

**Ex.1. What can you see in the photos? What issues are these photos related to?**



source:vox.com



source:azickia.org



source:apc.org



source:latinamericanpost.com

**Ex.2.a. For your consideration.**

**Q:** Do you believe that gender equality issue is an important matter in today's world?

**Q:** Is there gender equality in the world? How about in your country?

**Q:** What are the best and the worst places for women to live?

**Q:** Should gender equality be a concern for men?

**Q:** Why would the whole world benefit from gender equality?

**Q:** Will there be a real gender equity in the world one day? If so, when?

**Q:** What are human rights about?

**Ex.2.b. Match the words with definitions.**

**1. GENDER**

**a) the right to vote, especially in political elections**

**2. GENDER EQUALITY**

**b) the advocacy of women's rights on the ground of the equality of the sexes**

**3. HUMAN RIGHTS**

**c) the state in which access to rights or opportunities is unaffected by gender**

**4. SUFFRAGE**

**d) rights that are believed to belong to every person**

**5. FEMINISM**

**e) either of the two sexes, especially when with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones.**

Ex.2.c. You are going to read an article from Amnesty International about women's rights. Pay attention to yellow phrases.

### Women's rights are human rights!

We are all entitled to human rights. These include the right to live free from violence and discrimination; to enjoy **the highest attainable standard** of physical and mental health; to be educated; to own property; to vote; and to earn an equal wage.

But across the globe many women and girls still face discrimination on the basis of sex and gender. Gender inequality **underpins** many problems which disproportionately affect women and girls, such as domestic and sexual violence, lower pay, lack of access to education, and inadequate healthcare.

For many years women's rights movements have fought hard to address this inequality, campaigning to change laws or taking to the streets to demand their rights are respected. And new movements have flourished in the digital age, such as the #MeToo campaign which highlights the **prevalence** of gender-based violence and sexual harassment (...)

### WHAT IS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL FIGHTING FOR?

#### Women's Suffrage

During the 19th and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries people began to agitate for the **right of women to vote**. In 1893 New Zealand became the first country to give women the right to vote on a national level. This movement grew to spread all around the world, and thanks to the efforts of everyone involved in this struggle, today women's suffrage is a right under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1979)(...).

#### Sexual and Reproductive Rights

Everyone should be able to make decisions about their own body.

Every woman and girl has sexual and reproductive rights. This means they are **entitled to** equal access to health services like **contraception** and safe abortions, to choose if, when, and who they marry, and to decide if they want to have children and if so how many, when and with who.

Women should be able to live without fear of gender-based violence, including rape and other sexual violence (...).

#### Freedom of Movement

Freedom of movement is the right to move around freely as we please – not just within the country we live in, but also to visit others. But many women face real challenges when it comes to this. They may not be allowed to have their own passports, or they might have to seek permission from a male guardian in order to travel.

For example, recently in Saudi Arabia there has been a successful campaign to allow women to drive, which had previously been banned for many decades. But despite this landmark gain, the authorities continue to **persecute and detain** many women's rights activists, simply for peacefully advocating for their rights.

## FEMINISM AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

When looking at women's rights it's helpful to have an understanding of feminism. At its core, **feminism** is the belief that women are entitled to political, economic, and social equality. Feminism is committed to ensuring women can fully enjoy their rights on an equal footing with men(...).

### Gender inequality could include:

#### Gender-Based Violence

**Gender-based violence** is when violent acts are committed against women and LGBTI people on the basis of their orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics. Gender based violence happens to women and girls in disproportionate numbers (...).

Globally, on average **30% of all women** who have been in a relationship have experienced physical and/or sexual violence committed against them by their partner. Women are more likely to be victims of sexual assault including rape, and are more likely to be the victims of so-called "**honour crimes**".

Violence against women is a major human rights violation. It is the responsibility of a state to protect women from gender-based violence – even domestic abuse behind closed doors.

