat -1:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

nilkibenitez @elissastein, wow-I'm sure that was empowering, gaining control over all that information at such time--I want this book NOW!! ;) #litchat -1:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

rebeccaelia @Saffy Around 10-11 #litchat. After that, it's too late. -1:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

kashicat Dang, I didn't mean to miss half of #litchat today, with such an interesting topic! -1:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @Saffy Messages I'd internalized my whole life. Combined with fear. Doc handed me birth control pills as a "solution." #litchat -1:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

bookladysblog @adamslisa @elissastein 10 y.o. niece in sex ed now. Refers to it as "that weird class" and refuses to discuss. #litchat -1:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke @elissastein I remember asking my mother when I was about 10 what a tampon was,she refused to discuss the subject #litchat -1:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitChat Apologies for the silence over here. Rebooted three times and finally working. Surprisingly have hair left. #litchat -1:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

wrightallison I'm over on #litchat with @elissastein talking about her fantabulous book FLOW in case you're wondering about my tweets...join us! -1:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @elissastein The mom's of my daughter's friends (she's 11) thank me because their kids can talk periods after listening to me. #litchat -1:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog It's close to impossible to get rid of the shame we've been conditioned to feel. #litchat -1:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LitChat Now that I'm really here, let me say what I enjoyed most about FLOW is its non-instructive tone of information. Witty and sharp. #litchat -1:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010
adamslisa @elissastein Yes, I'd thank you too. #litchat -1:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Hayley_DM It still is. Generally on top 100 banned books. #litchat -1:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @wrightallison: I'm over on #litchat with @elissastein talking about her fantabulous book FLOW in case you're wondering about my tweets...join us! -1:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: @bookladysblog It's close to impossible to get rid of the shame we've been conditioned to feel. #litchat -1:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @LitChat Missed you, but we're such a shy group--somehow managed to keep discussion going... LOL #litchat -1:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @LitChat Thank you! With FLOW we wanted to start conversations, encourage people to think and form opinions of their own. #litchat -1:34 PM Feb 5th, 2010
agnieszkasshoes #litchat about taboos that haven't been taboo since prehistory; #followreader on book formats as separate commodities. Think I woke up in BC -1:34 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @bookladysblog Teaching empowerment, although related the role sex plays, is not the same thing. Can be done @ earlier age! #litchat -1:34 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @LitChat Glad you're here! #litchat -1:34 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein Odd thing is her parents are v. open & progressive. Wonder where she learned it? Teacher embarrassed to discuss? #litchat -1:34 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog Society and media are totally repressed about menstruation. Every ad stresses it has to be a secret. #litchat -1:35 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog If you're wondering why I'm tweeting about periods & masturbation (not that it's odd for me), join #litchat w/ @elissastein abt book #FLOW -1:35 PM Feb 5th, 2010
AlexCampion @elissastein I would think the shame is the most telling point. It's rooted in two millenia of history. How do you get over it. #litchat -1:35 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez @lexclarke good point-especially important for moms 2 talk 2 sons & educate them on the naturalness of menstruation #litchat -1:35 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @adamslisa I can come and talk at your house . . . #litchat -1:35 PM Feb 5th, 2010
wrightallison My friends who have young daughters say they inquire re: strings at very early ages (3-4) #litchat -1:36 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @elissastein @bookladysblog That's why empowerment needs to be taught early. By 10, kids are influenced by other kids & society #litchat -1:36 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @AlexCampion It's an uphill battle. But talking helps. In my house my kids are completely open talking about it all. #litchat -1:36 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM that someone was writing about stuff that I at the time felt was written for ppl my age #litchat -1:36 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @bookladysblog:If youre wondering why Im tweeting re:periods & masturbation join #litchat w/ @elissastein abt book #FLOW #litchat -1:36 PM Feb 5th, 2010

AlexCampion @elissastein Why is it such a taboo? It's a body secretion like any other, after all. #litchat -1:37 PM Feb 5th, 2010
adamslisa @elissastein Now THAT would be v interesting to see if I said you were willing to come, how many would take me up on it. #litchat -1:37 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez @alexcampion have you heard of first moon celebrations? I think that's the way to go #litchat -1:37 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass In HS one of my guy buds went thru my purse, naming items as he pulled them out. Came to OB tampon and said, "make-up sponge." #litchat -1:37 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia I can't tell you how many discussions I've had with kids about this. They find out I'm a gyn MD & the questions FLOW #litchat -1:37 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @wrightallison Too early to have learning repression and the negative messages out there. Kids are curious by nature. #litchat -1:37 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM Unbelievable that this type of censorship still goes on #litchat -1:38 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @CarolyBurnsBass Haha that's awesome! #litchat -1:38 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @nilkibenitez Celebrations are wonderful. I've already got a gift for my daughter when she gets there. #litchat -1:38 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @nilkibenitez Yes, 1st moon, new moon, full moon. Ancient religions of Artemis. :) #litchat -1:38 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Nice pun! RT @rebeccaelia: ... They find out Im a gyn MD & the questions FLOW #litchat -1:38 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @CarolyBurnsBass Finding a tampon in high school? Worst nightmare for many! #litchat -1:38 PM Feb 5th, 2010
BrooksJYoung RT @bookladysblog: If ur wondering why Im tweeting att periods & mastubation , join #litchat w/ @elissastein abt book #FLOW #litchat -1:39 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez @wrightallison, my daughter's known since that age-I mean, really R U going to have your 3yo wait outside of an airport stall? no! #litchat -1:39 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Hayley_DM I was interviewed by Dr. Oz over a month ago, for his radio show. It still hasn't aired. #litchat -1:39 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @CarolyBurnsBass LOL! re: "make-up sponge" #litchat -1:39 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM RT @rebeccaelia: @elissastein @bookladysblog That's why empowerment needs to be taught early. By 10, kids are influenced by other kids & society #litchat -1:39 PM Feb 5th, 2010
ficwriter Thank you @elissastein and @Litchat. Must go but can't wait to read Flow. #litchat -1:39 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM RT @deberryandgrant: RT @bookladysblog:If youre wondering why Im tweeting re:periods & mastubation join #litchat w/ @elissastein abt book #FLOW #litchat -1:39 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @ficwriter Please let me know what you think! #litchat -1:40 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez @rebeccaelia I have to look into ancient religions of Artemis! I plant artemisia and value the herb, but not educated on topic! #litchat -1:40 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass I had my copy of FLOW laying on a table in my studio and 20-yr son picked it up because of the sexy cover. He actually read inside! #litchat -1:40 PM Feb 5th, 2010
latta @litchat must cut out early. Apologies to @elissastein. Snow really coming down & we've neither milk nor dinner. Cheers. #litchat -1:40 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein When talking to Dr. Oz he said he's not allowed to talk menstruation on TV. Everything else is ok. #litchat -1:40 PM Feb 5th, 2010

