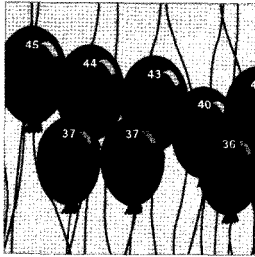


Introduction	9
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Part One: Women in the World



1 States Against Discrimination	14
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Most of the world's governments are committed, on paper, to full equality for women.

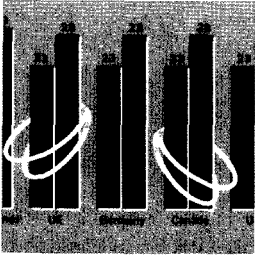
2 The State of Women	16
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There is no easy way to compare the status of women around the world; nonetheless there are ways of shedding light on women's status and quality of life.

3 In Their Place	18
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Women everywhere face *de facto* restrictions on their presence, dress, and private and public behavior. But in many countries, "keeping women in their place" is a literal undertaking.

Part Two: Families



4 Households	22
---------------------	----

The nature of families and of households is undergoing quite extraordinary changes. Both are smaller; more are headed by women, and more people live alone.

5 Marriage and Divorce	24
-------------------------------	----

Most women and men in the world spend most of their lives married. However, the nature of marriage varies widely from place to place, and between men and women.

6 Lesbian Rights	26
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Some governments are slowly responding to pressure to offer protection and recognition for lesbian and gay rights.

7 Domestic Violence	28
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For millions of women, the home is the most dangerous place they could be.

8 Murder	30
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Violence against women often escalates when the woman tries to leave an abusive relationship – this is when violent partners are most likely to turn to murder.

Part Three: Birthrights



9 Motherhood	34
---------------------	----

Women are having fewer children than did their mothers and grandmothers.

10 Contraception	36
-------------------------	----

Access to reliable contraceptives is a powerful force in advancing women's liberation and autonomy.

11 Abortion	38
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There are about 25 million legal abortions in the world each year, and another 20 million unsafe and illegal abortions.

12 Maternal Mortality	40
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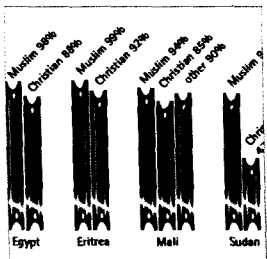
Each year, about 200 million women become pregnant; over half a million will die as a result.

13 Son Preference	42
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A cultural preference for sons over daughters is almost universal. In some places, this preference is acted out in ways that produce demographic distortion.

Part Four: Body Politics

44



14 Breast Cancer

46

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women, with over 1.5 million new cases diagnosed each year.

15 HIV/AIDS

48

Over 30 million adults in the world are HIV infected. Seventy percent of them live in Sub-Saharan Africa. More than half are women.

16 Sports

50

Notions of "appropriate" masculinity and femininity are deeply embedded within, and structured by, participation in sports.

17 Beauty

52

International beauty contents promote and export a white, Western standard of beauty. Globalization is accelerating the adoption of these standards around the world.

18 Under the Knife

54

An estimated 130 million girls and women in the world have undergone genital cutting; each year, another 2 million join their ranks.

19 Global Sex Trafficking

56

Women's bodies are commodities in the global sex trade, a multi-billion dollar industry.

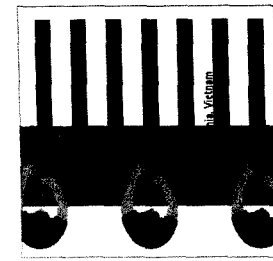
20 Rape

58

Women everywhere live under the threat of rape – often a threat greatest in their own homes and from men they know.

Part Five: Work

60



21 Working for Wages

62

Increasingly women are working outside the home for pay, but they are typically paid less than men for their labour.

22 Workplaces

64

Typically women are employed in different occupations from men, and are over-represented in a limited number of occupations.

23 Unequal Opportunities

66

Women everywhere have to balance "family" and "work" demands in ways that men seldom do. In most countries, they get little help doing so.

24 Fieldwork

68

The world's agricultural labour force is shrinking but women make up 40 percent of the labour force that remains.

25 Unpaid Work

70

The unpaid labor of sustaining families and households represents a substantial part of daily work that is usually overlooked in official accounts.

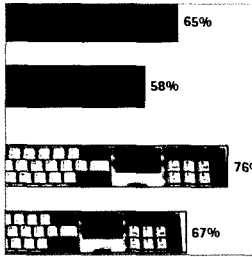
26 Migration

72

Economic globalization is accelerating the flow of migrant labor. About 200 million workers and their dependents work in countries outside their own.

Part Six: To Have and To Have Not

74



27 Water

76

The lack of safe water and sanitation affects billions of people worldwide.

28 Literacy

78

Nearly a billion people in the world are illiterate, about two-thirds of whom are women.

29 School

80

More girls are in primary school than ever before, but still in lower proportions than boys.

30 Higher Education

82

More women are going on to higher education, although in most countries it is still a preserve of the elite.

31 Wired Women

84

The internet is a powerful agent of social change but race, age, gender and class digital divides are found everywhere.

32 Property

86

The majority of the world's women do not equally own, inherit, or control property, land and wealth.

33 Poverty

88

Most of the world's population is poor. Women are the majority of the world's poor. The poorest of the poor are women.

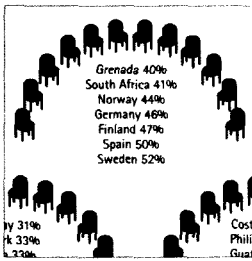
34 Debt

90

Women are the "shock-absorbers" of economic crises, bearing the brunt of government cut-backs in spending on social and health services.

Part Seven: Power

92



35 The Vote

94

In most countries, men gained the right to vote before women did. Almost everywhere, voting rights for women were resisted, sometimes fiercely.

36 Women in Government

96

Overall, the countries with the highest numbers of women in elected office are those that actively enforce policies promoting gender equality.

37 Seats of Power

98

An increasing number of countries and political parties ensure that women are now visible as candidates and in national legislatures.

38 Crisis Zones

100

Women bear specific burdens in regions fractured by wars, insurgencies, ethnic conflicts, famine, and economic collapse.

39 Women in the Military

102

Military service is traditionally the preserve of men – and they have fought hard to keep it that way.

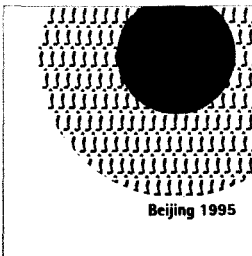
40 Feminist Organizing

104

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead

Part Eight: World Tables

106



Demography and Health

108

School, Work, Power

116

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