

## COMBATING GENDER INEQUALITY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

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*"The test for whether or not you can hold a job should not be the arrangement of your chromosomes".*

*-Bella Abzug*

[Gender equality](#) is a fundamental human right that all genders must enjoy equal rights and opportunities in all spheres of society, in which men and women's choices, interests, and aspirations are valued and respected equally. It includes enhancing a woman's feeling of self-worth, capacity for decision-making, access to resources and opportunities, power and control over her life both inside and outside of the community, and capability to have an influence on society. Gender equality has become a global issue because every day, in every country in the world, women experience unfairness and prejudice everywhere. They are denied opportunities to learn, earn, and lead and are subjected to violence, abuse, and unfair treatment at home, at work, and in their larger communities. While gender equality is a UN principle, millions of women and LGBTI people around the world continue to face growing forms of discrimination in the enjoyment of social, cultural, economic, political, and social rights in situations such as their age, race, ethnicity, disability, or socio-economic status. Women experience greater health and safety risks than men, have fewer possibilities to access basic and higher education, and have less participation in all governmental institutions. [COVID-19](#) has contributed to the decline of gender equality and women's rights. Gender inequality is caused by a variety of factors including inequality, job inequality, poverty, lack of legal protection, social ideology, discrimination, and more. Women's rights must be protected and they must be given opportunities to achieve their full potential in order to achieve gender equality and other international development programs. Freed women and girls have a role to play in the development of their families, communities, and countries, for the benefit of all.

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## HOW GENDER INEQUALITY IS A VIOLATION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS?

Violence against women is a gross violation of [human rights](#). Women and girls are equally victims of gender-based violence which is prohibited under almost every human rights treaty. On average, 30 percent of all women who have had sexual intercourse with a partner who are physically or sexually abusive. Gender based discrimination starts at childhood, a girl is more likely to be denied her rights, kept away from school, forced to marry and subjected to violence which results in infringement of their rights. At work, women subject to [discrimination](#) on the basis of gender. Examining the gender pay gap is one way to show this. Human rights demand equal remuneration for equal effort, but this is frequently denied to women. The most recent statistics show that women earn roughly 77% of what males do now for the same profession. Because of this, women experience a life of financial injustice that hinders them from completely expressing their independence and puts them at danger of adversity in the future. In addition to this, women's rights have also frequently been rejected due to sexual orientation, gender, or sexual orientation, gender, or sexual orientation. Homosexual, transgender, transgender, and transgender women endured all manner of harassment, discrimination, humiliation, and discrimination. There are laws and policies which prohibits women from equal access to land, property and housing. They are being denied of their sexual and reproductive health rights. All these discrimination leads to violation of women's rights which needs to be addressed because the rights of women are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights.

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### **Possible solutions to end gender inequality for a sustainable future:**

In order to achieve gender equality, it is necessary to put stop to gender-based violence and discrimination; laws must be passed with strong public support; and awareness-raising campaigns, particularly in rural areas and outlying communities, are essential. Women have repeatedly shown that they are on par with men in every field. Some of the possible reasons to eradicate gender equality are listed below.

#### **Access to Education:**

There are 130 million girls who do not attend school worldwide. There is still a long way to go, despite the fact that the number of girls enrolling in school has increased dramatically. Due to early forced marriage, gender-based violence in schools, and specific religious customs, girls have limited access to [education](#). Girls have the ability to learn valuable skills, gain good

education, thrive in their careers, and make straightforward decisions that will enhance their quality of life.

### **Political representation:**

In politics, women are underrepresented globally. 62 percent of the nations in the globe, including the United States, have never had a female head of state or state for at least one year during this century. Compared to men, women hold more unsatisfactory political positions. Gender equality in political positions is rare, with only three states having 50% or more of their parliaments' members living in single- or lower-class dwellings. If there are an equal number of men and women in politics or leadership positions, women's concerns and ideals will be better represented in the political sphere.

### **An end to violence and sexual harassment of women:**

Many nations forbid sexual assault and domestic [abuse](#). However, these regulations are frequently disregarded, endangering the rights of women and girls to safety and accountability. Every day, somewhere in the world, 137 women are murdered by a relative or a close partner. Compared to men, women are more likely to become victims of sexual assault. Women and girls are more likely to be victims of human trafficking, which accounts for 71 percent of all victims, in addition to sexual harassment. A serious violation of human rights that needs to be addressed is the sexual assault of women and young girls.

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### **.End Child Marriage:**

Worldwide, [36%](#) of females get married before turning 18 each year. Due to gender inequity and poverty, child <https://www.unicef.org/protection/child-marriage> marriage affects the majority of females. Because it restricts women's ability to make their own decisions, this is a violation of their human rights. Young girls are deprived of their youth and education, but it also has certain unfavourable effects. Girls who marry young are more likely to experience sexual misconduct themselves as well as sexual misconduct committed by their spouses.

Gender equality is inextricably linked with sustainable development and is essential to the realization of all human rights. Guaranteeing the rights of women and giving them opportunities to reach their full potential is critical not only for attaining gender equality, but also for meeting a wide range of international development goals. Empowered women and girls

contribute to the health and productivity of their families, communities, and countries, creating a ripple effect that benefits everyone. Gender equality will not be achieved instantly. Empowering women, by focusing on finding and redressing power divisions and allowing women to take control of their own lives, is an important part of promoting gender equality. Successfully ensuring greater enjoyment of human rights by women and people of all genders, a deeper understanding of social institutions, social norms and meaningless ideas, and power relations that form not only legal and political, but also economic, group, family relationships. Health, and public health are required. It is also helpful to understand femininity, which is the idea that women have the right to political, economic, and social equality, while respecting women's rights. Feminism is focused on ensuring that women have equal access to their rights as men. We cannot build a just and independent society until all people are free and equal. According to the UN, "gender equality and empowerment of women and girls is not just a goal in itself, but a key to sustainable development, economic growth, and peace and security". Until women enjoy the same rights as men, this inequality is a problem for everyone, so it is time for us to leave the business as usual to play an active role in achieving gender equality.