<p>nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: When talking to Dr. Oz he said he's not allowed to talk menstruation on TV. Everything else is ok. #litchat -1:41 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>LexxClarke @latta see you later xxx #litchat -1:41 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @nilkibenitez Love how menstruation was treated in many creation myths. Obscurely but often there. #litchat -1:41 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>Hayley_DM @elissastein It beggars belief it really does #litchat - I applaud you for writing this book -1:41 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>nilkibenitez @elissastein OMG!!!! this is barbaric!!!! #litchat -1:41 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @CarolyBurnsBass Now that is very cool. FLOW, I have to say, is a good read. #litchat -1:41 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>rebeccaelia @nilkibenitez You probably already "know" it. :) #litchat -1:41 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: When talking to Dr. Oz he said hes not allowed to talk menstruation on TV. Everything else is ok. SHOCKING #litchat -1:42 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>Hayley_DM @elissastein Have they given a reason as to why it has not been aired? #litchat -1:42 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>LexxClarke @elissastein interestingly male masturbation features in several creation myths too #litchat -1:42 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>Saffy @elissastein why was the pill a solution? #litchat -1:42 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein In other Bible translations, Adam was formed from "bloody clay." People used to believe menstrual blood could form into a baby. #litchat -1:42 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: When talking to Dr. Oz he said he's not allowed to talk menstruation on TV. Everything else is ok. #litchat OMG! Barbaric!! -1:43 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @Hayley_DM No. Sigh. No one's saying. #litchat -1:43 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>Poppetree RT @elissastein: In other Bible translations, Adam was formed from "bloody clay." People used to believe menstrual blood could form into a baby. #litchat -1:43 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>cara19 @elissastein Now that you say that they never do talk about that on *any* of the shows do they? But infertility is okay? #litchat -1:43 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>Hayley_DM @elissastein Cannot tell you how many arguments I have had on tax on menstrual products - a luxury product?#litchat -1:43 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @Saffy The pill a solution to what? #litchat -1:43 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>adamslisa @elissastein Can Oz talk about menopause? I mean, that's lack of menstruation... seems a double standard (still can't believe this) #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>danish_novelist @elissastein How can something that happens once a month to half the population be taboo? I'm a foreigner, I don't get it. #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>elissastein @cara19 People are more apt to talk about what goes wrong and the drama of it all than the actual thing itself. #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>nilkibenitez omg @rebeccaelia I'm so following you! :) #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>rebeccaelia @elissastein They knew about the stem cells in menstrual blood before we did! (re: "bloody clay") #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>tracyleacarnes @elissastein That's so weird. You can't say menstruation on TV, yet a tampon product can sponsor his show. Go figure! #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>donquig @elissastein U need 2 B congratulated 4 writing a book abt this topic. Must go...glass of wine is calling me...Have a nice wknd #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>
<p>CarolyBurnsBass Discovering why menstruation is such a turn-off is like why do men love boobs so much? They're just globs of fat. With nipples. #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010</p>

LexxClarke @Hayley\_DM I've always thought that was wrong, how can that be a luxury?! #litchat -1:44 PM Feb 5th, 2010

kashicat In some creation myths (Amun on the mound, masturbating world into existence) it was quite explicit. #litchat -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

rebeccaelia @danish\_novelist We have a messed up country that values masculine over feminine still. That's how. #litchat -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

nilkibenitez RT @rebeccaelia @elissastein They knew about the stem cells in menstrual blood before we did! (re: "bloody clay") #litchat <-LOL! -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

AlexCampion @CarolyBurnsBass That's a very curious question. And it's very regional. #litchat -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @Hayley\_DM I know. Taxes on sanitary products. Speaking of - just calling them "sanitary" implies periods are "dirty." They're not. #litchat -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

deberryandgrant RT @rebeccaelia: @danish\_novelist We have a messed up country that values masculine over feminine still. Thats how. #litchat -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

rebeccaelia @nilkibenitez :) I'm following you too. #litchat -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

adamslisa @elissastein I think it's a turn-off to guys because that's usually when they can't get lucky #litchat -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

bookladysblog @rebeccaelia Interesting that a male doc (2 signs of major social capital/power) is still not allowed to talk abt it. Oprah has. #litchat -1:45 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @tracyleacarnes Femcare ads were banned from TV until the early 1970s. #litchat -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass What feminine hygiene product says, "Have a happy period"? Though I'm in favor of freedom of speech, that slogan is just stupid. #litchat -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

danish\_novelist @rebeccaelia But red is such a gorgeous color :- ) #litchat -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

nilkibenitez @carolyburnsbass they love boobs til we need to feed our children with them-then they're illegal! #litchat -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Hayley\_DM RT @danish\_novelist: @elissastein How can something that happens once a month to half the population be taboo? I'm a foreigner, I don't get it. #litchat -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

bookladysblog @adamslisa Also, it's just so mysterious to them. And they're conditioned to believe it's gross. Lack of exposure = fear = turnoff? #litchat -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: @Hayley\_DM I know. Taxes on sanitary products. Just calling them "sanitary" implies periods r "dirty." Theyre not. #litchat -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein RT @adamslisa: @elissastein I think its a turn-off to guys because thats usually when they cant get lucky//so true for many #litchat -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

