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GENDER EQUALITY

Outline

A. Introduction:

There are many arguments that prove gender equality empowers nation, such as reducing poverty, decreasing gender based violence, and enhancing social cohesion.

B. What is Gender Equality?

Gender equality refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys.

According to world Economic Forum, the global gender gap score in 2024 of all 146 countries stands at 68.50%.

Gender equality is essential to achieve peaceful societies, with full human potential and sustainable development.

C. Empowering nations through gender equality

a. Gender equality can enhance economic growth

Example: According to UN, it is estimate that closing the gender gap could give the global economy

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a. USD 7 trillion boost.

b. Reduction in gender based violence.

Example: According to UN, tracking budget allocation for gender equality.

c. Reduction of poverty

Example: Women make up about 43 percent of the agricultural labour force in developing countries.

d. Gender equality enhanced political participation

Example: As of 2023, women's representation in Parliaments across Europe and central Asia stands at 26.1 percent.

e. Improved child welfare

Example: Data from 68 countries indicates that a woman's education is a key factor in determining a child's survival.

f. Gender equality focus on social issues

Example: In East and southeast Asia, women legislators address women's issues at a higher rate than men, regardless of party affiliation.

g. Increased voter engagement

Example: In Australia, the election of more women to local councils has been associated with increased community engagement.

h. Gender equality improved health outcomes.

Example: UNICEF's gender transformative programming has resulted in improved health services and reduced gender based discrimination.

i. Gender equality promotes educational advancement.

Example: According to Unicef, gender equitable education systems help keep both girls and boys in school, building prosperity for entire countries.

j. Environmental sustainability

Example: According to UN, data from 28 developed and developing countries indicates that with higher female political participation are more likely to set aside protected land areas.

k. Improved corporate performance

Example: A study of Fortune 500 companies found that firms with gender diversity had a 35% better return than with lower diversity.

l. Enhanced innovation and creativity

Example: The UN women's case study series on innovative financing showcases.

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m. Advancement in sport and representation

Example: The 2024 Paris Olympics is set to achieve full gender parity, making a significant milestone in sport history.

n. Enhanced social cohesion

Example: Unicef's programs promoting equitable water, sanitation, and hygiene systems have strengthened community cohesion.

D. Conclusion:

Essay

Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world.

Gender equality is, first and foremost, a human right. It implies that women, men, boys and girls of all classes and races participate as equals and have equal value. They ^{enjoy} equal access to

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to resources, freedoms and opportunities to exercise control. The gender equality empowers the nations by taking good actions in many fields. To begin with this, gender equality plays a very significant role in the economic growth. Such as women make or influence 80% of consumer-product purchase decisions.

In addition to this, promoting and achieving gender equality is a critical element of the prevention of gender based violence. Moreover, gender equality is a powerful catalyst in reducing poverty and driving sustainable development.

Furthermore, women's political participation is a fundamental prerequisite for gender equality and genuine democracy. Besides this, gender equality in child welfare can help protect children from abuse and exploitation.

Likewise, gender equality plays a vital role in social issues. There are many arguments that prove gender equality empowers nation, such as reducing poverty, decreasing gender based violence, and enhancing social cohesion.

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Gender equality refers to the equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities of women and men and girls and boys. Despite progress over generations, women still fare worse than men in labour markets. According to the World Economic Forum, the global gender score in 2024 of all 146 countries stands at 68.5%. Gender equality for all people is a matter of fairness and justice. Gender equality is a principle of international law recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Gender equality is essential to achieve peaceful societies with full human potential and sustainable development.

To begin with, gender equality leads to enhanced economic growth. Gender equality and equal rights are not just a matter of equity; they are also of paramount economic importance. Improving gender equality can make labour markets more competitive. Better educated women can undertake higher value economic activity. Countries are rarely wealthy

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If they have poor gender equality in education. According to UN, it is estimate that closing the gender gap could give the global economy a USD 7 trillion boost. Thus, by reducing barriers and ensuring equal opportunities, gender equality creates a more inclusive economy.

Adelitionally, gender equality also plays a role in reducing gender-based violence.

Economic independence reduce women's vulnerability to violence by allowing them to leave abusive situation. women in leadership positions advocate for stronger policies against gender base violence. For instance, according to UN, tracking budge allocation for gender equality.

As of 2023, only 27 countries have comprehensive systems to track and make budgetary allocation for gender equality. Thus, by promoting equal rights, gender equality directly addresses the root causes of GBV.

Moreover, gender equality is important for reducing poverty. By ensuring equal access to opportunities and decision making for all,

societies can create healthier and just economies. In economies where gender equality is greater in terms of both opportunities and benefits, there is higher economic growth and a better quality of life. When women have equal access to employment opportunities, the labor force expands, boosting productivity and economic output. Women make up about 43 percent of the agricultural labour force in developing countries. Thus, gender equality creates a pathway for long-term poverty reduction.

Furthermore, gender equality enhances political participation by removing structural barriers. It facilitates women's direct engagement in public decision making and is a means of ensuring better accountability to women. Financial independence allows women to fund campaigns and participate in political life without dependency. Legal frameworks that mandate gender quotas ^{or} equal representation in political bodies create opportunities for women to enter politics. As of 2023, women's repre-

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Representation in parliaments across Europe and central Asia stands at 26.1 percent. Thus, gender equality creates a move in inclusive political landscape.

