

Public Policy:

MATTERING

By Jeanne Delp

MATTERING? Yes, this is an actual word (present participle) for you English teachers, found in Google's Oxford Languages on my computer. Rebecca Newberger Goldstein's newly published book, *The Mattering Instinct*, instructs us with these thoughts:

"We are creatures of Matter who long to matter"--to ourselves, to each other," says *Wall Street Journal's* Dominic Green. Another way to put it--we search to feel significant and worthwhile.

If you are reading this, you probably belong to "AAUW, established in 1881, the oldest and largest woman's organization in the U.S. It is one of the largest funders of women's graduate education. We invest in women who go on to change the world," says AAUW National. How can that not be significant and worthwhile?

You have the support of an effective network of states and branches through strategies and initiatives which engage and grow our membership. These continue to advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. This is significant and matters in today's world.

If you are a member of AAUW, you belong to a group of women who care, who volunteer, who organize, who speak out, who study issues, who champion the success of women and girls through programs which enrich the lives of all of us.

AND. Being a member of a local branch of AAUW provides opportunities to make life-long friends, to be exposed to new ideas and opportunities, to find that you matter. You are significant. You are worthwhile.