rebeccaelia @bookladysblog Unbelievable. We think we've come such a long way... #litchat It's the same stuff, just more subtle. -1:46 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke @kashicat the Victorian 'archaeologists' often broke of the penises from statues of Amun as being to explicit #litchat -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010

rebeccaelia @danish\_novelist Yes, it is! #litchat I wanna live in Denmark. -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010

cara19 @elissastein well, it doesn't make sense to me. #litchat -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass It's a shame! RT @nilkibenitez: @carolyburnsbass they love boobs til we need to feed our children with them-then theyre illegal! #litchat -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010

americannanny RT @nilkibenitez: @carolyburnsbass they love boobs til we need to feed our children with them-then they're illegal! #litchat/ Amen -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Hayley_DM And in the tampon adverts u can ride a bike, drive a car, jump high #litchat but cannot discuss on tv - 1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010
florinda_3rs Sounds right to me. RT @adamslisa: @elissastein I think it's a turn-off to guys because that's usually when they can't get lucky #litchat -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @rebeccaelia In many ways, the more subtle is more insidious b/c makes us think we've moved beyond it. So disturbing to me. #litchat -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @LexxClarke I remember reading that! Or they'd just leave those statues out of their descriptions. #litchat -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @bookladysblog: @adamslisa Also, its just so mysterious to them. And theyre conditioned to believe its gross.//for women too. #litchat -1:47 PM Feb 5th, 2010
tracyleacarnes @elissastein True. That's how I found out what products I could use and how I could also feel like the essence of spring! #litchat -1:48 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein When researching FLOW we found almost nothing about sex and menstruation. Except that religions forbade it. #litchat -1:48 PM Feb 5th, 2010
wrightallison RT @nilkibenitez One fave story, my kids discovered the joy of tampon rocket making and my son shouting he needed more tampons. #litchat -1:48 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @nilkibenitez Again--our bodies as objects=acceptable. Our bodies as functional=not acceptable #litchat -1:48 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana @LexxClarke The same Victorians who hid furniture legs behind skirts and put ruffles on a rack of lamp chops. #litchat -1:48 PM Feb 5th, 2010
AlexCampion @americannanny Wonderful point #litchat -1:48 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog: @rebeccaelia Ads now that say periods are an "inconvenience" you don't have to suffer? Outrageous. #litchat -1:48 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Durgagirl RT @elissastein When talking to Dr. Oz he said he's not allowed to talk menstruation on TV. #litchat** Why? Someone hold the patent rights? -1:49 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein So true. Took me yrs to believe sex was OK during period and that partner wouldn't be disgusted. #litchat -1:49 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez this conversation has me lol-it's refreshing and empowering to talk about this. TY @elissastein for "getting the party started" #litchat -1:49 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @deberryandgrant: @nilkibenitez Again--our bodies as objects=acceptable. Our bodies as functional=not acceptable #litchat -1:49 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @bookladysblog EXACTLY. Couldn't agree with you more. Am writing a whole book a/b this. ;) #litchat -1:49 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein Much of this moves towards hysteria. A catch all disease believed to be caused by a uterus running rampant. #litchat -1:49 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass When you study Biblical laws about flow, and unclean periods, with understanding of a woman's cycle, it's all about fertility.--> #litchat -1:50 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @danish_novelist I think people don't talk ab. it bc they associate it w/women's sexual activity. Which is always frowned on. #litchat -1:50 PM Feb 5th, 2010
AnneTylerLord I'm flying in for the last bit of #litchat - hello everyone -1:50 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Durgagirl Dr Oz, patent rights to menstruation? Brilliant!! #litchat -1:50 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @rebeccaelia Well sign me up to read that one, too! #litchat -1:50 PM Feb 5th, 2010
danish_novelist I love beauty as much as the next male chauvinist pig but I cheer when I see a TV-anchor without a face lift #litchat -1:50 PM Feb 5th, 2010

