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**GENDER INEQUALITY IN THE SOCIETY**

Inequality based on gender is a concern that is prevalent in the entire world. Even in the 21st century, across globe men and women do not enjoy equal privileges. Gender inequality acknowledges that men and women are not equal and that gender affects an individual’s lived experience.

The major examples of social inequality include; racism, income gap, gender inequality, health care and social class. In healthcare, some individuals receive better and more professional care compared to others.

Unfortunately, racism seems to play the major role in how women are treated and compensated in the workplace. The pay a woman receives may vary depending on her race and ethnicity. Data from the institute for women’s policy research found that Asian/ Pacific islander women have the highest median annual earnings and are compensated $46,000, white women follow at $40,000, while native Americans and Hispanic women have the lowest pay, earning $31,000 and $28,000 per year. Earnings also vary by race when compared to what men are compensated.

Girls and women suffer most of the negative impact of rigid gender, norms and roles. They are more likely to experience restrictions of their freedom and mobility, they experience epidemic levels of violence and harassment across the globe and have fewer opportunities to choose how to live their lives.

Boys and men suffer too, ideas about what it means to be a man force boys and men to behave in very limited ways which can harm them. Negative masculinities encouraged in boys serve to perpetuate the cycle of discrimination and inequality.

Denying people the freedom to choose their path in life because of their gender prevents them from fulfilling their full potential. There is lots we can do to help build a more gender equal world.

Understanding the deep roots of gender inequality and challenging discrimination when we see it are the first steps.

Gender discrimination describes the situation in which people are treated differently simply because they are male or female, rather than on the basis of their individual skills or capabilities.

The following is a list of discriminating acts you may come across among peers, at home, at school or in the workplace.

Harassment and catcalling on the street are prime examples of how women’s right to walk freely around their environment is restricted. The normalisation of harassment and inaction of by standers and authorities perpetuate this form of discrimination and limit women’s freedom.

Stereotypes are how societies expect people to act based on their gender. For example, girls should stay at home and help with housework and childcare, should dress modestly and not stay out late at night. People are often judged by how well they adhere to the gender stereotypes.

These stereotypes can often bleed out into school, work, where girls are less likely to be encouraged into science and technology subjects or leadership roles, due to the perceived ‘male nature’ of these pursuits. Likewise, seemingly positive stereotypes and gender roles such as men being the ‘provider’ or ‘ protector' of the family, put an unnecessary burden on men and boys that could more positively be share in an equal partnership.

These attitudes limit girls' power by rendering them less able to help contribute to making the world around them a better place.

Objectification is when a person is treated as a commodity or an object without regard to their personality or dignity. It commonly happens in the media where women are photo shopped and air brushes leading to much more emphasis and value being put on their external appearance above other capacities. This affects girl's body image, their self esteem and ultimately the value they put on themselves.

However, girls are also often represented poorly in entertainment and the media in ways that reinforce damaging gender stereotypes and traditional roles. Objectification must be called out and girls must be encouraged to tell their own stories.

It is the vision that men and women should be treated equally in social, economic and all other aspects of society, and to not be discriminated against on the basis of their gender. World bodies have defined gender equality in terms of human rights, especially women’s rights and economic development.