

Topic: Would the world be better if women ruled the world?

## Outline

### 1. Introduction

**Thesis statement:** Women can make the world a better place by bringing much needed peace and equality in the world. However, it may not end all the world's problems and bring absolute equality of people. Nevertheless, women as leaders will empower others and ~~help~~ invest <sup>more</sup> in human development.

2. How women leaders will rule the world to make it better or worse

3. The world will be better if women ruled it (Thesis)

- a. Women are less likely to indulge in wars
- b. Women places 'human' at the center of decision-making
- c. It will strengthen weaker segments of society and ensure equality
- d. It will eliminate patriarchal violence against women
- e. Ensure environmental sustainability for future generations
- f. It will empower households

4. The world will not be a better place if women ruled it (Antithesis)

- a. Women can be brutal and resort to war
- b. Humanity and human decision-making is not gendered.



- c. There are women leaders who barely did anything for human gender equality ✓
- d. It will unleash ~~discrimination~~ racial and class discrimination depending upon who is in charge ✓
- e. Power greed will overtake environmental concerns ✓
- f. Absent mothers leads to catastrophic consequences for the society ✓

5. Despite imperfection of women rule, women in leadership positions will make the world a better place (Synthesis)

- a. Owing to their peaceful nature, women are <sup>more</sup> less likely to fight wars sustain peace ✓
- b. Women make more holistic decisions ✓
- c. Women will overhaul the social system to make it more equitable ✓
- d. Racial and class discrimination already exist in male rule which can be eliminated through female rule ✓
- e. Women are more likely to conserve environment for future generations ✓
- f. Women will make better policies for work-life balance and ensure both parents involvement in child-rearing ✓

6. Conclusion



"Women hold up half the sky" (Mao Zedong)

During the cultural revolution, Communist Party leader supported equality of women and liberated them for the first time. This also indicates that women already share half the burden despite being out of leadership. With time, women have emerged in leadership roles and proved themselves to be not only good but better leaders than their male counterparts. They have paved way and empowered women to become leaders. Women can make the world a better place by bringing much needed peace and equality in the world. Even though it will not end all the world problems and or bring absolute equality of people. Nevertheless, women as leaders will empower others and will better invest in human development.

As women will make the world better as they are less likely to indulge in wars, more likely to make humane decisions, strengthen the weak, eliminate patriarchal violence and ensure environmental sustainability. However, women can be brutal and history have indicated that all women there have been women leaders who barely promoted the feminist cause where white-women resorted to class and racial discrimination. It is also Women in public sphere will also be consequential for private household. Despite of all



imperfections, women are likely to avoid war, make holistic and equitable decisions, eliminate inequality, conserve environment and equally distribute male-female responsibilities in public and private sphere. Therefore, women in leadership makes the world better.

Women The world has seen women in leadership positions and it can be gauged how they can transform the future world. Women are domestic workers, workers at factories, managers, consumers, investors, entrepreneurs, prime ministers, presidents and much more. They have proved themselves to be efficient and productive. Politics would be more collegial, business more productive, communities healthier, empowering women would make the world a better place (Dee Myers, former White House Press Secretary).

On the flip side, women can maintain the status quo or make the world worse. Margaret Thatcher made no difference to women's cause at all.

However, women's role is increasing in various fields where they are challenging the status quo and overhauling the existing system.



Women avoid wars and violence. It is a psychological characteristic of women that they do not indulge in wars. The contemporary wars are all fought by states who are ruled by men. "No two countries run by women would ever go to war" (Sheryl Sandberg, 2022). Furthermore, there is psychological evidence that women tend to be more collaborative and less likely to attack. Men are more overconfident individuals more likely to attack (Over DP. Johnson, Overconfidence in wargames, 2006). War in Ukraine and Palestine are a result of overconfidence of Putin and Netanyahu respectively. So it is evident that women are more likely to engage in dialogue and to avoid conflict.

Women not only avoid wars, but places 'human' at the center of decision making process. Women in <sup>private</sup> decision making take bottom-up approach to ensure holistic and human-centred decisions. Women build adopt empathetic, collaborative and consensus building leadership styles. For example, Sheikh Haseena Wazed, PM of Bangladesh successfully brought down population levels by making human security at the center of decision-making apparatus. Similarly, their policies are more effective. "Having



more women in decision-making increases the general level of public effectiveness and accountability in a country" (UNDP, Women's Participation in Decision-making, 2020). Hence, women leadership ensures humane decision-making.