maggiedana @elissastein Vote we rename hysterectomy to uterectomy. #litchat -1:51 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @nilkibenitez Once people get started the conversation truly flows (couldn't help that) #litchat -1:51 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @nilkibenitez:this convo has me lol-its refreshing &empowering to talk about this.TY@elissastein for "getting the party started" #litchat -1:51 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @maggiedana: @elissastein Vote we rename hysterectomy to uterectomy. #litchat -1:51 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass --> The Biblical unclean/clean cycle was designed so intercourse would result in pregnancy. #litchat -1:51 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein And weren't vibrators invented as way to "cure" hysteria? Interesting link b/t masturbation and menstruation. #litchat -1:51 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @CarolyBurnsBass Yes. But it's characterized as women being unclean and therefore untouchable every month. #litchat -1:51 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @bookladysblog Done :) #litchat -1:51 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass And MENstruation to FEMstruation. RT @maggiedana: @elissastein Vote we rename hysterectomy to uterectomy. #litchat -1:52 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog Vibrators and hysteria? Yup. They were invented to help doctors and midwives who worked manually. #litchat -1:52 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana YES. RT @CarolyBurnsBass: And MENstruation to FEMstruation. RT @maggiedana: @elissastein Vote we rename hysterectomy to uterectomy. #litchat -1:52 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat RT @nilkibenitez Again--our bodies as objects=acceptable. Our bodies as functional=not acceptable #litchat -1:52 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Saffy Sorry #litchat I'm too tired to be coherent tonight :( nn -1:52 PM Feb 5th, 2010
adamslisa @maggiedana yes!! #litchat -1:52 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Agree. RT @elissastein: @CarolyBurnsBass Yes. But its characterized as women being unclean and therefore untouchable every month. #litchat -1:52 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @bookladysblog:@elissastein Werent vibrators invented as way to "cure" hysteria? Interesting link b/t masturbation/menstruation. #litchat -1:52 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein Now there's a job I don't want! Manually "curing" a stranger of "hysteria." Egads. #litchat -1:53 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein The greek word for uterus is "hystera" which is where hysteria and hysterical come from. Crazy uterus=insane behavior. #litchat -1:53 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat RT @danish_novelist: I love beauty as much as the next male chauvinist pig but I cheer when I see a TV-anchor without a face lift #litchat -1:53 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: The greek word for uterus is "hystera" which is where hysteria and hysterical come from. Crazy uterus=insane behavior. #litchat -1:53 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @CarolyBurnsBass: --> The Biblical unclean/clean cycle was designed so intercourse would result in pregnancy. #litchat -1:53 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @CarolyBurnsBass It has always been a/b fertility,but in ancient Greece women were considered virgins if they weren't married. #litchat -1:53 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: Greek word for uterus is "hystera" which is where hysteria and hysterical come from. Crazy uterus=insane behavior. #litchat -1:53 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @elissastein *sigh* sometimes I'm ashamed to be a man..... #litchat -1:53 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @bookladysblog Vibrators sped up the process. And no one, the doctor or patient considered it sexual. That's a whole other story. #litchat -1:54 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @LexxClarke Hey, you're here and talking. That's pretty fabulous. #litchat -1:54 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana @rebeccaelia The word virgin means young woman, I think. Has nothing to do with currently accepted meaning. #litchat -1:54 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @danish_novelist: I love beauty as much as the next male chauvinist pig but I cheer when I see a TV-anchor without a face lift #litchat -1:55 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein I'm familiar w/ that story from a presentation I did on theological perspectives on masturbation in college! #litchat -1:55 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @elissastein: @LexxClarke Hey, you're here and talking. That's pretty fabulous. #litchat/ Agree. -1:55 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein Last crazy fact. Lysol was sold for decades as a douche. Same stuff as used on bathroom floors. Some thought it was a spermicide. #litchat -1:55 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @americannanny: RT @elissastein: @LexxClarke Hey, you're here and talking. That's pretty fabulous. #litchat/ Agree. -1:55 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @CarolyBurnsBass Back then, it didn't have anything to do with sexual virginity. They were literally "free," not a possession. #litchat -1:55 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @elissastein I'm trying to be enlightened #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana @elissastein Lysol as spermicide. It works. You don't see the little buggers crawling around the floors much. #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: Last crazy fact. Lysol was sold for decades as a douche. Same stuff as used on bathroom floors. #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @CarolyBurnsBass At some point it changed, when women became a possession of men. #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Tension results in anxiety and other ills. Orgasm is a great method of tension relief. I suppose a vibrator might give temp relief. #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @LexxClarke: @elissastein Im trying to be enlightened//works for me! #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Poppetree RT @americannanny: RT @CarolyBurnsBass: --> The Biblical unclean/clean cycle was designed so intercourse would result in pregnancy. #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @maggiedana HA! #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @elissastein: Last crazy fact. Lysol sold 4 decades as douche. Same stuff used on bathroom floors. Some thought a spermicide. #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: Last crazy fact. Lysol was sold for decades as a douche. Same stuff as used on bathroom floors. Some thought it was a spermicide. #litchat -1:56 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @CarolyBurnsBass That's what people believed. Although clitoral orgasms weren't considered "sexual." #litchat -1:57 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @maggiedana: @elissastein Lysol as spermicide. It works. You don't see the little buggers crawling around the floors much. #litchat -1:57 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @elissastein: RT @LexxClarke: @elissastein Im trying to be enlightened//works for me! #litchat/ Where are other men? Applaud you. -1:57 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein Using a tampon was far more shocking than clitoral orgasms at a doctor's office. Mind-boggling, huh? #litchat -1:57 PM Feb 5th, 2010

bookladysblog @maggiedana Image of sperm crawling over floors has me in stitches. #litchat -1:57 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @maggiedana In ancient Greece, it implied freedom, not married, did not mean sexual virginity. #litchat -1:57 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez a big, major OMFG!!! to that last RT from @elissastein #litchat -1:57 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @bookladysblog: @maggiedana Image of sperm crawling over floors has me in stitches.//me too. what are they looking for?! #litchat -1:58 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM In this day and age - you would think we were talking from medieval times #litchat -1:58 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @americannanny I responded to @litchat's call! #litchat -1:59 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant If youre wondering why Im tweeting re:periods & masturbation join #litchat w/ @elissastein abt book #FLOW #litchat -1:59 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @elissastein: Using a tampon was far more shocking than clitoral orgasms at a doctor's office. Mind-boggling, huh? #litchat -1:59 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana Trusty the Greeks to get it right! RT @rebeccaelia In ancient Greece, it implied freedom, not married, did nt mean sexual virginity #litchat -1:59 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein For lysol/douche ads, and other menstrual facts, check out my FLOW films: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook">http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook</a> #litchat -1:59 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez @maggiedana lol! #litchat -1:59 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @americannanny Now *that* is an RT that'll get people talking . . . #litchat -1:59 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LitChat And we love you for it! RT @LexxClarke: @americannanny I responded to @litchats call! #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein Am also thankful @maggiedana put them crawling on floor & not bed. Can't handle that image on my sheets! #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @maggiedana: Trusty the Greeks to get it right! RT @rebeccaelia In ancient Greece, it implied freedom, not married, did nt mean sexual virginity #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
danish_novelist @kashicat I think the world would be a much better place if it were full of male and female "sluts" who enjoyed their sexuality #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @elissastein: For lysol/douche ads, and other menstrual facts, check out my FLOW films: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook">http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook</a> #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana Place to call home? RT @elissastein: Image of sperm crawling over floors has me in stitches.//me too. what are they looking for?! #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Hayley_DM In some ways today we're more repressed than ever. #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: For lysol/douche ads, and other menstrual facts, check out my FLOW films: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook">http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook</a> #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @LexxClarke: @americannanny I responded to @litchat's call! #litchat/ So open of you to do so. -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LitChat These are hilarious. RT @elissastein: ... check out my FLOW films: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook">http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook</a> #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana @bookladysblog Now I'm worried I've ruined sex for everyone! #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010
adamslisa @elissastein gotta hop... thanks! #litchat -2:00 PM Feb 5th, 2010

deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: @Hayley_DM In some ways today were more repressed than ever. (Couldn't agree more.) #litchat -2:01 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @danish_novelist: @kashicat Sexual repression is a huge part of the problem. And yet Girls Gone Wild is insanely popular. #litchat -2:01 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @maggiedana Worry not! :) #litchat -2:01 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @elissastein @danish_novelist There's such a weird N. American dichotomy between prudishness and sexual display. #litchat -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @LitChat: These are hilarious. RT @elissastein: ... check out my FLOW films: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook">http://www.youtube.com/flowthebook</a> #litchat -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein What a pleasure to have so many people talking about something that's not an every day topic. #litchat -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @elissastein but why is there no Boys Gone Wild? #litchat -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog RT @maggiedana: @bookladysblog Now I'm worried I've ruined sex for everyone! #litchat [maybe just for a day or two!] -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @americannanny I'm always open to learning new things, especially something I have of which I have no understanding #litchat -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @kashicat: @elissastein @danish_novelist There's such a weird N. American dichotomy between prudishness and sexual display. #litchat -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM RT @maggiedana: @bookladysblog Now I'm worried I've ruined sex for everyone! #litchat - Fantastic!!!! -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @kashicat @danish_novelist Very look, don't touch or enjoy. We're like that about our bodies in general. #litchat -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
danish_novelist @elissastein Nothing good comes out of repressed sexuality. Just ask a few Irish priests about that ... #litchat -2:02 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @deberryandgrant: @elissastein but why is there no Boys Gone Wild?//it's all about objectifying women. #litchat -2:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @kashicat: @elissastein @danish_novelist There's such a weird N. American dichotomy between prudishness and sexual display. #litchat -2:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @kashicat Yeah Heidi Fleiss is a 'celebrity' but we can't speak openly about menstruation #litchat -2:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass @danish_novelist Your description of enjoying sexuality makes me think of BRAVE NEW WORLD. #litchat -2:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @maggiedana Yes, but only the Greeks BEFORE classical times. Once Apollo & Athena were in, forget it! ;) #litchat -2:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM @kashicat I am from the UK - I think we are not as bad on the TV etc here??? #litchat -2:03 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @elissastein: What a pleasure to have so many people talking about something that's not an every day topic. #litchat/ thank you! -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass Exactly. RT @elissastein: RT @deberryandgrant: @elissastein but why is there no Boys Gone Wild?//it's all about objectifying women. #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @LexxClarke We can talk about almost anything, but they way a woman's body works? Off limits. #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez TY so much ladies and gents, it's really been fun meeting new, fun, smart people! #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Hayley_DM RT @elissastein: What a pleasure to have so many people talking about something that's not an every day topic. #litchat Thoroughly enjoyed -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @elissastein Absolutely. #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog Maybe one of the Jersey Shore girls will inconveniently get her period in the next season & talk about it. Unlikely spokesperson! #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana Bad as in repressed? RT @Hayley_DM: @kashicat I am from the UK - I think we are not as bad on the TV etc here??? #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke Sounds like my kinda show! lol RT @elissastein: RT @deberryandgrant: but why is there no Boys Gone Wild?/ sorry for flippancy tho #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @LexxClarke I'm convinced it's all ab women viewed as men's property, at root of things.So *they* can't be sexual, but men can leer #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @deberryandgrant: RT @kashicat: @elissastein @danish_novelist Such a weird N. American dichotomyprudishness &sexual display. #litchat -2:04 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein One more—why do women menstruate? No one knows. No one's done the research. #litchat -2:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM RT @danish_novelist: @elissastein Nothing good comes out of repressed sexuality. Just ask a few Irish priests about that ... #litchat -2:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010
maggiedana Easy peasy. It's 'cos God's a man. RT @elissastein: One more—why do women menstruate? No one knows. No ones done the research. #litchat -2:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog Loved the ipad launch last week. More people talking about periods than ever before. Amazing to watch. #litchat -2:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @bookladysblog: Maybe 1of the Jersey Shore girls will inconveniently get period in next season ; talk about it. Unlikely ! #litchat -2:05 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LitChat We are at the top of the hour and need to release @elissastein if she needs to go, but we hope she sticks around a while longer. #litchat -2:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM Fleiss was just on the UK Big Brother - she walked around in PJ's all day - not very sexy #litchat -2:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein Yes, but again only in a comical context.We should recruit celebs to go on talk shows & mention their periods. #litchat -2:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @Hayley_DM I get the impression you guys are much more relaxed about things on TV. Canada is more like US, but not as bad #litchat -2:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: One more—why do women menstruate? No one knows. No one's done the research. #litchat -2:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein It's painful to think menstruation is the stuff of life and yet it's treated as shameful. #litchat -2:06 PM Feb 5th, 2010
adamslisa @elissastein @bookladysblog Yes, Snookie goes on the rag... would be a boon to the discussion #litchat -2:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @elissastein: It's painful to think menstruation is the stuff of life and yet it's treated as shameful. #litchat -2:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010
americannanny RT @elissastein: It's painful to think menstruation is the stuff of life and yet it's treated as shameful. #litchat /And it defines us. -2:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @elissastein Philosophical answer: Because the feminine is cyclical. We're not a straight line. Continuous growth & dissolution. #litchat -2:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog We're working with a documentary house about a FLOW film. Don't know that anyone will foot the bill to produce. #litchat -2:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010

