



37th Annual MVHSMUN Conference

“Opus Justitiae Pax”

The Work of Justice Shall be Peace

Committee: Novice UN Women

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Hi delegates, my name is Keana Gindlesperger and I will be the head chair for the Novice UN Women committee. I am currently a senior at Laguna Hills High School. Inside of school, I am in my fourth year of MUN and play girls varsity soccer. Outside of MUN, I take flight lessons in hopes of gaining my private pilot's certification. I look forward to seeing what solutions you guys bring up in debate!

Hello delegates! My name is Ciara Weitzel and I'm your vice chair for this UN Women committee so, welcome! I've been involved in this program for three years now, achieving a mid-sec position just this year and I plan to stay involved when I'm a senior. I really love studying politics and world issues such as the topics in this committee and I'm excited to see how the debate will develop. Besides Model UN, I'm a part of the girls varsity lacrosse team and partake in CSF, the french program, music, and I speak spanish as well. That basically sums up, well me, but I can't wait to meet you all in committee!

Equality in the Workplace

I. Background of Topic

Starting with the Industrial Revolution back in the 1800s, women started working in factories. Because of war and economic issues in the European bloc, women had to work to maintain an economically stable and social life. It wasn't until the 1930s that women were socially accepted to partake in these simple factory jobs, however they were still seen as inferior. Series of events, such as the Women's Suffrage Movement led to their acceptance and increased respect later in history. Though their rights have dramatically improved in many nations, there is still a long way to go in order to reach equivalence. The idea of equality in the workplace means equal advantages and equal worth, regardless of age, gender, and sexual orientation.

II. UN Involvement

The UN has acknowledged the issues regarding inequality amongst genders in the workplace. The United Nations has put together a list of Sustainable Development goals, the



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fifth one being gender equality. Relating to this, there have been plenty of organizations meant to better women's opportunities and treatment in workplaces. These include NGOs such as Fight Inequality. Meanwhile the UN's continuance to advocate for awareness amongst all genders is a primary stride towards the issue.

III. Possible Solutions

Solutions are very possible when all countries put their mind to it. These can involve awareness tactics or immediate action tactics. While each country has their own opinions and policies, the world is moving towards equality. Solutions should be creative and efficient in order to improve the issue, which is one aspect to not forget when drafting resolution groups.

IV. Bloc Positions

Asia Bloc: In this region it is very hard for women to acquire work and need help being encouraged to due to long traditions.

Latin Bloc: Women are needed to work due to large population and poverty growth.

European Bloc: Attempts to close wage gaps have been made and women are legally required to be treated with equal respect as men.

African Bloc: Women and men both work together as a necessity to function daily.

Middle Eastern Bloc: Many countries here are very religious and some don't require women to work at all. Some women don't even leave the house.

V. Guiding Questions

1. What countries can women not legally work in?
2. Does religion play a part in women's status in workplaces?
3. How do men and women play a part in this topic?
4. What is the wage gap between men and women in my designated country?

VI. Works Cited

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https://ec.europa.eu/info/policies/justice-and-fundamental-rights/gender-equality_en

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/bonniechiu/2019/04/30/what-is-holding-women-back-from-the-workforce-in-asia/#2ab1556a5a6b>



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<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/03/gender-equality-latin-american-business/>

UN Women: Access to Abortion

VI. Background of Topic

Within developing regions, as of 2010-2014, there is an estimated 36 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 while developed regions have an estimated 27 women per thousand. Furthermore, the abortion rates in nations where it is banned or only allowed in dire situations is very similar to that of regions who allow it without restrictions: 37 to 34 per thousand women. Therefore, it is obvious that abortions occur no matter the legality of it. Despite these high rates, specific states within the US and nations who typically promote inequality for women continue to impose abortion restrictions. This places a burden on women globally for a late abortion can result in further complications and hinder feminist movements. Nations that are more involved in this issue include the US due to the varying state restrictions and laws pertaining to abortion. The UN Human Rights Council have involved themselves in this issue due to the mass amounts of deaths that unsafe abortion has resulted in.

VII. UN Involvement

The United Nations became most notably involved in the issue of access to abortion after the UN deemed abortion a human right. Additionally, they also began to take note of unsafe abortions causing the deaths of around 47,000 women each year. Thus, in hopes of shedding light on the issue several organizations within the UN have taken initiative on the issue such as WHO or the World Health Organization and the UN Human Rights Committee. The UN is also working with outside organizations such as Center for Reproductive Rights. As of 2018, the UN Human Rights Committee have established a general comment which affirmed abortion as a human right. This was a result of a three-year process in which member states and NGOs worked to establish human rights standards in relation to preventing maternal mortality and ensuring access to abortion.



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VIII. Possible Solutions

Delegates should be establishing solutions which continue to promote global cooperation seeing as the UN has already made progress on the issue with the help of global interaction. Additionally, delegates should be forming cost effective solutions seeing as many of the nations that suffer from the lack of access to abortion are developing countries who lack funds to provide abortion to their population. Delegates should also ensure that their solutions fall within the correct policies of their country and bloc.

IX. Bloc Positions

African: Due to an estimated 93% of women of reproductive age being forced to live under restrictive abortion laws, it is likely that most women in this bloc are unable to obtain a legal and safe abortion. Furthermore, abortion is not allowed no matter the situation in ten of the fifty-four african countries. Nations with more leniant abortion laws include Zambia, South Africa, Cape Verde, and Tunisia.

Latin America and Carribean: 97% of women in these nations live under restrictive abortion laws. In six of the countries in this bloc, abortion is not allowed for any reason. Nine others only allow it to save the woman's life.

Asian-Pacific: Abortion is not allowed in three of nations: Phillipines, Iraq, and Laos. However, 17 of the nations allow for abortion without reason or restriction. Despite these more leniant nations, women still struggle to find safe procedures due to obstacles such as the unwillingness of professionals to perform the procedure.

Eastern European: Since 1955, in most countries of Eastern European, abortion has been allowed because of social indications or on demand of the mother. This bloc also boasts one of the lowest death rates for mothers. However, the nations within this bloc still remain divided over the issue.

Western European & Others: With almost all nations within Western Europe having above 60% of the population believing in the implementation of legal abortion, it is clear that Western Europe is unified on the topic of access to abortion.

X. Guiding Questions

1. How has access to abortion changed within your country after the UN established abortion as a human right?
2. Does religion play a leading factor in legalizing abortion within a nation?
3. Does lack of awareness of national laws play a role in minimizing the amount of women who turn to abortion?
4. What type of procedures are put in place within your nation in order to stop women from turning to abortion?



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<https://www.guttmacher.org/report/abortion-worldwide-2017>

<https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/abortion-africa>