Australian women call for change

The Federal Government must get serious about jobs and skills by unlocking the power of the female workforce with action on gender equality.

Australian women are the most educated in the world yet rank 38th for economic participation and opportunity. Women with children get an average of $2M less in their lifetime earnings than men with children.

By making it easier for women to work and improving the pay and conditions for care economy workers like aged care staff, disability carers and early childhood educators, we can build more equal opportunities for Australian families while securing our nation's economic future.

The future of work is inextricably linked to the future of care and so we must better support essential workers and their families while they support ours.

Hon. Julie Bishop
Kate Carnell AO
Georgie Dent
Kate Eastman AM SC
Hon. Kate Ellis
Jacqui Emery
Nicola Forrest AO
Marina Go
Tanya Hosch
Ming Long AM
Hon. Jenny Macklin
Wendy McCarthy AO
Sam Mostyn AO
Professor Kathryn North AC
Nydol Nyuon
Michele O’Neil
June Oscar AO
Mary Patetsos
Carol Schwartz AO
Fiona Simson
Professor Miranda Stewart
Natasha Stott Despoja AO
Lucy Turnbull AO
Natalie Walker
Danielle Wood

The change we seek

Early Years
A national commitment for an evidence-based early learning system that is universally accessible and high quality, delivered by securely employed and properly paid educators and coordinated from infancy through to primary school.

Government funded paid parental leave at the minimum wage for 26 weeks, shared between partners. Phased up to 52 weeks by 2030.

Women’s Safety
Change the National Employment Standards to include a minimum 10 days per year of paid family and domestic violence leave.

Invest in preventative and crisis housing for older women and people experiencing family and domestic violence (including those on temporary visas).

Implement in full all 55 recommendations from the Federal Sex Discrimination Commissioner’s Respect@Work report.

Financial Equality
Change the Fair Work Act to include gender equality as an express object, remove the need for a ‘male comparator’ and establish a new Fair Work Commission gender equality panel.

Change income supports which disproportionately impact women, single parents and children based on the principle of ‘do no further harm’ to lift women and children out of poverty.

Women in Leadership
Change the Workplace Gender Equality Act to require public reporting by all organisations with more than 20 employees on all indicators including gender pay gap, cultural background and progress towards women in leadership targets.

Commit to targets and public reporting on women in leadership in the political and public service sector.

Support and fund all seven recommendations of the Wiyi Yani U Thangani Report.

For more information visit www.minderoo.org/women-for-progress-2022