kashicat RT @elissastein: One more—why do women menstruate? #litchat [Perfect divine plan, of course. :-P Taught when I was fundamentalist, heh.] -2:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @nilkibenitez: RT @elissastein: One more—why do women menstruate? No one knows. No ones done the research."Only women bleed." #litchat -2:07 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez RT @rebeccaelia: @elissastein Philosophical answer: Because the feminine is cyclical. We're not a straight line. Continuous growth & dissolution. #litchat -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein I have a little mini-celebration every month when I get my period and realize I'm (happily) not pregnant. #litchat -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @adamslisa: @bookladysblog Yes, Snookie goes on the rag... would be a boon to the discussion//bet she would for a fee. #litchat -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM @maggiedana I think the US tends to have stricter rules, like the furore over Janet Jackson's boob that time - went mad in the US #litchat -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @elissastein It's treated no differently than the way our society treats anything and all that is feminine. #litchat -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
danish_novelist @bookladysblog Or how about an exciting new game show to increase awareness? We could call it Blood Feud :- ) #litchat -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @rebeccaelia: Philosophical ans:B/c the feminine is cyclical.Were not a straight line.Continuous growth & dissolution. #litchat -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat RT @danish_novelist: Nothing good comes out of repressed sexuality.Just ask a few Irish priests about that #litchat [A few priests, period!] -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @adamslisa Well, there's the episode title. I love it. #litchat -2:08 PM Feb 5th, 2010
fleming77 RT @elissastein: It's painful to think menstruation is the stuff of life and yet it's treated as shameful. #litchat> religious custom CofE -2:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM #litchat - The UK reported it as "Why are the US up in arms over a breast!!! #litchat -2:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog Why didn't Stephenie Meyer address this? What happens to Edward when Bella gets her period? That must be hard to resist. #litchat -2:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein Menstruation (or the lack of) is such a HUGE deal to so many women. Pregnant. Not. Such a powerful event. But still, we're silent. #litchat -2:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @elissastein It's treated poorly, because our society is terrified of the power of life and the apparent finality of death. #litchat -2:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @danish_novelist: Nothing good comes out of repressed sexuality.Just ask a few Irish priests about that #litchat -2:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM RT @maggiedana: Easy peasy. It's 'cos God's a man. RT @elissastein: One more—why do women menstruate? No one knows. No ones done the research. #litchat -2:09 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock Apparently you girls (and guys) aren't old enough to remember when it was "snowing down south" or your "left the bard door open"? #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010
florinda_3rs HA! RT @bookladysblog: Why didn't Stephenie Meyer address what happens to Edward when Bella gets her period? Must be hard to resist #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant @rebeccaelia b/c from childhood shame and embarrassment is implied even if not taught. #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @bookladysblog In paganism the feminine is celebrated,the goddess is loved and the natural cycle is followed #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass RT @bookladysblog: Why didnt Meyer address this? What happens to Edward when Bella gets her period? That must be hard to resist. #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @Hayley_DM: @maggiedana Janet Jackson's wardrobe malfunction? Powerful sign of how screwed up this society is over women. #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010
mdotwrites RT @deberryandgrant: RT @danish_novelist: Nothing good comes out of repressed sexuality. Just ask a few Irish priests about that #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM @elissastein Yes ITampon was the highest trending topic!! #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LitHousewife @bookladysblog LOL! I could have done w/out that thought and I've never read Twilight. #litchat -2:10 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CEMcKenzie1 @CarolyBurnsBass @bookladysblog - I had the exact same thought when reading the book - major flaw! #litchat -2:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock That was "barn door" --euphemism for fly unzipped; other for slip is showing. Did not talk about bodily functions at all! #litchat -2:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein Vampires and periods? That's something I haven't come across. But I'm betting it's out there. #litchat -2:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: @Hayley_DM: @maggiedana Janet Jackson's wardrobe malfunction? Powerful sign how screwed up this society is re:women. #litchat -2:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat On Salon.com's Table Talk forum we had discussion thread about periods. Guys dropped in all the time to learn, & be astonished. #litchat -2:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM @kashicat Yes , thankfully #litchat -2:11 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @deberryandgrant Yes, it is. We learn very early--if not from our parents, then from society. That's Y we must change this early. #litchat -2:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CEMcKenzie1 @elissastein I'm thinking women came up with that week away from men during menstruation in the bible - week off! #litchat -2:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Hayley_DM And even though everyone was talking, it was all dismissive jokes. That's the only way people are comfortable. #litchat -2:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat RT Janet Jackson's wardrobe malfunction? Powerful sign of how screwed up this society is over women. #litchat -2:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @LitHousewife I'm just saying. With all the obsessing abt how her blood is tempting, surely a period makes it that much more so. #litchat -2:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @elissastein I'll bet it's out there, too...but probably only in fetish erotica. #litchat -2:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @CEMcKenzie1 I think a week away, just hanging out with other women, sounds delightful. #litchat -2:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CEMcKenzie1 @bookladysblog right and when she cuts her finger in the second book and one little drop sends the brother crazy .... silly #litchat -2:12 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @bookladysblog I had no idea menstrual porn existed. It does. #litchat -2:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock @CEMcKenzie1 No, the priests came up with shutting women away during their periods because it/they were "unclean" (powerful) #litchat -2:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @Hayley_DM: #litchat - The UK reported it as "Why are the US up in arms over a breast!!! #litchat -2:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @GLHancock Oh yes, the euphenisms! My freind & I always called it our "closet business," bc we kept our stuff on shelf there. #litchat -2:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CEMcKenzie1 @GLHancock right, but when they saw how great it was, they went along with it #litchat -2:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @GLHancock Men were so afraid of menstrual blood they created all sorts of terrible theories as to what it was. #litchat -2:13 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CEMcKenzie1 @GLHancock and it's actually in the old testament ... #litchat -2:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock @kashicat Cute! I hadn't heard it put that way! #litchat -2:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat RT @elissastein: Vampires and periods? ... I'm betting it's out there. #litchat [probly on some private, locked fanfic site] -2:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein Last one: ancient Greeks thought periods were a body purging itself of diseased blood. So, they started blood letting for me. #litchat -2:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @CEMcKenzie1 Exactly! #litchat -2:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM My Grandmother was a strict Irish Catholic who never told my Mum anything she believed she was dying for her 1st period #litchat -2:14 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @deberryandgrant: RT @Hayley_DM: #litchat - The UK reported it as "Why are the US up in arms over a breast!!!//love the sanity #litchat -2:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock @elissastein Men were/are so afraid of women that they find any excuse to put them in their places/out of the way/less than/down #litchat -2:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
JSLion just watching today, no experience to go by. fascating chat #litchat -2:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
danish_novelist @kashicat I can't think of a more ridiculous "scandal" than the one about Janet Jackson's nipple. I mean, get a (sex) life, people! #litchat -2:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @elissastein: Last 1- ancient Greeks thought periods were a body purging itself of diseased blood.So they started blood letting #litchat -2:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock @CEMcKenzie1 Believe it or not, they had priests in the old testament. Even in old Egypt! And everywhere else. Witch doctors, too. #litchat -2:15 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @elissastein There are some cultures where male rituals involve slicing bottom of penis so they can have "period" too. Envy? #litchat -2:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Hayley_DM It's appalling that right now there are girls who think they're dying because they had no education about periods. #litchat -2:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @JSLion It is pretty interesting. So much we don't often talk about. #litchat -2:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @danish_novelist There was an infinite amount of eye-rolling going on over the Jackson thing. All that obvious suppression #litchat -2:16 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LitHousewife @bookladysblog It's the double combo of the blood & where it is... LOL! He wouldn't have to kill her to get it. #litchat -2:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @kashicat Cultures knew menstruation was something powerful, it was associated with birth, but they were terrified too. #litchat -2:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM @elissastein It is all so very wrong and no one benefits by it being this way either #litchat -2:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM RT @kashicat: RT Janet Jackson's wardrobe malfunction? Powerful sign of how screwed up this society is over women. #litchat -2:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @LitHousewife That's what I'm saying. A free flow of blood would be too tempting. Seems an obvs source of conflict. #litchat -2:17 PM Feb 5th, 2010
deberryandgrant RT @elissastein:@kashicat Cultures knew menstruation was something powerful, it was associated w/birth,but they were terrified too. #litchat -2:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat RT @elissastein: ...girls who think they're dying bc no education ab periods. #litchat [oh yeah. I was 10, had no idea yet] -2:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010

