



unfair comment

WHEN NATURE CALLS

'Don't take peeing sitting down... I'm about to order my first Female Urination Device.'

Seriously, I cannot tell you how much joy news of the FUD's existence has brought. Only the invention of the remote control and an Israeli-designed coiled facial hair remover has matched the feeling.

All hail the FUD.
What is it?

Well, it's an abbreviation for a nifty little silicon product called GoGirl, which the makers describe as a 'female urination device that lets you go anywhere'. 'Going' anywhere, of course, being the operative concept.

For years I have been trying to figure out how to pee standing up, and now my time has come.

I have, in the meantime, imagined various scenarios where GoGirl could be successfully and amusingly employed. The most enduring being a line of women standing next to a highway, their backs to the traffic, their skirts hitched up a bit while they relieve themselves on the side of the road.

I imagine some outraged passers-by remarking, 'I

know women enjoy equal rights now but this is going a little too far.'

Or how about whipping out your GoGirl at the office and surprising your male colleagues at the urinal?

The device has, it appears, a handy sort of vacuum action that holds it in place so you can touch up your lipstick at the same time. Which places you at an advantage when it comes to multitasking in the bathroom, an accomplishment men, for obvious reasons, will find difficult.

And while the device

itself (which looks like a miniature oxygen mask suitable for a small mammal) is intriguing, it is the text

explaining it all that has provided me with hours of pleasure.

By the way, the GoGirl comes in two colours: Disney pink and military camouflage (two favourite hues in the American cultural palette).

I assume that you'd use the camouflage version

outdoors, which could be loads of fun because, of course, no one would be able to see how you're managing to pee standing up.

Reading the brochure more closely, I tried to imagine the brains that clumped together to come up with the actual language. It was clearly a hectic brainstorm session fuelled by energy drinks and loads of reference tools.

'Bikers, brides, business-women, climbers, marathon runners, hunters and missionaries' are just some of

the suggested categories of women who might benefit from being able to pee standing up.

My personal favourites are the hunter (the only female hunter I am aware of is Sarah Palin) and the missionary. Imagine how many heathens you could convert defying nature itself in remote, Godless places.

The climber, too, is interesting. She'd probably be ahead of the pack as they clamber up a rock

face. And how convenient just to 'go' while you're climbing. (But not much fun for the person below you.)

Imagining a bride walking down the aisle with her GoGirl already in place so she doesn't have to scream off to the loo at an important moment in the proceedings is also quite fun.

Apart from the printed material, GoGirl also has a website. Have a look at www.go-girl.com. There's an intriguing choice of photographs that scroll each time you open the home page.

The great thing about the GoGirl is that you can scrunch it up into a tube just a little larger than a lipstick, so you can discreetly carry it with you at all times.

For those worried about the cultural and social consequences of women peeing standing up, the marketers reassure us that 'you won't be like a man, you'll just pee like one'.

So, if you plan on getting a GoGirl and we accidentally find ourselves at the same public gathering, I challenge you to a peeing competition. You're on. ♣

How about whipping out your GoGirl at the office and surprising your male colleagues at the urinal?