

Article No. 8: Identity

Prayer Heavenly Father,

Creator of Heaven and earth, grant us the strength and inspiration to follow the example of the inspirational women we have around us. That we may share in the vision of your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

Amen.



International Women's Day On the 8th March every year International Women's Day is held. It celebrates women's achievements throughout history across the world.

It is recognised by the United Nations (UN) and is known as a Day for Women's Rights and International Peace.

Think...

Is it important to celebrate women?

Volunteers Please!

International Women's Day

□ The first International Women's Day was on March 19 in 1911

- According to the UN there is no country in the word that can claim that men and women have equal rights.
- It is estimated that women receive 30-40% less pay than men-even if they are in the same job!
- In certain parts of the world women are seen as inferior to men and are victims of violence and oppression.
- The aims of this day was (and still is) to help nations eradicate discrimination against women and to help women gain whole-rounded and equal participation in global development.

□ There is also an International Men's Day-19th November.



International Women's Day 2023 campaign theme: #EmbraceEquity For International Women's Day and beyond, let's all fully #EmbraceEquity. Equity isn't just a nice-to-have, it's a must-have. A focus on gender equity needs to be part of every society's DNA. And it's critical to understand the difference between equity and equality. The aim of the IWD 2023 #EmbraceEquity campaign theme is to get the world talking about *Why equal opportunities aren't enough*. People start from different places, so true inclusion and belonging require equitable action.



We can all truly embrace equity. It's not just something we say. It's not just something we write about. It's something we need to think about, know, value and embrace. It's what we believe in, unconditionally. Equity means creating an inclusive world. And we can all play a part Each one of us can actively support and embrace equity within our own sphere of influence.

We can all challenge gender stereotypes, call out discrimination, draw attention to bias, and seek out inclusion.

Collective activism is what drives change. From grassroots action to wide-scale momentum, we can all embrace equity.

Forging gender equity isn't limited to women solely fighting the good fight. Allies are incredibly important for the social, economic, cultural, and political advancement of women. When we embrace equity, we embrace diversity, and we embrace inclusion. We embrace equity to forge harmony and unity, and to help drive success for all. Equality is the goal, and equity is the means to get there. Through the process of equity, we can reach equality.



Embracing equity is the right thing to do



Don't just say it. Think it. Be it. Do it. Value it. Truly embrace it. Embrace equity in all its forms. Here are a few reasons why we need International Women's Day. -

- Women in England and Wales are almost three times as likely as men to experience domestic abuse.
- In Wales, women work an average of 45 unpaid days because of the gender pay gap.
- According to our research in Wales, in 2021 63% of women versus 17% of men stated that they did most of the childcare in their household. 71% of women versus 22% of men said that they did most of the housework.
- In the UK alone, women carry out around 60% more unpaid work than men.
- Decisions that affect our everyday lives are still more likely to be made by men, because women are still not present in equal numbers in politics or public life. For example, just 36% of Welsh councillors are women.
- Disasters such as floods, storms, and drought kill more women than men due to the unequal division of power and resources between women and men. As the climate emergency worsens, this is why it will hit women harder, both here in Wales and around the world. Women are more likely to be in poverty women have not achieved economic equality in any country in the world, including in Wales. Some of the reasons for this are: Low wages, lack of decent work, unpaid care work, and longer work days.
- Women across the UK spend more years of their life in poor health than men. Looking across different health and wellbeing aspects, the UK has the largest women's health gap of the G20 (countries with the biggest economies).
- Many of the inequalities we have mentioned are even more pronounced for disabled women and for Black, Asian and ethnic minority women. For example, disabled people made up 68% of all deaths involving Covid-19 in early 2020. Black women are over four times more likely to die in childbirth and to die from a Covid-19 related death than white women.

Quiz What job do Ido?

Six Wonderful Welsh Women

What job do I do?



Cerys Matthews

Artist. She started a band called Catatonia that sold millions of copies of their songs. She is also a radio and TV presenter.

What job do l do?



Meena Upadhyaya

Professor of Medical Genetics. A special kind of scientist who made tests to diagnose more than 20 diseases. She also created achievement awards for Welsh Asian and ethnic minority women.

What job do I do?

Angela Gidden

Furniture designer. Angela is also a consultant to many multi million pound manufacturing companies.

What job do I do?

Uzo Iwobi

Lawyer and Equalities Advisor. She advises the government on how to make Wales a fairer place for everybody.

What job do I do?

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Karen Holford

Professor of Mechanical Engineering. She designs machines, including parts of cars and machines that can measure damage to bridges and aeroplanes.



What job do l do?



Tanni Grey-Thompson

As a wheelchair racer she broke 30 world records, won 11 gold and 3 silver Paralympic medals. She is a TV presenter and in 2010 she became a Baroness helping to make the UK a fairer place for all.

How will you embrace equity?

Share the passion and excitement that comes from valuing and supporting difference.

Reflect on how we can all be part of the solution, not the problem.

Strike the #EmbraceEquity pose