danish_novelist @elissastein All parents who don't tell their kids about sex should be forced to participate in a Naked Bike Ride in a blizzard #litchat -2:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass My mother wouldn't talk about it w/me, I had to check out a book from the library (always loved research). --> #litchat -2:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Hayley_DM I'm hoping FLOW will at least be a step in the right direction. Talking helps break down walls. #litchat -2:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke I remember being told by a girl in primary (elementary) school that boys had periods and bled from the penis #litchat -2:18 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @bookladysblog: @LitHousewife Love that the vampire/period stream is still flowing. #litchat -2:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM Red Letter Day - my nans #litchat -2:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass I wanted a special talk w/my dauty, took her to Mimi's Cafe (her fave) and gave her a nice, happy sexuality book.--> #litchat -2:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @CarolyBurnsBass That's how I found out about sex: in library bk. I think I learned ab. menstruation thru school film. Not mom. #litchat -2:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @CarolyBurnsBass I learned about it during the 5th grade film. Sobbed the whole way home, horrified. #litchat -2:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock Sorry, I came in late: what does all this physiology lesson have to do with literature? #litchat -2:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @CarolyBurnsBass But interestingly, my mom *did* sit my brothers down to explain sex to *them*. #litchat -2:19 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @danish_novelist All parents who dont tell their kids about sex should be forced to participate in Naked Bike Ride in blizzard #litchat -2:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010
rebeccaelia @elissastein Understandable. Birth IS terrifying. Women lose a lot of blood in a short period of time. Many bled to death. #litchat -2:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010
JSLion @danish_novelist And today would be the day for the bikeride in the blizzarrd here in VA #litchat -2:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke #fail RT @kashicat: @CarolyBurnsBass But interestingly, my mom *did* sit my brothers down to explain sex to *them*. #litchat -2:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein Femcare companies took over educating girls in the 30s. Think about it--those 5th grade films were early infomercials. #litchat -2:20 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM @elissastein In some countries they were deemed as having witch like abilities and shunned - women hid their bleeding #litchat -2:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @GLHancock We're talking FLOW: the Cultural Story of Menstruation, my new book. #litchat -2:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass --> Dauty wanted to disappear from the table and even at 22, she says I traumatized her! Just trying to make it fun and happy. #litchat -2:21 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @Hayley_DM Midwives were considered witches. Their knowledge of childbirth, understanding of menstruation was "evil." #litchat -2:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock @elissastein Ah! Makes more sense now. Congratulations? #litchat -2:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010
bookladysblog @JSLion Hey neighbor! I'm in VA, too (Richmond). #litchat -2:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @GLHancock Must have been strange to fall into. #litchat -2:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @LexxClarke Hee! Yes. She did sincerely think she *had* told me this stuff, tho. I asked her once. She didn't realize she hadn't #litchat -2:22 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Hayley_DM @danish_novelist Exactly what I was just saying - barmy!!! #litchat -2:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LitChat @GLHancock Topic of week has been SHH! THAT'S TABOO. Guest host @elissastein's book is FLOW, THE CULTURAL STORY OF MENSTRUATION. #litchat -2:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein I've got a few more minutes here. Anyone have questions about pr, publishing, writing? #litchat -2:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @kashicat I was given a book..... #litchat -2:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @elissastein CBC show about advertising ("The Age of Persuasion") pointed out infomercial aspect of fem prod advertising #litchat -2:23 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @kashicat: @LexxClarke My brother and I thought tampon tubes were for bringing dimes to the bank. Couldn't figure out the cotton. #litchat -2:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
littlefluffycat @elissastein what's the biggest change in pr due to the new technologies, in your opinion? #litchat -2:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM @elissastein Unnecessary and so, so wrong #litchat Beggars belief -2:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
LexxClarke @elissastein slightly oblique question but how do your family/friends feel about the book? #litchat -2:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
littlefluffycat @elissastein 'cause we hear a LOT about the publishing and writing changes. :) #litchat -2:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
kashicat @LexxClarke My friend just left books lying around for her son to pick up & read when he was ready. Not bad strategy. #litchat -2:24 PM Feb 5th, 2010
jmchshannon @bookladysblog I hate to say it but she's addressed that issue in many an interview. Essentially, Edward is too much of a gentleman #litchat -2:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
GLHancock @elissastein Nah, nothing surprises me. I'm too old! You sound quite the chicklit! #litchat -2:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
JSLion @bookladysblog I am near Warenton. We are supposed to get 20 - 30 inches. :-> So much for Global warming #litchat -2:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM RT @danish_novelist: @elissastein All parents who don't tell their kids about sex should be forced to participate in a Naked Bike Ride in a blizzard #litchat -2:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @littlefluffycat PR? It's all on the author. I've had to learn from the ground out how to get the word out. #litchat -2:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
nilkibenitez #litchat folks checkout this tweet i just got via @OakleighVermont Outrageous 2007 MadTV Sketch on the "iPad" <a href="http://digg.com/d31Hrbq">http://digg.com/d31Hrbq</a> #ipad -2:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
CarolyBurnsBass I'm reading THE HELP right now. Wonder if author ever gets into the mind of maid washing out all of those monthly rags... #litchat -2:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein @LexxClarke By now everyone I know can talk menstruation but at the beginning many were insanely uncomfortable. #litchat -2:25 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein My advice to writers: let people know what you're doing. Be on twitter, blog, FB, check out HARO every day. It's all in your hands #litchat -2:26 PM Feb 5th, 2010
Hayley_DM @elissastein Try and get as much publicity for this important book as you can - get people talking #litchat -2:26 PM Feb 5th, 2010
littlefluffycat @elissastein If you had to pick a "got to" book or source on it, what would it be? #litchat -2:26 PM Feb 5th, 2010
elissastein RT @Hayley_DM @elissastein Try and get as much publicity for this important book as you can - get people talking//it's my job ... #litchat -2:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010