#### Sexual Violence and Harassment

Sexual harassment means any unwelcome sexual behaviour. This could be physical conduct and advances, demanding or requesting sexual favours or using inappropriate sexual language(...).

#### Workplace Discrimination

Often, women are the subject of gender based discrimination in the workplace. One way of illustrating this is to look at the **gender pay gap**. Equal pay for the same work is a human right, but time and again women are denied access to a fair and equal wage. Recent figures show that women currently earn roughly 77% of what men earn for the same work. This leads to a lifetime of financial disparity for women, prevents them from **fully exercising independence**, and means an increased risk of poverty in later life.

#### Discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity

In many countries around the world, women are denied their rights on the basis of **sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics**(...).

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

The **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (1979)** is a key international treaty addressing gender-based discrimination and providing specific protections for women's rights(...).

Over 180 states have ratified the convention.

### WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO STAND UP FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS?

#### Women's Rights are Human Rights

It might seem like an obvious point, but we cannot have a free and equal society until everyone is free and equal. Until women enjoy the the same rights as men, this inequality is everyone's problem.

#### Protecting women's rights makes the world a better place

According to the UN, "gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is not just a goal in itself, but a key to sustainable development, economic growth, and peace and security". Research has shown this to be the case – society gets better for everyone when women's rights are upheld and taken seriously (...)

source: <https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/discrimination/womens-rights/>

#### Ex.2.d. Match the words and phrases with definitions.

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. the highest attainable standard | a) antykoncepcja                           |
| 2. to underpin                     | b) wspierać                                |
| 3. prevalence                      | c) w pełni korzystać z praw do wolności    |
| 4. to be entitled to               | d) mieć prawo do czegoś                    |
| 5. contraception                   | e) rozpowszechnienie, przewaga             |
| 6. to persecute                    | f) najwyższy możliwy do osiągnięcia poziom |
| 7. to detain                       | g) ukarać, prześladować                    |
| 8. fully exercising independence   | h) zatrzymać                               |

Ex.2.e. Fill in the gaps with words in the correct form. Use the vocabulary from the previous exercise.

1. No one likes being \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Tim did something bad and I heard that he got \_\_\_\_\_ in the morning.
3. People decide to immigrate in order to \_\_\_\_\_ in more developed countries.
4. All people should have access to \_\_\_\_\_ in order to avoid unwanted pregnancies.
5. Anthony acts as if he were \_\_\_\_\_ to the best of everything.
6. It's been up to authorities to make sure everyone can enjoy the \_\_\_\_\_ of physical and mental health.

Ex.3.a. You are going to watch a short video about gender pay gap. Then decide if the sentences below are true or false and answer the questions.

source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13XU4fMIN3w>



Ex.3.b. Decide if the sentences are true (T) or false (F).

1. Women earn 79 cents for every dollar men make. **T/F**
2. Women are concentrated in lower-paying occupations. **T/F**
3. After graduating from universities men and women start with equal pay. **T/F**
4. 9 years out of school the discrepancy grew tremendously. **T/F**
5. After 9 years at work women earn 30% less than men. **T/F**

6. When women enter middle age the pay gap widens even more. **T/F**
7. Women with kids had a wage gap twice as large as women without kids. **T/F**
8. Nowadays in 2-parent households men and women are engaged in kids' issues equally. **T/F**
9. Gender pay gap is the same for various fields of work. **T/F**
10. The biggest wage gap is in jobs related to business. **T/F**
11. The jobs which require fixed hours produce the biggest pay gap. **T/F**
12. Making hours more flexible might be helpful in shrinking pay gap. **T/F**

**Ex.3.c. Answer the questions.**

**Q:** Do you believe that gender pay gap is a serious problem? If so, why is it serious. What are the consequences of such situation?

**Q:** Are women punished financially for having kids?

**Q:** What solutions could be implemented in order to fix the situation?

**Q:** Will this problem be fixed in the future? If so, when might it happen?