



# THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS

While pandemics originate from the biological world, the impact they have on women's rights depend on societal factors such as gender inequality, gender roles, and economic policies. Human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, regardless of one's status, and women's rights are human rights in the context of promoting the legal and social equality of women with men (United Nations).

## RIGHTS TO PROTECT NOW

### ECONOMIC INTEGRITY

Women are economically more vulnerable than men. By April, the unemployment rate for mothers was 14.2% opposed to 10.5% for fathers (Allen, The Lily).

### HEALTH & SECURITY

Diminished access to sexual and reproductive health services, and protective services result in long-term detrimental effects on women's health.

### POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

Women's political participation was at a historical high last year. These milestones will be significantly impacted by shifting financial security and responsibilities placed on women.

## SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS



Include women at all levels of pandemic response planning, and expand community resource collaborations



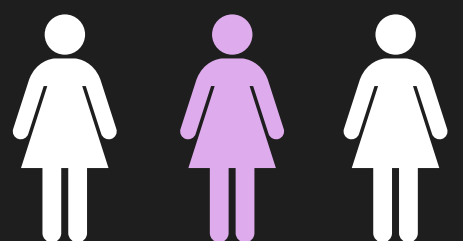
Augment legislation and plans for economic support of service sector workers.



Increase funding of low-income women serving health clinics, and reduce restrictions on women's health care resources and services.



Offer online and mail-in ballots and childcare services for women working polling locations.



**Did you know?**  
Even prior to COVID-19, nearly 1 in 3 women experience Intimate Partner Violence (Harvard Health).