By placing women at the center of decision-making, societies society is strengthened and equality is ensured. Women leaders strengthen weaker segments of the society and ensure equality in treatment. Women in position provides fair and equitable treatment. "The mere presence of female leader relative to male leader leads to fair treatment in the organization" (Tashi, My Fair Lady? Inferring Org. Trust from mere presence of Women in Leadership roles, 2021). Thus, appointing women in leadership roles will lead to a more fair and equitable society.

Fair Equality of treatment will eliminate patriarchal violence against women. Patriarchal violence involves catcalling, sexual harassment, rape and mansplaining. Women leaders are key to end this violence. Introduction of domestic violence laws, anti-harassment



laws, and anti-rape laws are results of ~~pro~~ women in legislations. The presence of women in parliaments leads to conversation about gender-sensitive ~~pot~~ in policy making. This eliminates the likelihood and existence of violence against women.

Ending patriarchal violence will pave way to important humanitarian concerns like environmental degradation. Women leaders ensures sustainability of future generations by ensuring safe environments. That is why women take active interest in environmental protection. Women ~~not~~ closely associates with nature and makes culture of preservation of environment for future generations (Ujal Das, Role of Women in environmental protection, 2022).

Similarly, most environmental activists are women. For examples, Greta Thunberg, Rachel Carson, Jane Goodall among many others are playing key role for the protection of environment. Therefore, women are essential to ensure safe and sustainable environment.

In addition to conserving environment, women ~~will~~ also empowers households to be equitable ~~th~~ Division of roles in



a household will be equal which will eliminate gender stereotypes. Women's ~~series~~ as contributions and their ability to multitask is applauded.

Benazir Bhutto, Jacinda Arden are leading examples of managing households and public offices. Examples are their success has established that women in public sphere can manage both works at a time and so men can do the same. This empowers households right from the beginning.

### The world

Despite of exemplary women leader, the world will not be a better place if women ruled it as women can be brutal and resort to war. There is a ~~psye~~ stereotype that woman seeks peace more than war. However, it is not true as women can be as brutal as men and resort to war. Women counters stereotype and by acting tough and waging wars as a result. A book, **Why Leaders Fight**, examined gender differences in military aggression from 1875 to 2004. It found that 36% female leaders initiated at least one militarized dispute, while only 30% male leaders did the same (2015).



So, women who lead nations have the same risk propensity as their male counterparts.

It is not only women who make humane decisions as humanity and empathy is not gendered. Everything will not change for better if women are in power. Since it is a feminist perspective that men and women are alike and equal, it is unlikely that a female ruled world would be much different. "I don't think anything would change as empathy do not depend on gender at all (Marjane Satrapi, Persepolis). It can be inferred that people with same experiences and same level of sensitivity ends up being the same person. If women can make humane decisions, so can men regardless of their gender. United Nations was founded by men and it places human at the center of its entire charter and is working. So, humanity is not gendered.

It is not essential that women would help the cause of women as there have been many women leaders who barely did anything for gender equality. As women work similarly to



men, -they are unlikely to do anything more for women as compared to men. Margaret Thatcher is -the leading example of how she barely helped -the feminist cause. They also resort to character assassination of other female leaders. Sheikh Hasina Wazed in her electoral campaigns character-assassinated female opposition leaders. Even some AI images of female opposition leaders in inappropriate attires were shared online. This indicates -that female leaders can be equally disruptive for equality.

Women leaders might eliminate some patriarchal violence and gender discrimination, but -they will unleash other forms of discrimination. It is much likely that -the world will be run by middle-class white-women who will discriminate against people-of-colour. Marxist feminists argue against such discrimination by other women. Nickie Haley, Marine Le Pen are examples of such leaders. Nickie Haley despite of being of Indian origin, have ignored -the concerns of women of color. Thus discrimination will continue where gender discrimination will morph into other forms of racial and class discrimination.



Women leaders with power greed are unlikely to champion environmental concerns of the world. Power contest of power and geopolitics will override environmental concerns. Women leaders are equally neglecting environmental concerns as men. Currently there are 30 women head of states (World Population Review, 2024). However, none of these states show or leads any climate change concerns. They are involved in parochial domestic politics with no regards to climate change at all. As a result women are less represented in green transition. Globally, there were only 62 women for every 100 men considered green talent (Global Green Skills Report, 2022). So, despite popular belief, there is not much women are doing to tackle the climate crisis.

