



hartford region

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YWCA of the Hartford Region is Asking You to Take Action in Support of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

CEDAW is a human rights treaty that addresses physical, sexual, economic, and political abuses against women and promotes women's equality of rights and well-being. This treaty holds that basic human rights for women should be universal across cultures and religions. The treaty is regarded as the most important international mechanism for women's equality.

CEDAW calls on governments to ensure women have the same access as men to education, employment opportunities, health care, and legal redress against violence. It aims to ensure women receive equal pay for equal work and to encourage policies that support women and families through maternity leave and options for child care. It calls for women to have the same rights as men to legal protections, property rights, and family planning resources and services so that they are able to determine the number and spacing of their children.

Because of CEDAW, millions of girls around the world receive primary education; countries have taken measures against sex slavery, domestic violence and trafficking of women and girls; women's health care services have focused on saving lives during pregnancy and childbirth; and millions of women now have the opportunity to secure loans and the right to own and inherit property.

Created in 1979, CEDAW has been ratified by 186 countries. The U.S., however, is one of seven countries that have not ratified the treaty. U.S. failure to ratify the treaty allows countries which have weak human rights records to justify neglecting and undermining human rights for women. Until the U.S. ratifies the Treaty for the Rights of Women, our country cannot credibly demand that others live up to their obligations under the treaty.

Please contact your Senators today and tell them it is time for the United States to ratify this important treaty. Follow this link for more information:

<http://capwiz.com/ywca/issues/alert/?alertid=13541301>

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