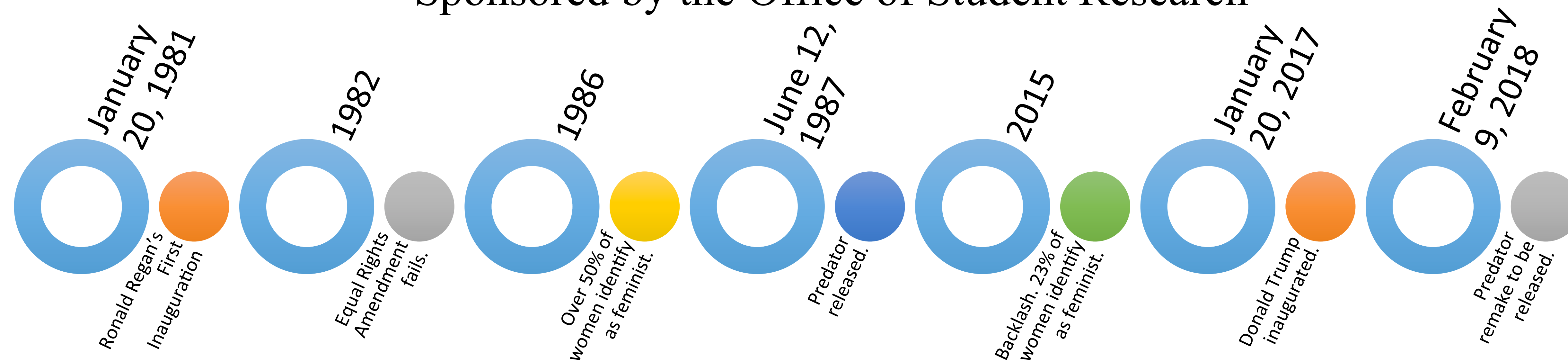


# “If It Bleeds, We Can Kill It”: Conservative Responses to Gender Through *Predator*

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**Methodology:** Ideological criticism—a rhetorical analysis of the beliefs, values, and assumptions embedded within *Predator*.

**Thesis:** *Predator*'s adversarial attitude towards feminist progress foreshadowed the rhetoric of Trump and the Alt-Right.

## Findings: *Predator*

- **Conservation of gendered dichotomies through physical space.**
  - The jungle is personified as feminine (Srceva-Pavlovska, 2014).
  - The predator is uniquely suited to use the jungle due to invisibility and knowledge of terrain.
- **Conservation of hegemonic masculinity**
  - The main characters use homophobic and sexist language throughout the film.
  - The female character, Anna, is forced into a subservient role.
  - Bleeding (menstruation) is used to diminish the power of the predator.
- **Conservation of unequal gendered roles**
  - Anna is kept unarmed and dependent on the male characters.
  - The predator illustrates feminine independence and is killed.

## Findings: Trump and the Alt-Right

- **Conservation of gendered dichotomies through physical space.**
  - The Alt-Right refer to themselves as the “nemesis of left-wing feminism” who operate in a “manosphere” online (Bokhari & Yiannopoulos, 2016, para. 14).
  - Gender separation is enforced on social media (Dawson, 2016; Brown, 2016)
- **Conservation of hegemonic masculinity**
  - Trump’s leaked “Locker Room Talk” with Billy Bush.
  - Trump’s use of menstruation to delegitimize Megyn Kelly.
- **Conservation of unequal gendered roles**
  - Trump institutes Miss USA “purity rule” (Valenti, 2009)
  - Trump stated ideal woman is a homemaker who is compliant to a man’s schedule (Foran, 2016)