MODERN feminism would be an endless source of humour if so many comics weren’t themselves miserable Leftist scolds.

It’s clear the feminist movement has been hijacked by the Regressive Left with a level of hypocrisy and inanity unmatched in public discourse; just when you think these dolts have hit rock bottom, they find shovels and start digging.

How can a movement that professes to be about women’s rights ignore the systematic subjugation of millions of Muslim women and instead fight for, er, female pedestrian crossings?

Yet, really, that’s the frontier being tackled by “brave” Western feminists who continue to obsess about trivial or imagined offences while ignoring persecution of their sisters in the name of Islam.

It’s a persecution that we are seeing here in Australia with the increasing incidence of female genital mutilation, forced marriages, forced veiling and child brides.

Yet those issues are rarely, if ever, the focus of feminists who are callous in disregarding real suffering while they desperately paint themselves as victims.

It would be amusing if it wasn’t so diabolically dumb and destructive.

Just when empowered Western women should be striking a blow against the most dehumanising misogyny inflicted on women, they instead don “pussy hats” and march against a democratically elected president or rail against “sexist air-conditioning” and pedestrian crossings that reinforce “unconscious bias”.

Worse still, they tacitly approve such misogyny by admonishing those courageous women who make a stand often at considerable risk to their safety.

Women like Ayaan Hirsi Ali, who endured FGM as a child and has spent decades campaigning for the rights of disempowered Muslim women.

Instead of being celebrated, she is criticised by feminists for apparently enabling Islamophobia by refusing to back away from inconvenient truths they dare not acknowledge.

Hirsi Ali’s life has been threatened so many times by extremists that she has security wherever she goes and yet The Age decided to whip up a little more hate for her Australian tour.

Fairfax’s headline asked, “Why is no one protesting Ayaan Hirsi Ali’s coming visit to Australia?”

Fairfax, along with fellow Leftist media echo chamber dwellers, failed to report on Islamic leader Keysar Trad’s comments about domestic violence being a “last resort” for Muslim men dealing with recalcitrant wives.

The story had gained international coverage but somehow was missed by the outrage merchants at Fairfax, The Guardian and the ABC.

How many articles and tortured feelpieces did we see from those outlets when Eddie McGuire made a joke about football writer Caroline Wilson? How many did we see when broadcaster Steve Price called hysterical Guardian writer Van Badham “hysterical”?

And yet they say nothing when a Muslim leader, one who, incidentally, has spoken of his desire to find a second wife, says something outrageous.

If the plight of oppressed women mattered to feminists, we’d see protests outside the Saudi embassy in Canberra demanding that the country stop treating women as less than second-class citizens.

Saudi Arabia, which sits on the UN Human Rights Council, beheads women for crimes such as adultery and sorcery, and bans them from driving.

Women can’t make key decisions about their own lives without the approval of a male guardian.

Or we might see a mass feminist protest against Iran for forcing women, including visitors, to veil.

Why isn’t the sisterhood backing chess prodigy Dorsa Derakhshani, who was kicked out of the Iranian team for refusing to wear a hijab at a recent tournament in Gibraltar?

But back to the gender-diverse pedestrian crossings, backed by the Committee for Melbourne, Victorian Governor Linda Dessau, state Minister for Women Fiona Richardson and Women’s Leadership Institute Australia’s Carol Schwartz.

It would have been powerful for this group of accomplished women to make a stand against FGM instead of championing an absurd idea that has been rightly and roundly ridiculed.