

**The
Economist**

EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION



CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE

PART 1: IN THE KNOW

LEARNING INDEPENDENTLY?

Check out this week's
introduction video

bit.ly/NewsCycleVidMar23

KEEN TO HAVE YOUR SAY?

Share your opinion on
this week's News Cycle

bit.ly/NewsCycleMar23

NEWS CYCLE

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

Why should more people “choose to challenge” gender inequality?



Since 1911, International Women’s Day has celebrated the achievements of women. This year, on March 8th, the theme was “choose to challenge” - and organisers encouraged people to choose to speak out and challenge gender inequality. **But why are women still having to fight for equality in 2021?**

Inequality between men and women is measured in four key areas: money, health, education and political power. According to the World Economic Forum (WEF), progress has been made but men still have better opportunities than women.

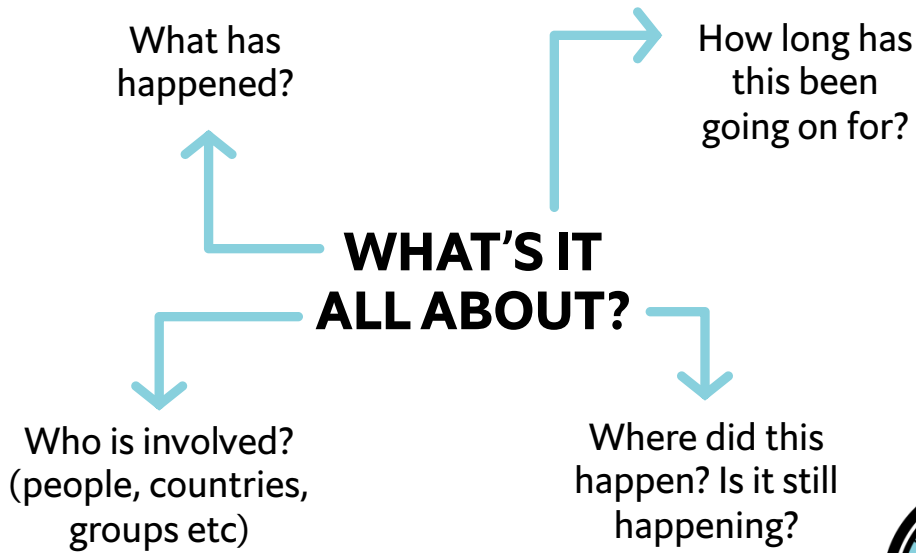
Experts think it could take nearly 100 years to achieve a gender-equal world. This means that many women who are alive today may never get to experience gender equality.

Saadia Zahidi, managing director at the WEF, thinks that in order to “hurry history”, governments need to give women more political power so that it becomes normal for people to see them as leaders.

So far, no country has achieved gender equality and António Guterres, the UN secretary-general, believes that covid-19 has made the situation worse. Research shows that many women have been unable to escape from unsafe homes and more women than men have taken on unpaid work caring for others.

So, with fresh challenges brought on by the pandemic, is it more important than ever for people to “choose to challenge” gender inequality?

Want to know more? Look here: internationalwomensday.com



NEWS SCALE

How easy is it to challenge inequality? Mark your opinion on the scale below with an X. What about António Guterres? Where would he put his X? What about a girl with fewer role models?

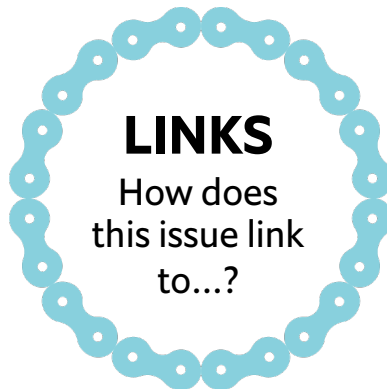


*NEWS
CONCEPT:
justice?*

Your life?