There is a growing concern that instead of empowering households, absent mothers lead to catastrophic consequences for the society. Since women are traditionally not believed to be nurturers responsible for bringing up children, there is a growing concern that women will neglect their primary job of being caregivers. It also emphasizes that no one will be holding the fort at home. "It would change the



presumption that there's someone at home to sort out all the problems" (Athens Donald) ✓ ~~A~~ Social environ Neglect of children and household will have its consequences which will be destructive for children's development. This will result in increase in loneliness pandemic at home. Hence, absence of both parents, specifically mothers, will be destructive for society.

Despite destructive and imperfect consequences of female rule in the world, only women in leadership positions can bring much needed peace in the world. Owing to their peaceful nature, women are less likely to resort to war. History have shown that women in peace process improves peace process. For past 30 years, 13% negotiators were female. In their Due to their participation, sustainability of peace process was improved. ~~There~~ (Helga Schmid, Women's Leadership in Peace building and Conflict Prevention, 2021). Moreover, there is less risk of the peace agreement falling apart. In the same study, Schmid argues that where women are absent, peace agreements carry a lot higher risk of falling apart and relapse into conflict becomes more likely. So, it is evident that



women are not only negotiate for peace, but sustain peace as well.

After sustaining peace, ~~and~~ internationally, women lawmakers make holistic policies and decisions domestically. ~~It is not only~~ Men might make ~~some~~ humane decisions, it is the women that take a more holistic approach in making decisions, central that is centered around ~~war~~ humans.

Bangladesh made significant progress in reducing stunted children under ~~Shiekh~~ Hasina Wazid. She introduced long-term strategies in nutrition-sensitive sectors such as education, maternal health, ending open defecation and improving hygiene while also diversifying agricultural needs. This holistic approach, one of its kind, successfully improved human development indicators and reduced population growth. Since women ~~experience~~ suffer most from such issues, they are more likely to adopt holistic policies thus targetting the most vulnerable section.

By making more holistic policies, women will overhaul the social system to make it more equitable. While there are women leaders who did not do much to ~~female~~ female cause, there are plenty more



women leaders that are empowering societies while fighting for the female cause. Michelle Bachelet, first woman President of Chile, states that transformation is only possible through changing the way of decision-making and shaping policies through inclusion and participation. "In other words, through feminist leadership" she later served as UN High Commissioner for Human rights, thus continuing her struggle for an equitable society. Similarly, Malala Yousafzai is the biggest advocate of women's education, and according to her only education can transform the society and for better. Therefore, it is women leaders who are changing the social system.

Racial and class discrimination is not unique to female leaders, but it exists during male leadership with an add-on of gender discrimination. In fact, women suffer from double disadvantage. In male rule, for instance women of colour face twin disadvantage: firstly, for being a woman, secondly, for being non-white. Similarly a poor, brown woman faces tripple disadvantage. Third Wave Feminists have raised their voice for layers of oppression that females face.



This oppression will end through female rule. There will be "no cat sexual assault, no catcalling, no mansplaining" (Sofia Hagen). Since women are more vulnerable to discrimination, they are more likely to eliminate it when in authority. Female representation systematically change gender stereotypes and hence eliminate various forms of discrimination (Lawson, Hiring women into senior leadership, 2022). Thus, women in leadership position eliminate discrimination.

Women not only end discrimination, but more likely to conserve environment for future generations. They are more likely to work on environmental protection as it impacts women disproportionately. They are more likely to advocate for climate change treaties. Countries with a bigger share of women in parliament are more prone to ratify environmental treaties and adopt policies that address climate change (Gender Equality and State Environmentalism, 2005). They are more likely to strive for curbing emissions and invest in renewable energy. Women led-firms make more efforts to curb emissions and have better results for environment, society and governance. (Support for female entrepreneurs in Europe, 2022)



Therefore, women leaders make the world better by protecting the environment.

In addition to environmental policies, women leaders make better policies for work-life balance. They also ensure that both parents are involved in child-rearing. There is a misconception that women in public sphere will neglect households which is not true. In fact, women in parliament advocate for balancing work-life through various policy actions. Maternal leaves, child care at workplaces and Paternal leaves are all results of women legislation. Their presence in parliament led to legislation on such important laws that ensures work-life balance and effective child-rearing where both parents are present.

To sum up, women makes the world better by establishing peace, eliminating biases and holistic policies. It can be argued that women can be as bad as men or accomplice in bad policy-making. However, it is untrue. Women leaders have led by example in sustaining peace, making humane policies and ending discrimination. Hence they make the world ~~present~~ better through their leadership.

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