

# Women Do Have Rights

## TAKE ACTION ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS!



GET INFORMED, GET INVOLVED, AND GET OTHERS INTERESTED

IF YOU HAVE

10  
Minutes

- **Learn the Facts.** Read our fact sheet on the Rights of Women and then test your knowledge with our short quiz at [www.discoverhumanrights.org/toolkit.html](http://www.discoverhumanrights.org/toolkit.html).
- **Get the News.** Receive news and action information from these women's rights organizations.
  - Amnesty International [www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/issues/women-s-rights/violence-against-women](http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/issues/women-s-rights/violence-against-women)
  - Women's Media Center [www.womensmediacenter.com](http://www.womensmediacenter.com)
  - StopVAW newsletter [www.stopvaw.org/The\\_VAW\\_Monitor.html](http://www.stopvaw.org/The_VAW_Monitor.html)
- **Send an E-mail.** Send a pre-written email to your senators supporting important women's rights issues. The ACLU maintains an Action Center with alerts on current issues: [www.aclu.org/action-center](http://www.aclu.org/action-center)
- **Donate.** Give to an organization advocating for women's rights - check out our national resource list.
- **Sign a Petition.** Sign the petition to ratify CEDAW at [www.now.org/ratifywomen/index.html](http://www.now.org/ratifywomen/index.html).

IF YOU HAVE

A Few  
Hours

- **Watch a Film.** Watch a women's rights film such as PBS's "Not for Ourselves Alone" or "Iron Jawed Angels" about women's suffrage in the U.S. and where women's rights stand today.
- **Write a Letter.** Research and write a personal letter to your federal representative urging ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Visit [www.now.org/ratifywomen/act.html](http://www.now.org/ratifywomen/act.html) for background information on the treaty and ideas for letters. To find your federal representative, visit: <https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome.shtml>.
- **Take Part in a V-day Event.** Every year on February 14, organizations nation-wide hold events to help combat violence against women. For more information, visit: [www.vday.org](http://www.vday.org).
- **Educate.** Download our PowerPoint presentation or lesson plans and use them to educate your school, community organization or faith community about women's rights.

IF YOU HAVE

A  
Month

- **Start a Book Club.** Gather a group of friends and/or colleagues to learn about and discuss women's rights issues. Suggested reading: *A Vindication of the Rights of Women* by Mary Wollstonecraft, *Boundaries of Her Body: A Troubling History of Women's Rights in America* by Debran Rowland, and *Women's Rights in the USA: Policy Debates and Gender Roles* by Dorothy McBride-Stetson.
- **Host a Film Screening.** Invite members of your community to watch a film about women's rights. Check out Women Make Movies for suggestions: [www.wmm.com/](http://www.wmm.com/).
- **Invite a Speaker.** Invite a local women's rights advocate to give a presentation to your school, community center or faith community. Potential speakers to invite include: an advocate for batteredwomen, a female politician, or a woman in a leadership position in business or the community.

IF YOU HAVE

A Year  
or More

- **Volunteer with a Local Shelter or Domestic Violence Group.** The National Network to End Domestic Violence has a list of domestic violence coalitions throughout the U.S.: <http://nnedv.org/resources/coalitions.html>.
- **Help Girls Exercise Their Rights.** Help girls understand, value, and assert their basic rights. Participate in the "Girls Rights Campaign" by Girls Inc. For more information and resources on ways to help girls develop a strong and positive self-identity, visit [www.girlsinc.org/](http://www.girlsinc.org/)
- **Run for Office.** Women need to be represented so they can bring attention to the issues affecting them and their families. As the number of women in a legislative body increases, so too does the time spent on family issues, like child care, education and health care. Find information about running for office at [www.thewhitehouseproject.org/](http://www.thewhitehouseproject.org/).

## **The Advocates for Human Rights**

[www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org](http://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org)

The Women's Program applies international human rights standards to advocate for women's rights in the U.S. and around the world. They partner with local organizations overseas and in the U.S. to document and combat domestic violence, rape, employment discrimination, sexual harassment, and trafficking in women.

