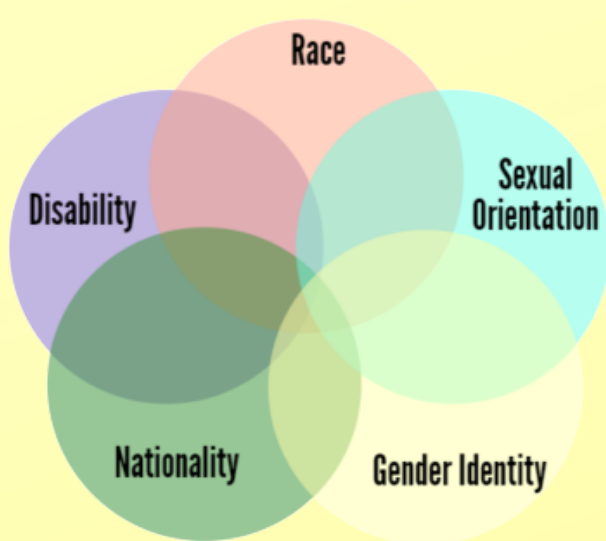


10 WAYS TO ADVANCE WOMEN & GENDER EQUALITY



1) **Learn about feminism.** Take a moment to explore resources that may help you better understand feminism, the differing feminist viewpoints, and why it is a critical call to action to advance society. If you are new to the topic, you might want to start with the [impact of patriarchy in our everyday lives](#). If you are ready to dive deeper, start exploring the breadth of feminist thought and action through [recommended books](#).

2) **Recognize the different lived experiences of women from different backgrounds (intersectionality).** While women may have some shared experiences due to the nature of being women in a patriarchal society, women's experiences also vastly differ depending on their identities such as gender identity, race/ethnicity, body size, ability/disability, socio-economic status, age, etc. Without a basic understanding of intersectionality, we may unintentionally marginalize and oppress women by erasing important aspects of their lived experiences. Explore a [curated list of resources about intersectionality](#).



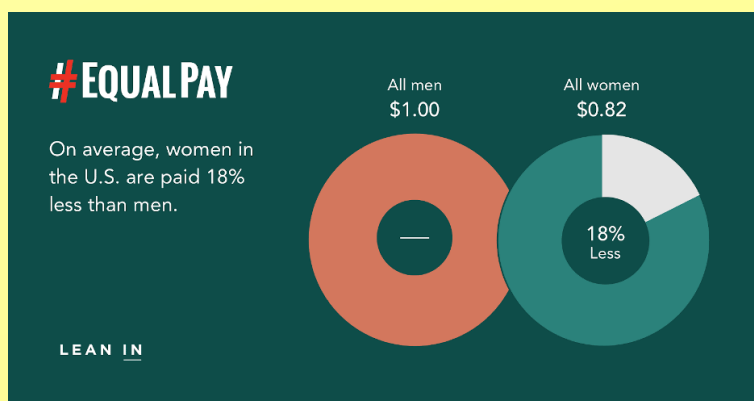
3) **Explore media that centers women's narratives.** Societal beliefs and cultural norms are communicated (often subtly) through all forms of media. This not only includes the formats through which we obtain our news and our participation in social media, but the shows and movies we watch, the music we listen to, the books we read, and the games we play. Learn more about women's media advocacy work through [Women In Media](#), explore feminist narratives through [film](#), and learn from women thought leaders through [podcasts](#) and [blogs](#).



4) **Center women's voices.** Women are often talked over, interrupted, unheard, or disbelieved. Intentionally centering women's voices entails paying attention and creating space to hear them. Women know themselves and their realities better than anyone else. Listen to and believe what they tell you about their lived experiences without correcting, doubting, or scrutinizing them.

5) **Respond to gender-based microaggressions.** Learn to recognize and intervene when you encounter the [slights, microaggressions, and other marginalizing practices](#) that women face everyday.

6) **Mind the gap!** Maintain awareness of gender gaps in pay, employment, politics, and other sectors of society. Read up on [current research](#) and advocacy efforts.



7) **Remember that gender is not binary.** Understandings of gender continually evolve. In the course of a person's life, the interests, activities, clothing and professions that are considered the domain of one gender or another evolve in ways both small and large. [Learn about the spectrum of gender and gender identities.](#)

8) **Raise your awareness of male privilege.** Privilege often lies below our level of awareness. Increase your understanding by reading through this list of [30+ Examples of Male Privilege](#).



9) **Disrupt gendered ideas about jobs and careers.** Encourage ALL children to pursue whatever careers they want! Empower kids at a young age to follow their dreams and not listen to what society tells them they can or can't do based on outdated gender roles. Start with [a list of children's books](#) "to empower the girls in your life and inspire the boys."



10) **Support women-owned businesses.** A community that was organized to uplift women's entrepreneurship, The Women's Creative, has published a list of women-owned businesses in St. Louis! [Click here to view the list & start shopping!](#)

