

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

8th March 2021



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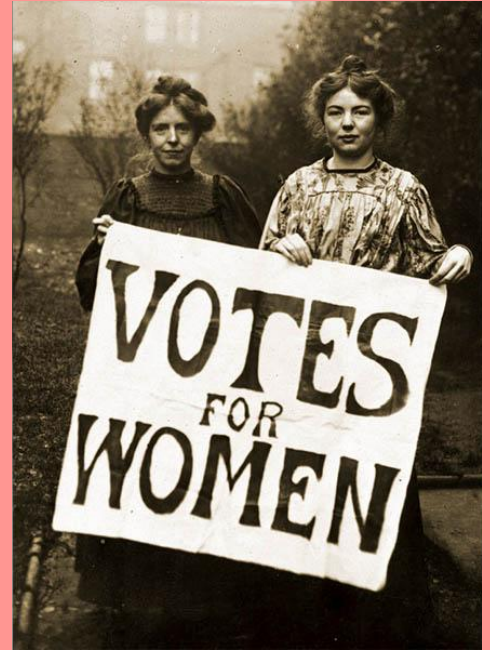
01. History

Of International Women's Day

OUR DAY

International Women's Day has been observed since 1911, when Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland honoured it on the 19th of March.

Since then, the world has witnessed a significant shift in both women's and society's thoughts about women's equality and emancipation. Many from a younger generation may feel that 'all the battles have been won for women' while many feminists from the 1970's know only too well the longevity and ingrained complexity of patriarchy.



THE HISTORY OF IWD

International Women's Day was honoured the first time in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland on 19 March. More than one million women and men attended IWD rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote, be trained, to hold public office and end discrimination.

1911

IWD 2021

Today!

1909

After demonstrations for voting rights in 1909, the first National Woman's Day (NWD) was observed across the United States on February 28. Women continued to celebrate NWD on the last Sunday of February until 1913.

2011

The 100 year centenary of International Women's Day. In the US, President Barack Obama proclaimed March 2011 to be "Women's History Month", marking IWD by reflecting on "the extraordinary accomplishments of women" in shaping the country's history.



02.

Theme

For IWD this year





2021 THEME

* #ChooseToChallenge

A challenged world is an alert world. Individually, we're all responsible for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day.

We can all choose to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality.

We can all choose to seek out and celebrate women's achievements. ✨

Collectively, we can all help create an inclusive world.

From challenge comes change, so let's all **choose to challenge**.

#ChooseToChallenge

#IWD2021

The Choose To Challenge Pose



You can show your support and solidarity by raising your hand high to show that you commit to choose to challenge and call out inequality.



You could share a photo on social media using the above hashtags to encourage more people to commit to helping forge an inclusive world.



03. Intro

An introduction and brief
history of feminism

What feminism is

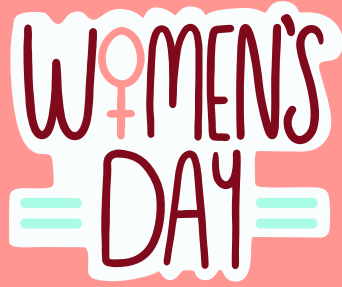
Feminism is a diverse collection of social theories, political movements, and moral philosophies, predominantly concerning the experiences of women, in particular in terms of their social, political, and economic situation.



Examples of some issues concerning feminism:

- reproductive rights
- domestic violence
- maternity leave
- equal pay
- women's suffrage
- sexual harassment and sexual violence.

The goal of feminism is to challenge the systemic inequalities women face on a daily basis.



feminism is the belief in full social,
economic, and political equality for
women

— definition

The beginnings of feminism

First wave

**late 19th-early
20th century**

The goal of this wave was to open up opportunities for women, with a focus on suffrage. The wave formally began at the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848 when three hundred men and women rallied to the cause of equality for women.

1960s- 90s

Second wave

This wave unfolded in the context of the anti-war and civil rights movements. In this phase, sexuality and reproductive rights were dominant issues, and much of the movement's energy was focused on passing the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution guaranteeing social equality regardless of sex.

Third/Fourth wave

**mid-90's-no
w?**

There is debate whether we are still in the third wave of feminism or if the fourth has already begun with movements such as #MeToo and Time's Up. One of third-wave feminism's primary goals was to demonstrate that access to contraception and abortion are women's reproductive rights. And many claim that a fourth wave of feminism began about 2012, with a focus on sexual harassment, body shaming, and rape culture, among other issues.

