

Public Policy:

It all Begins With You

By Jeanne Delp

QUESTION: What are AAUW's Public Principles, what are our Priorities, and why are these important to AAUW?

ANSWER: *The Public Policy Principles and Priorities underscore AAUW's mission to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. They establish principles for action on which AAUW members across the country focus their advocacy efforts. They guide the work of the AAUW's federal priorities and that of AAUW state organizations and branches on state and local issue advocacy efforts. Refer to [aauw.org/about strategic-plan-2025](https://aauw.org/about-strategic-plan-2025) for more insight.*

Our Mission

AAUW's mission to advance equity for women and girls hinges on the foundational belief that economic empowerment is essential for gender equity. Supporting women in higher education is crucial to this mission because it serves as a key pathway to economic security and upward mobility.

We empower potential:

WE believe that higher education is a key driver to achieving economic prosperity.

WE believe economies thrive when all women are empowered and educated.

WE believe in equitable access to higher education that is diverse and inclusive, and free of harassment and discrimination that could hinder the advancement of women.

WE believe women deserve the chance to pursue and thrive in any career they want.

WE believe working women deserve equitable access and advancement in their careers, free from harassment and discrimination, with equity of pay, greater access to quality & affordable dependent care, paid family, medical, & sick leave, and a full range of reproductive health care services, to ensure economic security.

WE believe in the dignity of all women – inclusive of the backgrounds they represent, including race, ethnicity, age, socioeconomic status, religious beliefs, disability, gender identity and sexual orientation, and geographic location – and value their equitable participation in education, the workforce, and policy decisions.

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How do we achieve these priorities?

WE Need Your HELP

Jeannette Rankin Foundation:

"Today as never before the Nation needs its women – needs the work of their hands and their hearts and their minds."

Margaret Mead:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."



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