

# Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)



## Education Inequality

## **Background of Committee:**

The Commission of the Status of Women (CSW) is a global intergovernmental UN body that promotes gender equality. The CSW sustains women's rights by promoting the ideal woman's life throughout the world and maintaining the global standards on the empowerment of women. CSW was established by Council resolution 11(II) on June 21, 1946. At this time, the committee was centered around East Asia and the conflicts around that region. This is when women were coming to power and they were expected to do the work men were capable of doing. Following that, in 1996, ECOSOC expanded the committee's outlook from East Asia to the entire world as it should have the role of being able to oversee progress and problems encountered in the empowerment of women to the equality they deserve.

This committee has a combination of nations from the Middle Eastern bloc to the African bloc to the American bloc. Each present nation will have the opportunity to present their general policy, explain solutions, and ultimately, vote on resolutions which amalgamate the progress made in committee and the solutions and policies discussed in committee. With constant speeches and comments being made throughout the time in committee, Unmoderated caucuses will be issued periodically and Moderated caucuses may be motioned for to discuss a topic in particular depending on the flow of the committee.

## **Goals of this Committee:**

The goals of this committee include participating in an insightful debate and passing a resolution(s) that is agreed upon by the majority of the committee due to the complex solutions and plans in place. It is important that we evaluate the availability of education to women in third world nations, work on methods to higher literacy rates, and raise equality between men and women in general! With education being a primary focus, women need to learn the basic subjects we learn in school, but also learn how to cook, stay safe, stay healthy, and take care of a family. These qualities in life are important for women to learn because they will bear children, and during that time period, staying safe and staying healthy is vital. Solutions regarding these topics should be contemplated and the resolutions should be a mixture of attributes of different countries' solutions. As your dias, we are looking forward to discussing your solutions and furthering the process of making women equal to men in the fields of education in the future!

## **Background of the Topic:**

The idea of education equality is for everyone to be able to receive an education. All throughout history, men have taken priority when it came to education. Schools did not allow for women to go to school after a certain level because they were needed at home to take care of all the housework. It was not until 1608 when the first woman, Juliana Morell, became the first woman to earn her law doctorate degree. In fact, she was the first woman to earn any kind of degree. As time has gone by, women have slowly earned the right to education. In 1638 in Canada, the French colony of Acadia created an Ursuline boarding school for young girls to get an education. In 1786, Russia opened up primary and secondary schools for women. Getting equal education is taking such a long time because women are considered minority. For instance, it was not until 1822 when girls were allowed to go to elementary school and receive an

education up to the level of fourth grade with boys. Equality means the state of being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunity. It is a right to get an education yet some countries are still not seeing that education should be open to all. In 2008, the movement, Equal Education (EE) was created in South Africa for quality and equality in education. Women are in need of education and their rights are taken away for as long as they do not have the right to get an education. The necessity for education equality is vital in today's fast-paced society.

### **UN Involvement:**

In 2010 the UN created an entity for women equality. There are now sessions on the commission on the status of women to track the progress of education equality around the globe. With gender and education equality, men and women are compared by the same standpoint when being offered a job, an opportunity, or an experience. Getting rid of the gap between men and women in the means of education is beneficial to both the society and human hygiene. Maternal health, infant mortality rates, and increasing fertility rates can be bettered with education of women. Educated mothers would know that HIV and AIDS, a condition that would not be known if there was no equality, can be spread through labor, delivery, and breastfeeding. This education not only will help aid maternal health, but also allow for a larger pool of people to investigate for a means to eradicate these cases. In the Summer of 2009, the International Labor Organization issued "Give Girls a Chance: Tackling Child Labor, A Key to the Future," which discussed the rates of child labor in relationship to the preference of boys over girls while making the decision of educating children. Boys have been seen to have more "potential" than women. The reports show that in cultures where a higher value is placed on the education of males, girls are being taken out of school quicker and are sentenced to the work force at an earlier age. There were more than 100 million girls in child labor and many were

### **Key Questions:**

- What is the main reason women are not equally receiving education. With this reason, what is one solution you can propose to the UN to reach this level of equality?
- What is the driving cause for women having to stay away from school as men get educated? What are ways we can combat the issue discovered in the first part of this question?
- How would the nation be able to fund women coming to schools? Think about resources needed to teach, food, water, location, etc.
- How does the gender gap affect a woman and her self-esteem? Are women less confident than men? If so, how could education higher this low self-esteem?
- Are women considered to be a minority?

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