

BABY TALK A-LISTERS ON CHILD FREEDOM



I realised that so much of the pressure I was feeling was from outside sources and I knew I wasn't ready to take that step into motherhood.' Kim Cattrall

"If I had kids, they'd hate me. They'd end up on a show talking about me; because something [in my life] would have had to suffer and it would've probably been them." **Oprah Winfrey**



i have to really want ave kids and neither of us did.' **Portia de Rossi**



'As a comic, always working and on the road, I have had to decide between motherhood and living my fullest life and I chose the latter.' Sarah Silverman



'Having children was not my destiny. I kept thinking it would be, waiting for it to happen, but it never did and I didn't care what people thought? Helen Mirren 18 | METRO | Thursday, July 23, 2020



» Continued from Page 17 Aniston is far from alone. Her treatment reflects society's view that having a child is the right and valid thing to do and that, by implication,

In this for do and that, by immersion, clossing not to its work guilleation, clossing not to its work guilleation, clossing not to its work guilleation, the second second second second second method, for creating a titular character in her first novel. Olive, who doesn't want to be another by choice. In 2016, the Office for National Statistics revealed 19 per cent of women who't eached 45 did not have children, a proportion that's double women who't eached 45 did not have children, a proportion that's double because they're not mothers. "Kim Cattral [Isamantha in Sex And The City] inspired me. I read an article where hes aid you must say 'childree', not 'childless'. Cattralls another woman who takes up a lot of

"childfree", not "childless". Cattrall's another woman who takes up a lot of space in the world but because she's not married or has children, people turn their nose up at her and 1 just think that needs to change, 'says Gannon, 31, who's known for a long time she doesn't see herself having

children and was keer to find other women who felt the same. 'I really don't have that formula in my head that having a head that having a child will make me feel complete and I just want women out three who feel the same to know that is valid. It's very different to someone who might be in pain because they haven't had the child they always wanted. This is a choice. Maybe we just need to reframe what this strange definition of 'having it all' actually means definition of "having all" actually means because I personally think I have it all,' says Gannon, who studied English and film at Researchers predict the world's population will peak at 9.7 billion around 2064, before falling down to 8.8 billion by the end of the century. and film at Southampton University before moving to London and getting a job 'in a big shiny PR agency'. It's something she regards as invaluable given she's created her

The average number of children a woman gives birth to is falling, due to more women being in education and work, and more access to contraception. Researchers at the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation showed the global fertility rate nearly halved between 1950 and 2017.

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realised others felt the same way di

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own brand out of a blog she started at 20 and was named one of Forbes 30 Under 30 in 2018.

If the fertility rate falls below approximately 2.1, then the size of the population starts to fall.

Motherh od: Kin

Cattrall, left, and lennifer Aniston. right, have not had children

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Emma Gannon

examines _____ childfree women

in her book, Oliv

children. They think Olive is being selfish because she's quite rightly obsessed with her own feelings and break-up and then you've got Isla going through IVF

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and is incredibly self-absorbed, which she has every right to be which she has every right to be because she's going through a traumatic time. They all have struggles, all make mistakes, and are all insensitive at times, says Gannon, who adds she isn't Olive, 'but writing this novel is the closest I've got to expressing myself in the truest way'. And it's through Olive's experiences Gannon reflects the reality for many childfree women

As part of her research, she asked the women about the most irksome transfit sheaver about the most irksome transfit sheaver as a straight of the you're old? Aren't you scared you're going to be lonely? Won't you regret it? Don't you want to leave behind legacy? It was scaremongering: says Gamon. Then there's the belief that childfree women are out partying every night without a care to the world. The getting married next year, and we stay home a lot. I love nesting, And I'm not this person who has all this endless amount of time. I have other commitments. That's something I really wanted to show in the book, that just because someone is childfree, theyre not gallivanting around town.' Gannon hopes her book will prompt honest conversation, and how there's onbing wome with vanion hopes net book will prompt honest conversation, 'and show there's nothing wrong with taking your time to make up your mind about what you want in your life'. 'A lot of women fall into

A lot of women fail into having children because their mother and grandmother did and there are a lot of women out there who think, "Hmm, I don't know whether I would've done this differently", and that's OK as well,' she says and that's OK as well,' she says. 'I think we're too quick to judge people for their decisions, even our friends sometimes. We're all just figuring out our own way, whatever path we choose.'

Olive by Emma Ganono (HarperCollins) is out now. Trends continues on page 23