



Maximillian Seunik

UNC-Chapel Hill, Junior

Public Health & Policy Management &
Global Studies majors, Middle East &
Islamic Studies minor

- **Research:** *The Post-2015
Agenda: Gender Equality,
Women's Empowerment &
Gender-Based Violence*

NC Model: *NC Women United*



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A man's perspective on gender equality...

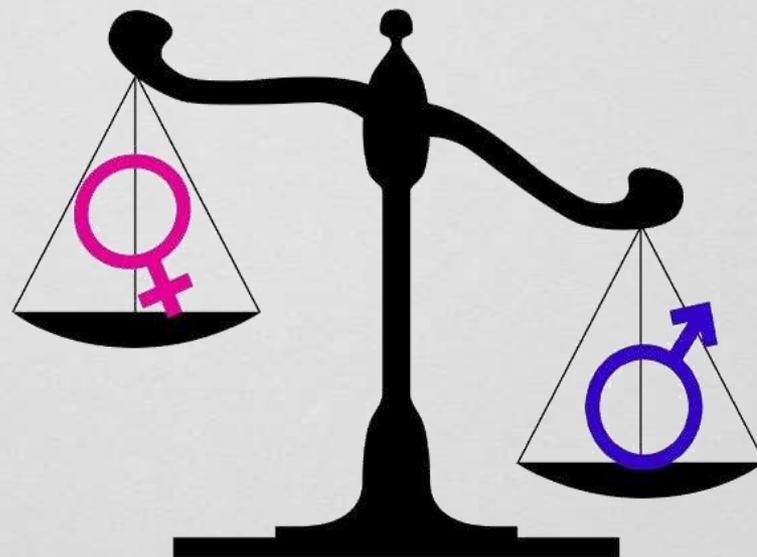


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Understanding Gender Inequality

- The unequal treatment or perceptions of an individual based on gender
- Manifests as...
 - Professional obstacles
 - Limited mobility
 - Feticide and infanticide
 - Political participation
 - **Gender based violence**



Gender Based Violence (GBV) in context

- “... the most pervasive human rights abuse in the world today, happening in **all countries**” (UN Women)
- Direct result of gender inequality
- **1** in 3 women will experience GBV in her life



Determinants of GBV

Table 1: Risk factors for GBV through a social-ecological framework

Societal	Community	Interpersonal	Individual
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poverty• Economic, social and gender inequality• Social norms that support violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community norms• Poor safety in public spaces• Traditional gender roles	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inter-generational violence• Low socio-economic status• Friction over women's empowerment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family history of GBV• Unemployment• Disabilities

We must address the *structural cause* of GBV.

Women's Empowerment & GBV

- Higher rates of GBV where women lack power
- Empowering women directly counters GV
- Female involvement in the political process advances progressive agendas.
 - *E.g. Advancement of progressive legislation in Argentina*



The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

- MDG 3: **Gender Equality**
 - Primary school enrollment
 - Wage gap
 - Political representation



How do we develop an agenda that advances gender equality?

The Standalone Gender Goal (UN Women)

- Incorporate gender into **all targets & indicators**
- A transformative and inclusive approach to gender equality and development:
 - I. **Freedom from violence**
 - II. Capabilities and resources
 - III. **Voice, leadership and participation**





a local model with a global statement

- **North Carolina Women United** is a coalition of women's organizations working to realize the full political, social and economic equality of women in NC
- Legislative priorities:
 - Increasing participation of women voters
 - Ensuring freedom from violence



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Looking back

- Gender inequality:
 - Reduces women's agency
 - Creates spaces where GBV is accepted
- Women's Empowerment counters gender inequality
 - Political participation
- Current global approaches have been **insufficient**
- Best practices models such as NCWU provide evidence in support of a **Standalone Gender Goal**

It's time to act.

- Support organizations like NCWU that espouse the values of the Standalone Gender Goal
- Involve yourself in the Post-2015 Development Agenda
 - Association for Women's Rights in Development
 - UN Women



The Post-2015 Agenda:

GENDER EQUALITY, WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Maximillian Seunik
WomenNC Fellow 2014

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