

# Solutions for Achieving Gender Equality: Improving the Status of Women and Increasing Awareness of Gender Equality among Youth

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### Recommended Citation

Zhang, Zhuoqi () "Solutions for Achieving Gender Equality: Improving the Status of Women and Increasing Awareness of Gender Equality among Youth," *iY-1 Perspectives*: Vol. 1: Iss. 1, Article 14.  
Available at: <https://surface.syr.edu/iy1/vol1/iss1/14>

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## **Solutions for Achieving Gender Equality: Improving the Status of Women and Increasing Awareness of Gender Equality among Youth**

Zhuoqi Zhang (Zoe)

### **Introduction**

Nowadays, gender inequality has not been completely eliminated and there are still women and girls who suffer from inequality. According to the United Nations report on the 2022 Sustainable Development Goals, which highlights the importance of gender equality by listing data, the poster mentions that 35 percent of the world's women experience sexual violence between the ages of 15 and 49, and that one in three girls between the ages of 15 and 19 has undergone female genital mutilation in more than 30 countries (United Nations, n.d.)

The United Nations is prepared to take a number of measures to stop gender inequality. This paper will discuss how to further achieve gender equality to advance sustainable development. First, to improve the status of women from all aspects. Secondly, to cultivate the right values from an early age and enhance the awareness of gender equality among young people.

### **The Sustainable Development Goals**

The United Nations Agenda has been instrumental in addressing the challenges of sustainable development and world peace (United Nations General Assembly, 2015). Through its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the agenda sets out to create a better world for all, where social, economic, and environmental development is prioritized, and peace is maintained. First, the report of the United Nations General Assembly (2015) offers a comprehensive list of solutions to address the social issues related to the 17 SDGs, taking into account the challenges that may arise in implementing them. In addition, the Assembly's solutions are not only based on

Zhang, Zhuoqi (Zoe). (2023). Solutions for Achieving Gender Equality: Improving the Status of Women and Increasing Awareness of Gender Equality among Youth. *iY-1 Perspectives, 1*.

academic research and expert opinion, but also take into account relevant laws and policies at different levels of the country. This approach ensures that the proposed solutions are not only feasible but also sustainable in the long run.

### **SDG#5: Gender Equality**

Each SDG has a unique set of objectives that work towards achieving a specific goal. For instance, SDG#5 focuses on gender equality and empowering women and girls. First, from the perspective of economic development, gender equality is an important factor in promoting social stability and achieving sustainable development. If women have a place in the workplace, they may have unlimited potential, and even enhance the economic development of society and technological innovation. From the perspective of women's personal safety, gender equality is the basic right and interest that women should obtain. Men should be aware of the harm done to women in unequal relationships by both behavior and consciousness and know the seriousness of the behavior and pay attention to it (United Nations, n.d.).

### **Findings and Discussion**

Improving the status of women is a great tool to improve gender inequality. According to a video by TBD Media Group (2020), OSHCO is a company that offers its employees a very equal and non-sexist competitive environment, which not only stimulates women's potential in the workplace but also contributes to sustainable economic development. As a result, women are able to achieve economic independence, gain respect and improve their social status through their own abilities. Rather than the cultural fixation that women should be responsible for being housewives, this fixation is unequal from the start, depriving women of their own freedom of choice and leading to a conceptual weakening of women's social status.

Emphasis on gender equality education in adolescence is a key element in achieving gender equality. Changing subconsciousness of exploitation of female rights and consistent stereotypes of females, establishing healthy and positive values, properly guiding adolescents and increasing their awareness of gender equality. Connolly et al. (2020) point out through their research that the emergence of gender inequality is closely related to the divergence of values. Even in the eyes of many men, women are only reproductive organs and tools for reproduction, which also reflects the stereotype of men as reproductive tools, so the awareness of gender equality among adolescents should be cultivated from an early age to overturn the past stereotypes of women.

Therefore, to address the root causes of gender inequality, it is necessary to identify its underlying problems and propose solutions. Firstly, poverty and social pressure are closely related to gender inequality, so the government should take measures to reduce the pressure faced by citizens. This can include initiatives such as vocational training and financial support for vulnerable groups. Second, the government should prioritize sex education for adolescents to promote a better understanding of gender issues and to encourage healthy relationships between the sexes. Third, it is important to gain insight into the social structure of the adolescent world and assess adolescents' gender norms and psychological growth to prevent the perpetuation of harmful stereotypes. Finally, the media's attention should be focused on promoting gender equality and raising awareness among men, encouraging them to re-examine their views of women and recognize the importance of gender equality. Progress toward gender equality can be made by addressing these issues through multiple approaches (Connolly, 2020).

**Conclusion**

SDG#5 emphasizes the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and children. There are numerous measures that the UN can take to help women advance in society to fight for higher human rights, or to raise awareness of gender equality among young people by improving their educational philosophy.

Although women have now elevated their social status in most countries, the problem of gender equality has still not been completely eliminated. Therefore, politics, law and experts should study the causes of gender inequality more deeply and improve the efficiency of achieving SDG #5 so that women can obtain equal rights and achieve gender equality as soon as possible.

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