

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Women's rights around the world is an important indicator to understand global well-being.

A major global women's rights treaty was ratified by the majority of the world's nations a few decades ago.

Yet, despite many successes in empowering women, numerous issues still exist in all areas of life, ranging from the cultural, political to the economic. For example, women often work more than men, yet are paid less; gender discrimination affects girls and women throughout their lifetime; and women and girls are often the ones that suffer the most poverty.

Many may think that women's rights are only an issue in countries where religion is law, such as many Muslim countries. Or even worse, some may think this is no longer an issue at all. But reading this report about the United Nation's Women's Treaty and how an increasing number of countries are lodging reservations, will show otherwise.

Gender equality furthers the cause of child survival and development for all of society, so the importance of women's rights and gender equality should not be underestimated.

## WHAT IS SEXUAL HARRASMENT

Sexual harassment, is intimidation, bullying or coercion of a sexual nature, or the unwelcome or inappropriate promise of rewards in exchange for sexual favors. In some contexts or circumstances, sexual harassment may be illegal. It includes a range of behavior from seemingly mild transgressions and annoyances to actual sexual abuse or sexual assault. Sexual harassment is a form of illegal employment discrimination in many countries, and is a form of abuse (sexual and psychological) and bullying. For many businesses, preventing sexual harassment, and defending employees from sexual harassment charges, have become key goals of legal decision-making. In contrast, many scholars complain that sexual harassment in education remains a "forgotten secret," with educators and administrators refusing to admit the problem exists in their schools, or accept their legal and ethical responsibilities to deal with it (Dziech, 1990).

*Prepared For Your Information By:*

St Lucia Civil Service Association  
Sans Souci  
P.O. Box 244  
Castries, Saint Lucia  
West Indies

Tel. (758)452-3902  
Fax. (758) 453-6061  
Email: [csa@candu.lc](mailto:csa@candu.lc)  
Website: [csastlucia.org](http://csastlucia.org)



## SAINT LUCIA CIVIL SERVICE ASSOCIATION

### *Women's Committee*

### ***“PROMOTING WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION”***



### OUR MISSION

***“To effectively represent and empower women primarily in the Civil Service Association and the wider society through constant education and social programmes, thereby creating a forum to promote issues affecting the development of women at the national level.”***

## ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

A standing committee of the CSA with specific responsibility for providing information and advice to the National Executive and the General Council on all matters pertinent to the development and welfare of female members.

## RESPONSIBILITY

The Committee has the responsibility in collaboration with the Administrative Secretariat, to organize and co-ordinate, programmes geared towards enhancing its effectiveness as well as the welfare of all female CSA members .



## HISTORY OF INT. WOMEN'S DAY

International Women's Day (8 March) is an occasion marked by women's groups around the world. This date is also commemorated at the United Nations and is designated in many countries as a national holiday. When women on all continents, often divided by national boundaries and by ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic and political differences, come together to celebrate their Day, they can look back to a tradition that represents at least nine decades of struggle for equality, justice, peace and development. International Women's Day is the story of ordinary women as makers of history; it is rooted in the centuries-old struggle of women to participate in society on an equal footing with men. In ancient Greece, Lysistrata initiated a sexual strike against men in order to end war; during the French Revolution, Parisian women calling for "liberty, equality, fraternity" marched on Versailles to demand women's suffrage. The idea of an International Women's Day first arose at the turn of the century, which in the industrialized world was a period of expansion and turbulence, booming population growth and radical ideologies. Following is a brief chronology of the most important events:

*This brochure was designed to inform the public on the role and functions of the CSA women's committee and to give general information on women.. Hope you find it interesting.*

## HEALTH AND WELNESS

The Committee organized a Women's workshop to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Women's day. The workshop was held under the theme "Health and Wellness" and was held at the CSA's Auditorium on Tuesday, March 8, 2011. Over forty (40) women activists attended the activity which was coordinated by Miss Anselma Calderon, Deputy Director, Training Division, and Ministry of the Public Service. The women were able to attract some very qualified, experienced, and knowledgeable facilitators in the persons of Dr. Stephen King, Dr. Segun Tobias and Mrs. Patricia Biscette-Modeste. This workshop was very interactive and generated much debate and discussion. We have extracted the following comments from the evaluation forms of some of the participants:

- *I really enjoyed every aspect and every speaker"*
- *The seminar/workshop was very informative and factual"*
- *The wealth of information shared in such short sessions there was 100% participation"*
- *It was very informative, interesting and interactive"*
- *Lots of information gained; very informative and interesting;*
- *well organized and relevant"*