

#USvsHate

Why is it

That a guy and a girl can watch the Super Bowl

But the guy gets asked what he thought of the game

While the girl gets asked what she thought of the halftime show?

Why is it

That a girl who wants to play basketball

Is declined the chance because

“You wouldn’t want to break a nail, *would you?*”

Why is it

That a guy can run fast

But a girl can only run

“Fast, *for a girl?*”

What do you know about sports?

They say.

I know.

I know good and bad teams

How to play

How to celebrate

How to lose.

Stick to cheerleading,

They say.

I won’t.

Because that is not what it means to

Root for a team

Be a team

Play in a team

To me.

But I’m not seen as another fan.

To them, I’m

A bandwagoner

A pretender

A girl.

I must feign indifference

In fear of being seen as

Inferior.

But

I am not deterred.

I am resilient.

I have spirit.

Because every game I play
I play against the doubt.

Every match I play
I play against the hate

Every second ticking down
I play against the stereotypes

Each of these
Games
Matches
Seconds
I play like it is overtime.

I am a girl.
And one thing is for sure--

I play to win.