## **American Civil Liberties Union**

[www.aclu.org/womensrights/](http://www.aclu.org/womensrights/)

Through litigation, community outreach, advocacy, and public education, their Women's Rights Project empowers poor women, women of color, and immigrant women who face pervasive barriers to equality. Provides publications and resources to learn more about women's rights in the U.S.

## **Amnesty International USA**

[www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/issues/women-s-rights](http://www.amnestyusa.org/our-work/issues/women-s-rights)

Provides information on violence against women and women's rights. Amnesty conducts a Campaign to Stop Violence Against Women, including action alerts and other ways to get involved.

## **Geena Davis Institute on Gender in the Media**

[www.seejane.org/](http://www.seejane.org/)

A research-based organization working within the media and entertainment industry to engage, educate, and influence the need for gender balance, reducing stereotyping and creating a wide variety of female characters for entertainment targeting children 11 and under.

## **Girls Inc.**

[www.girlsinc.org/index.html](http://www.girlsinc.org/index.html)

A national nonprofit youth organization dedicated to inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold. Provides vital educational programs to millions of girls, particularly those in high-risk, underserved areas.

## **Human Rights Watch**

[www.hrw.org/topic/womens-rights](http://www.hrw.org/topic/womens-rights)

Provides regularly updated reports on women's rights issues around the world and in the United States.

## **National Organization for Women**

[www.now.org](http://www.now.org)

NOW's purpose is to take action to bring women into full participation in society - sharing equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities with men, while living free from discrimination. The website provides information on important issues, current events, and action alerts.

## **National Women's History Project**

[www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org)

Working to raise awareness about women's achievements and devoted to writing women back into American history. They have their own resource center and also listings of news and upcoming events.

## **National Women's Law Center**

[www.nwlc.org](http://www.nwlc.org)

Protect and advances the progress of women and girls at work, in school, and in virtually every aspect of their lives. Provides information on a variety of women's issues.

## **Office on Violence Against Women - U.S. DOJ**

[www.ovw.usdoj.gov/](http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/)

Works to provide federal leadership to reduce violence against women, and to administer justice for and strengthen services to all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

## **OWL - National**

[www.owl-national.org](http://www.owl-national.org)

A grassroots organization devoted to improving the status and quality of life for women as they age. They provide several fact sheets on issues important to aging women in the U.S., including health care and economic security.

## **StopVAW**

[www.stopvaw.org](http://www.stopvaw.org)

A forum for information, advocacy, and change developed by The Advocates for Human Rights. StopVAW provides assistance to women's rights advocates with tools focused on ending the most endemic forms of violence against women.

## **The White House Project**

[www.thewhitehouseproject.org](http://www.thewhitehouseproject.org)

Aims to advance women's leadership in all communities and sectors in the U.S. Provides information on current events, ways to get involved, resources, and guides on how to run for office in your community.

## **Women's Media Center**

[www.womensmediacenter.com](http://www.womensmediacenter.com)

Makes women visible and powerful in the media. Ensure that women's stories are told and women's voices are heard. They are directly engaged with the media at all levels to ensure that a diverse group of women is present in newsrooms, on air, in print, and online, as sources and subjects.

## **Women's Law**

[www.womenslaw.org](http://www.womenslaw.org)

Free legal information and online support to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Provides information on laws, preparing for court and where to find help.

## **The Younger Women's Task Force**

[www.ywtf.org/ywtf/home.aspx](http://www.ywtf.org/ywtf/home.aspx)

A nationwide, diverse, and inclusive grassroots movement dedicated to organizing younger women and their allies to take action on issues that matter most to them. Provides links to several career resources, online publications, feminist journals, and various other sites related to empowering young women.

## **YWCA**

[www.ywca.org/](http://www.ywca.org/)

As the oldest and largest multi-cultural women's organization in the world, YWCA's mission is to eliminate racism and empower women. The YWCA has locations in practically every state in the U.S. to help and involve women in the community.