



Top 10 Facts on Gender Equality Worldwide¹

1. Gender inequality remains a major barrier to human development.
2. Half of working-age women are in the labor force, compared to 77 percent of men.
3. 62 million girls worldwide are denied an education, yet an extra year of primary school increases a girl's wages by 10-20 percent.
4. Every year, an estimated 15 million girls under 18 worldwide are coerced to marry. Education and empowerment for girls are the first steps.
5. 4 out of 5 victims of human trafficking are girls.
6. At least 250,000 maternal deaths and 1.7 million newborn deaths could be avoided with improved family planning and maternal/ newborn health services.
7. One in three women worldwide has experienced either intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime.
8. Female genital mutilation affects more than 125 million girls and women alive today.
9. Women around the world aged 15-44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria.
10. More than 43 million people around the world are displaced as a result of conflict and persecution. Half of all refugees are women.

The Food for the Hungry Solution

Understanding that women are key to ending poverty worldwide, Food for the Hungry programs focus on empowering women to better care for themselves and their families. We use community volunteer networks to train women in health, nutrition and more. We sponsor violence prevention programs and offer livelihood training and assistance. Our partnerships help keep children in school and to provide immunizations, nutrition assistance and improved water and sanitation practices. In Savings Groups, women become literate, learn to manage a budget and receive loans to start and expand businesses. We help communities overcome harmful attitudes about women to change the way women and girls are treated and valued.

¹ Sources

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- <http://www.thechicagocouncil.org/publication/girls-grow-vital-force-rural-economies>
- <https://www.malala.org/>
- <http://www.who.int/en/>
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