Likewise, gender equality significantly improves child welfare. Child health improves when women and girls have equal access to education and financial well-being. Gender equality policies that empower women reduce the economic pressures forcing children into labor. Gender equality in education, which breaks the cycle of poverty and improves future generation's prospects. Data from the 68 countries indicates that a woman's education is a key factor in determining the child's survival.

Thus, gender equality directly benefits children

Even more, gender equality addresses a wide range of social issues. **Equal** health care access reduces maternal mortality, improves reproductive health, and ensures better health outcomes for all genders. Gender equality encourages ^{creating} safe, inclusive workplaces where everyone can thrive

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without facing discrimination. Encouraging women's participation in politics helps ensure diverse perspectives in decision making processes. In East and south-east Asia, women legislators address women's issues at a higher rate than men, regardless of party affiliation. Thus, gender equality promotes a more just and inclusive society.

Besides this, gender equality has led to increased voter engagement. By this, it empowers women and creates more inclusive political environments. When women are equally represented in political offices, it helps, it helps build trust in the political system, encouraging more citizens - especially women - to engage with the voting process. Gender equality in political participation leads to the prioritization of issues that matter to women. This relevance encourages more women to vote. In Australia, the election of more women to local councils has been associated with increased community engagement. Thus, gender equality in politics promotes a more inclusive electoral system, which

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increases voter engagement

Moreover, gender equality significantly improves health outcomes. Higher levels of gender equality were associated with better health outcomes and reduced mortality rates. Gender equality ensures that both men and women have equal access to essential health services. Gender equality ensures that health policies address the specific needs of all genders, reducing disparities. Unicef's gender transformative programming has resulted in improved health services and reduced gender based discrimination. Therefore, gender equality enhances health outcomes by ensuring inclusive healthcare access.

Furthermore, gender equality promotes educational advancement in several impactful ways. Investing in infrastructure, scholarships, and targeted initiatives can mitigate disparities and enable girls to pursue education freely. Gender equality reduces income disparities, contributing to a more balanced distribution of wealth and economic stability. Equal access to

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education leads to the better academic performance and the development of critical skills, benefiting ^{entire} societies. According to Unicef, gender equitable education systems help keep both girls and boys in school, building prosperity for entire countries. Thus, gender equality in education leads to the economic growth.

Besides this, gender equality contributes to environmental sustainability. Gender equality is a cornerstone for environmental and climate justice. Women are disproportionately affected by climate change but are also crucial in developing adaptive strategies for resilience. Women often have critical knowledge of local ecosystems and play a key role in managing resources. According to UN, data from 25 developed and developing countries indicates that with higher female political participation are more likely to set aside protected land areas. Therefore, gender equality and environmental sustainability are deeply interconnected.

Even more, gender equality improves corporate performance. Companies with a higher proportion of gender diversity in top management may perform better. Companies known for promoting gender equality often enjoy a stronger brand reputation and customer loyalty. Companies with gender balanced leadership consistently report higher profitability and shareholders returns. A study of Fortune 500 companies found that firms with gender diversity had a 35% better return than with lower diversity. So, gender equality is not just a moral imperative but a strategic advantage that drives sustainable growth in corporations.

Moreover, gender equality enhances innovation and creativity by fostering diverse perspective. Increased participation by women improves the innovation performance of organizations and societies. Gender diversity helps businesses understand the needs of a wider audience, leading to more innovative and market relevant products. Inclusive teams that embrace

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gender equality often collaborate more effectively leveraging multiple perspectives to develop breakthrough ideas. The UN Women's case study series on innovative financing showcases. Thus, gender equality fosters a more inclusive work culture.

Besides this, advancing gender equality in sports and representation has significant societal benefits. Participating in sports can help break-down gender stereotypes, and contribute to the development of leadership. Gender equality promotes balanced participation at all levels, from grassroots to professional sports. Increased representation in sports inspires the next generation of athletes and challenges traditional gender norms. The 2024 Paris Olympics is set to achieve full gender parity, making a significant milestone in sport history. Thus, advancing gender equality in sports and representation inspires future generations.

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Last but certainly not the least, gender equality enhances social cohesion by promoting fairness. Gender equality and gender sensitivity should be considered crosscutting dimensions of a cohesive society. Equal rights and opportunities help eliminate systemic discrimination, ensuring all individuals can participate full in society. Gender equality promotes values of respect, empathy, and cooperation, essential for social harmony. Unicef's programs promoting equitable water, sanitation, and hygiene systems have strengthened community cohesion. So, gender equality is critical for building cohesive and peaceful societies.

To conclude this, these are the arguments that support gender equality's role in empowering nations. Gender equality entails women and men having equal opportunities and equal outcomes in life, including access to, ownership of and control over resources and decision-making. To begin with, gender equality has a profound impact on voter

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engagement, influencing both voter turnout and political participation. Additionally, gender equality significantly improves health outcomes across multiple dimensions. Moreover, gender equality significantly promotes educational advancement. Furthermore, gender equality and environmental sustainability are deeply interconnected. Likewise, gender equality in the workplace has been shown to enhance corporate performance. Even more, gender equality significantly enhances innovation and creativity through diverse perspectives and broader talent pools. Besides this, advancement in gender equality within sports have led to increased female participation and representation. Although there are many challenges in achieving gender equality, applying these principles can help achieve it more easily, playing an important role in societal progress.