6 INFLUENTIAL WOMEN IN FEMINISM

Emmeline Pankhurst (1858-1928)

- A British political activist
- She is best remembered for organizing the UK suffragette movement and helping women win the suffering right to vote
- In 1999, *Time* named her as one of the 100 Most Important People of the 20th Century

Virginia Woolf (1882-1941)

- An English writer
- She is considered one of the most important modernist 20th century authors, and focused on many feminist themes in her work

Frida Khalo (1907-1954)

- A Mexican painter known for her many portraits and self-portraits
- She explored questions of identity, postcolonialism, gender, class and race in Mexican Society

Betty Friedan (1921-2006)

- An American feminist writer and activist
- She was a leading figure in the women's movement in the US
- Her 1963 book [The Feminine Mystique](#) is often credited with starting the second wave of American feminism in the 20th century

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (1977)

- A Nigerian writer whose works range from novels to short stories to non-fiction
- She wrote the feminist book-length essay [We Should All Be Feminists](#)

Tawakkol Karman (1979)

- A Yemeni Nobel Laureate, poet, journalist, politician and humans rights activist
- She leads the group "Women Journalists Without Chains" which she co-founded in 2005



04. COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT FEMINISM

Countless misconceptions about feminism make young adults reluctant to join the movement, and it's about time someone debunked the myths clouding feminism's good name.

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT FEMINISM

“Only women can be feminists”

Feminism invites every type of person to be an advocate for equality and change. Men can be feminists too and it most certainly does not degrade their value or make them less of a man.

“Feminists believe women are better than men”

Contrary to popular belief feminism has nothing to do with belittling men, in fact feminism does not support sexism against either gender. Feminism works towards equality, not female superiority.

“Feminism is no longer necessary”

While huge strides have been made towards gender equality, a great deal of work remains to be done, both in the UK and abroad, including the gender pay gap, protection against sexual assault and violence and gender representation in media, among other issues.

“Feminism ignores men’s issues”

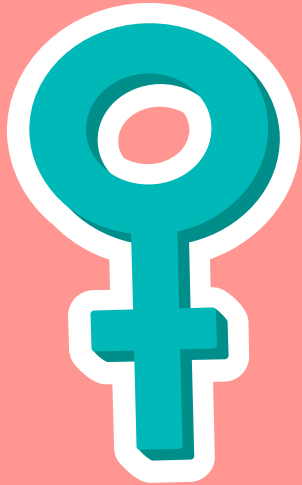
The idea that women’s rights are gained at the expense of men’s is actually the *opposite* of the truth: there’s now a stack of evidence that men benefit from living in more gender-equal societies and that policies promoting gender equality improve the quality of life of everyone, not just for women.



05.

National Council of Young Women

What is NCYW?



NCYW operates in Sixth Forms/Colleges and offers young women the chance to discuss topical issues (FGM, gender, enviromental change).

NCYW is apart of a larger organisation for 18+ **NCW**, covers similar issues and can be taken to Government as resolutions.

NCW also has accreditation from the UN.

A brief history...

NCW had roots stemming from 1895 and initially was named the **National Union of Women Workers** - it joined the global **International Council of Women** in 1898.

Many of the earlier concerns included education, or lack of support toward women, who were more susceptible to violence in the society they lived in at the time. As well as working conditions for women.





06. Topical Issues + Useful Links



Topical Issues

Educational Inequality

- Since 1995, the global enrollment rate for girls has increased from 73% to 89%.
- More than 180 million more girls were enrolled in primary and secondary school in 2018 compared to 1995.
- Over the past 25 years, female enrollment in tertiary education also rose by 3X.
- In at least 20 countries eg. Africa and Pakistan hardly any poor rural women have completed secondary schooling.



Women in Politics

- Only 25 per cent of all national parliamentarians are women, up from 11 per cent in 1995.
- Women serve as Heads of State or Government in only 22 countries, and 119 countries have never had a woman leader.
- At the current rate, gender equality in the highest positions of power will not be reached for another 130 years.



Domestic Abuse

- The pandemic lead to an increase in domestic abuse cases around the world.
- Within the UK there was a rise of 49% in the number of calls to domestic abuse services,an estimate of 380 weekly calls to police.
- 16 homicides related to domestic abuse in the first month after strict social distancing was enacted.

Topical Issues



Reproductive rights

- The right to access abortion is still under attack especially for women of colour in US.
- Members of the European Parliament spelled out how heightened restrictions are in Poland about legal abortion.
- The Commission is telling women across Europe that their rights to health, freedom from cruel and inhumane treatment, bodily autonomy, and privacy, are secondary.

USEFUL LINKS

International Women's Day



[Forbes - Choose to Challenge](#)



[International Women's Day Website](#)



[UN Women](#)



[The Waves of Feminism](#)



[National Council of Women](#)



[Core Feminist Beliefs](#)

USEFUL LINKS

History

 [The History Of International Women's Day](#)

 [A Timeline of the Feminist Movement](#)

 [The Political History Of Feminism](#)

Books

 [Life Lessons From Remarkable Women](#)

 [Feminists Don't Wear Pink and Other Lies](#)

 [This Bridge Called My Back](#)



Thanks for watching and please
do get involved with IWD and
Women's History Month this
March!