musecrossing RT @elissastein: I've got a few more minutes here. Anyone have questions about pr, publishing, writing? #litchat [@tumblemoose ?] -2:27 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @littlefluffycat I haven't found one. Many say they have the "answer" but it's all changing so fast no one really knows. #litchat -2:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010

kashicat @elissastein HARO? #litchat -2:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein A last thought to ponder. Underwear is a modern invention (1930s). What did women do before? #litchat -2:28 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @kashicat Help a reporter out. Emails you sign up for 3x a day, people looking for sources. Great way to promote. #litchat -2:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

DaveMalby RT @elissastein: A last thought to ponder. Underwear is a modern invention (1930s). What did women do before? #litchat -2:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

florida\_3rs I've always wondered about that, really. RT @elissastein: Underwear is a modern invention (1930s). What did women do before? #litchat -2:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

GLHancock @elissastein Bloomers, pantaloons, corset covers, petticoats and a zillion layers! #litchat -2:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

CarolyBurnsBass @kashicat HARO is Help A Reporter Out, a website and email service to connect journalists with sources (YOU). [www.helpareporter.com](http://www.helpareporter.com) #litchat -2:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

bookladysblog @jmchshannon Good to know. But Bella should worry about it, shouldn't she? #litchat -2:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @LitHousewife Maybe that's the vampire wave of the future #litchat -2:29 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @GLHancock Yup. And the blood bled into all those layers with nothing to catch it. #litchat -2:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein RT @kashicat HARO is Help A Reporter Out, a website and email service to connect journalists with sources (YOU) [www.helpareporter.com](http://www.helpareporter.com) #litchat -2:30 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitHousewife @elissastein I don't normally read vampire novels, but I would for an author who is frank about periods. #litchat -2:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitChat Looks like we're slowing down here. Let's give @elissastein a huge round of {{{APPLAUSE}}} for joining us today in #litchat -2:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke Apologies for the somewhat random tweets this evening have been taking part in #litchat with @elissastein about her book FLOW -2:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Hayley\_DM Fab #litchat this evening -2:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein Should anyone want to review FLOW, interview me, or get more info, please be in touch! #litchat -2:31 PM Feb 5th, 2010

GLHancock @elissastein Oh, come now. They used folded rags. My mother, born in 1917 told me of her embarrassment washing them out. #litchat -2:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

bookladysblog @elissastein Let's definitely be in touch about that blog tour! #litchat -2:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein @GLHancock Women used many things. But often, nothing. #litchat -2:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

kashicat @elissastein @CarolyBurnsBass Thanks for info! #litchat -2:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

Hayley\_DM @elissastein Thanks very much #litchat -2:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

JLichtenberg RT @LitChat: Looks like we're slowing down here. Let's give @elissastein a huge round of {{{APPLAUSE}}} for joining us today in #litchat -2:32 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LexxClarke @elissastein Thank you so much for taking the time to be with us and thanks as ever to @LitChat for facilitating a great chat o) #litchat -2:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein Thanks everyone—this has been a blast! #litchat -2:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010

kashicat Thanks so much for this #litchat @elissastein ! It's been great! -2:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010

GLHancock Claps @elissastein #litchat -2:33 PM Feb 5th, 2010

kashicat RT @elissastein: Women used many things. But often, nothing. #litchat [Maybe why they had to disappear when blood was everywhere? #litchat -2:34 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitChat And big UPS to all of YOU brave folk who joined us in talking about non-grammatical PERIODS of the feminine kind: MENSTRUATION. #litchat -2:34 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitChat Next week's topic: LEGACY OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN AUTHORS. Mark your calendars and return on Monday at 4pmEST for #litchat -2:35 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitChat Oops... broadcast error there (getting ahead of myself). LEGACY OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN AUTHORS is February 19. #litchat -2:37 PM Feb 5th, 2010

LitChat Next we'll celebrate love in literature with topic ALL ABOUT ROMANCE. Author @Lorilfoster joins us as guest host on Friday, Feb12. #litchat -2:38 PM Feb 5th, 2010

TwinkleChar Just got home. Bummer. This sure sounds more interesting than trying to set up a Health Savings Account. #litchat -2:40 PM Feb 5th, 2010

elissastein Just finished my guest author stint at #litchat. Total blast. Super fun. Great conversation. I'm a huge fan. -2:42 PM Feb 5th, 2010