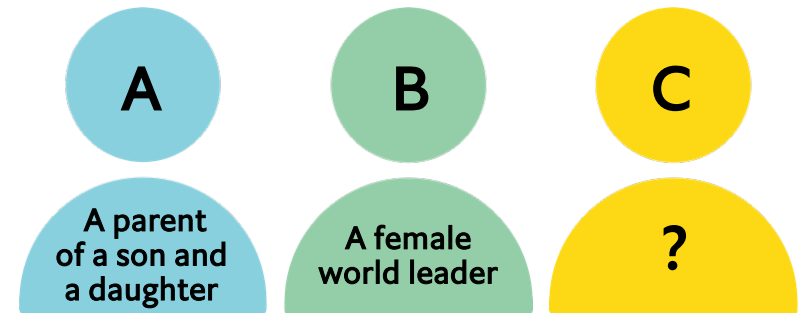
*NEWS
CONCEPT:
power?*

*A different
news story?*



PERSPECTIVE FLIP

What would Person A think about this issue? How are they affected by the issue? Now flip to Person B and think about the same questions. Are any perspectives missing?



CHALLENGE: how is this issue developing in the news?

An illustration of a diverse group of people, including women and men of various ethnicities and ages, some wearing headscarves and glasses. They are shown in profile or three-quarter view, with some making peace signs. The background is a solid dark blue.

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CHOOSE TO CHALLENGE

PART 2: THINKING HARDER

LEARNING INDEPENDENTLY?

Check out this week's
introduction video

bit.ly/NewsCycleVidMar30

KEEN TO HAVE YOUR SAY?

Share your opinion on
this week's News Cycle

bit.ly/NewsCycleMar30

First, limber up by thinking about everything you learnt last week:

- What was the key information about this issue? (Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?)
- Why was this issue news? (How big was this piece of news? How many people does it affect? Is it global or local news?)
- What did you think about it? Did everyone you talked to have the same opinion?
- What have you seen about this in the news? How is this issue developing?

Then, take a ride through this week's activities.

WHAT'S THE FULL STORY?

KEY VOCABULARY

PARLIAMENT =

a group of politicians, usually chosen in elections, who help to make the laws in a country



In 2020

ONLY 25%

of people in parliaments around the world were women.

Research shows that countries with more women in positions of political power usually have more women in business leadership.

Violence against women and girls is a global issue. Recently protests have taken place in **AUSTRALIA** and the **UK** to speak out against violence and harassment towards women and ask the police to keep women safer.

If women had equal pay and equal opportunities, whole countries could be **MORE SUCCESSFUL.**

Research from the World Economic Forum shows that generally, when countries improve their gender equality, they become more productive and therefore richer.

Dr Nina Ansary, an expert on global gender inequality, believes that role models matter, particularly for women. She says:

"IT TAKES REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES OF WHAT GIRLS AND WOMEN CAN DO, IF GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY, TO CHANGE ATTITUDES."

There is an **INTERNATIONAL MEN'S DAY**

on **November 19th.**

It is celebrated in over 80 countries but is not recognised by the United Nations.

TURN THE COGS

1. This issue is about more than International Women's Day. Can you explain the bigger picture?
2. Look at the facts on the previous page.
 - When you give women equal opportunities, does it only help women?
 - Should International Men's Day be accepted by the United Nations? Why/why not?

Support your answers with a fact and explain why.

SHOW OFF YOUR SKILLS



Have you heard someone "choose to challenge" inequality? What did they do?



Who is most responsible for fixing the problem of gender inequality?



If anything was possible, what could be done to support women globally?



Could gender inequality have been prevented? How?

PUSH YOURSELF

Anisha Nandaula, a spoken-word poet, wrote a poem called Choose to Challenge. She wanted it to start discussions about women's inequality.

WATCH IT HERE:

bit.ly/AnishaNandaula

- What is the poem's message?
- How else can people speak out to challenge inequality?

TYRE CHANGE

Brakes on! Let's change the scenario.



Nobody "chose to challenge" gender inequality?



The world achieved gender equality?



There were more women in positions of power than men?

Challenge: can you spot this issue in the news? How has the issue developed since last week?