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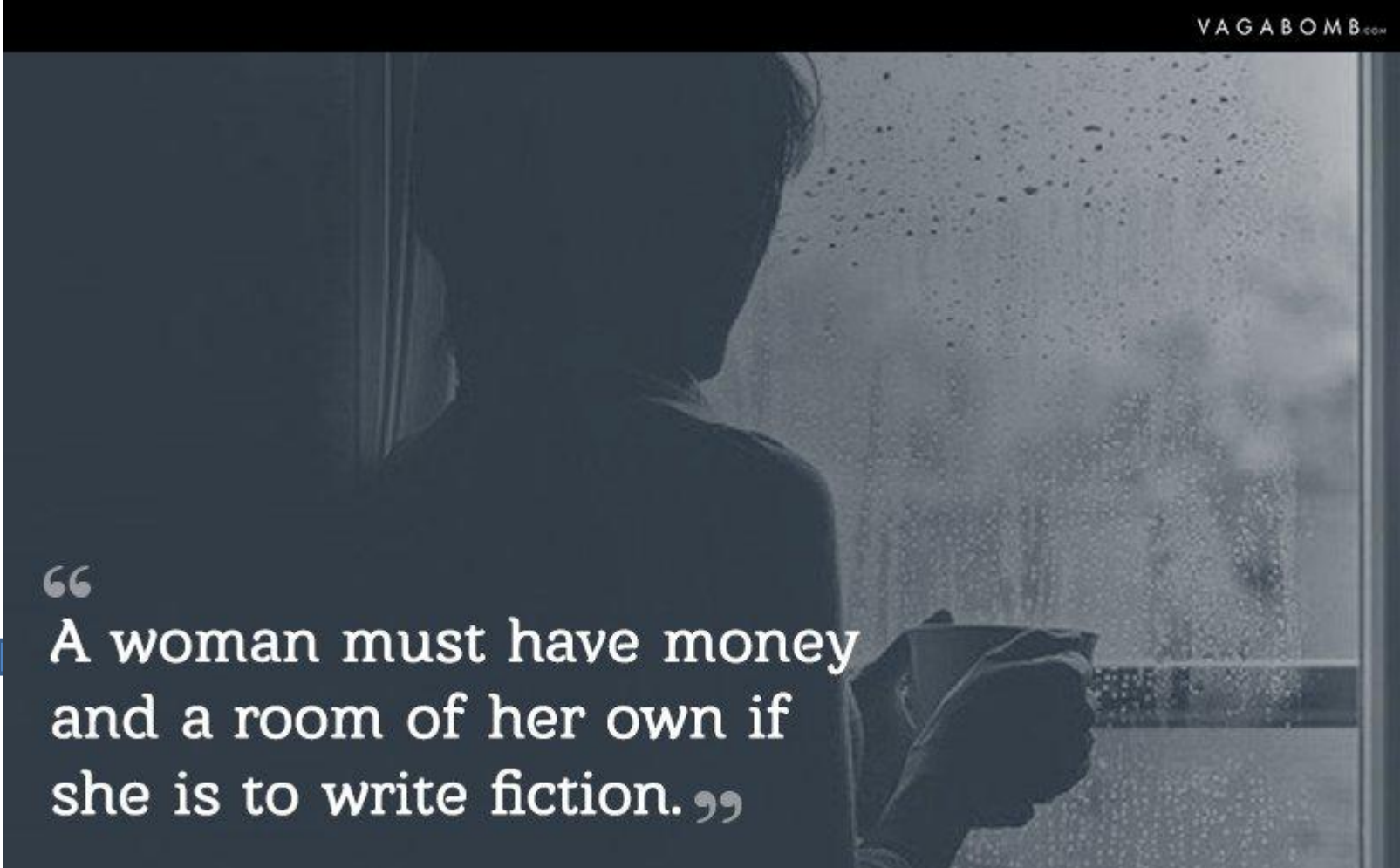
Gender budgeting in Finland

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Do we do gender budgeting in Finland?

- Depends on the definition of gender budgeting – but not really
- instructions to mention major gender issues in budget items at the budget report
- Yet we do not do any other strongly focused x-budgeting either, so not surprising no gender budgeting
- Room for improvement in a number of fields – are there fields that should precede gender budgeting?



“
A woman must have money
and a room of her own if
she is to write fiction.”

What is gender budgeting?

- Equality in the changes of the budget between genders
- Budget equality between genders
- Economic equality between genders (or awareness of lack of)



Depending on the aim, gender budgeting can be useful or less so

Challenges in gender budgeting

- Defining an optimal level
- Most important items for equality outside the budget?
- Many items do not have a clear gender aspect (infrastructure, defence...)
- Recipients are households in a number of items – no clear gender aspect

What can be done in gender budgeting?

- Equality of pay, segregation of fields
- Possible to compare recipients/payers by gender in a number of items
 - Schooling
 - Social security
 - Taxes (income taxes, vat)
 - Public services?
- Project to develop a framework for gender budgeting
 - No interest by the research community the first time, plans to re-open a bid

Big questions

What does one want to achieve?

Is gender budgeting fielding a way for other more systematic budgeting practices or should one start with other fields and do this if doable with the same resources?

Political interest? Essentially this determines how much to use scarce resources into different options. (Does knowledge create interest?)