



WE ARE ALL CREATED EQUAL.

Essay, Poem, Performance

Angelina

May 2022

GlobalGirl Media-Chicago

The Fund for Women's Equality

How does the ERA effect the discrimination of Black Women?



Generations of Black women leaders have made powerful arguments in support of the Equal Rights Amendment. Everyday women face discrimination and are treated differently because of their sex. In 1923 the ERA amendment was proposed. On March 22, 1972, the Equal Rights Amendment was passed by the U.S. Senate and sent to the states for ratification. First proposed by the National Women's Party, the ERA was created to provide for the legal equality of the sexes and prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex. This amendment aims to create more opportunities for many women across the globe and has helped uneducated people.

Feminist lawyer and civil rights advocate, Pauli Murray, testified for the Equal Rights Amendment at a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in 1970. In her testimony, Murray drew upon her own experiences of race and sex discrimination to explain her support for the ERA. According to Murray, she examined opposition to the ERA as a result of men's fear of losing power and privilege. She says, "I suggest that what the opponents of the Amendment most fear is not equal rights but equal power and responsibility. I further suggest that underlying the issue of equal rights for women is the more fundamental issue of equal power for women."



According to statistics from the National Women's Law Center, a Black woman working full-time, year-round in the United States must work into the current year to have earned what her white-male counterpart earned during the prior year. For example, Julia Cusick, Interim and Vice President of Communications of the Center for American Progress says, "Black women earned 61 cents for every dollar earned by white men, amounting to 26,653 dollars less in earnings over an entire year." The ERA is widening people's mindsets and is helping to develop a deeper understanding of reform that specifically address the unique discrimination that Black women face at the intersection of race and gender.

"When we retire, that's when you really see more women retire in poverty than men," said Pat Spearman, an American cleric, veteran, and Democratic politician from North Las Vegas, Nevada, who has been vocal about addressing pay inequities. "And that is even worse for Black women. So that is what the ERA is about." One powerful lady, Pat Spearman, presented the Equal Rights Amendment before a legislative committee in 2015. She explains her efforts and accounts of her experience in helping develop the popularity of the ERA. She is representing women, specifically women of color, and has inspired many other women in the world like myself. I feel like she has made a difference and has created an impact because of what she contributes to the ERA.



In conclusion, Black women are on the path to equality and will not accept the bare minimum. The Equal Rights Amendment continues to provide significant information and resources to help all women succeed in the fight to overcome sexism in America. Working together in this process and standing up for what we believe in should continue and is a very crucial part to being successful with this problem.

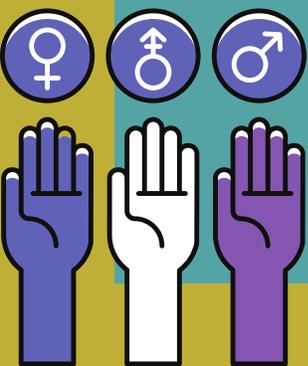
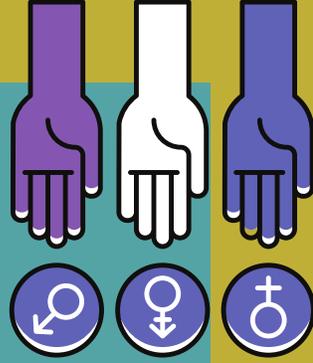


Never the same.
When will we be equal?
Men always gain.
Skirts and dresses.

Is that all we are?
Skirts and dresses.
Opportunities for us lessen.
Questioning are very existence.

Contributing to a world that doesn't
fully accept you.
Skirts and dresses.
I'm sorry that is all I portray.
The fight continues for equality.

500 years of fighting.
Dreaming of an equal world for all race
and sex.
Will my dream ever become a reality?
Or better question, am I just living a
nightmare?





https://youtube.com/shorts/9bxEzZ_Tp3c?feature=share

Works Cited

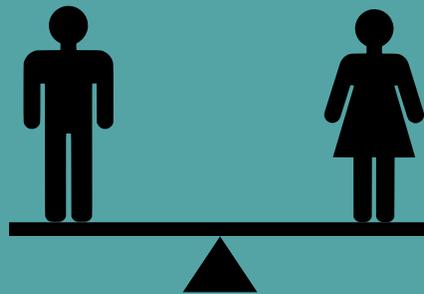
<https://www.nevadacurrent.com/blog/spearman-testifies-to-congressional-panel-on-era/>

<https://msmagazine.com/2021/06/28/black-women-support-equal-rights-amendment-era/>

<https://19thnews.org/2021/03/black-women-era-revival/>

https://americanarchive.org/catalog/cpb-aacip_15-9nc5sc3d

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/history/article/black-women-continued-fighting-for-vote-after-19th-amendment>



This project was made in collaboration with Global Girl Media-Chicago, The Fund for Women's Equality, and the ERA Coalition.

About the Author



My name is Angelina and I am a 15-year-old student who currently attends SSICP High School. I enjoy many things such as acting and dancing. I was born in the suburbs but I grew up In Chicago. When I moved I immediately noticed a change in my surroundings and now have a love-hate relationship with this city. In my spare time I try to do as much as I can to create a more peaceful and safe environment for all, especially for the new generation ahead of us.

