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# *Gender Justice and Development*

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# Gender Justice

## Definition

Gender Justice can be define as the protection and promotion of civil, political, economic and social rights on the basis of gender equality. It necessitates taking a gender perspective on the rights themselves, as well as the assessment of access and obstacles to the enjoyment of these rights for both women, men, girls and boys and adopting gender-sensitive strategies for protecting and promoting them.

### Manifestation of Gender Justice:

1. Subordination in political and decision making process;
2. Marginalisation and poverty in economic life;
3. Stereotyping and negative labelling in cultural and traditional life;
4. Gender based violence;
5. Domestic Sphere. Relegating women's role as carrying the most burden in the domestic work.

# International Frameworks on Gender Justice and Development

1979

**Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**

Related provisions:  
Equality, Political and Public Rights,  
Employment, Equality before the Law, Economic and Social Rights.

1995

**Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BDPfA)**

Highlights among 12 critical aspects:  
Violence against Women, Women in Armed Conflicts, Women in Power and Decision making, Human rights of Women.

2000

**Millenium Development Goals (MDGs)**  
Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

2015

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

# Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)



## MDGs

### Goal 3: Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women

- Expanding women-friendly public services: to meet women and girls' rights to education, health and food;
- Guaranteeing land and jobs for women: ensuring the right to a decent livelihood, through access to economic assets;
- Increasing women's voice in decision-making: full participation of women in society, starting from autonomy in the household, to voice in all political processes at community, national and international levels; and
- Ending violence against women and girls: a scourge that too many women and girls face in daily life, stunting their opportunities, curtailing their mobility and denying them rights.
- Ending discrimination and enhancing gender justice are key to meeting MDG commitments and the principles embodied in the Millennium Declaration.

# Gender Justice and the Development Agenda

## Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



**Goal 5:** Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate.
- Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life
- Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights
- Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance and natural resources, in accordance with national laws
- Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.
- Adopt and strengthen sound policies and enforceable legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels



**Goal 16:** Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

- Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.
- End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all
- Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels
- Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development

# The Role that Parliament Can Play in Promoting and Developing Gender Justice

1. Gather aspirations at the grassroots level to understand the basic needs and problems of the people.
2. Initiates discussions with various stakeholders (civil societies, private sectors, and other groups) to explore inputs for the formulation, promoting and developing gender justice and to make sure the deliberation of gender justice to be held in an inclusive and transparent process.
3. Explore opportunities in which parliamentarians can build partnerships with civil society, the private sector, and other institutions to promote and deliver gender justice through the policy-making process.
4. Lastly, Parliament could oversee the conclusion on the draft Law on Gender Equality and Gender Justice which has been discussed in 2012-2013. This law was considered controversial and attracted opposing view from stakeholders. Nevertheless, we view that issuance of such law is important in creating a legal umbrella at the national level for the protection and promotion of civil, political, economic and social rights on the basis of gender equality. This law will facilitate efforts by the government to close the development gap between men and women, boys and girls.

# Thank You



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