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**Section 1:** Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

**Section 2:** The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this Article.

**Section 3:** This Amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

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## **A handful of rights for women? ... or full and permanent equality?**

**D**espite the many rights that women have won over the past decade, equal opportunity and equal treatment under the law are incomplete and impermanent. Limited equality has been granted by dozens of laws, regulations and court interpretations that let too many abuses slip through the cracks.

Worse, women's rights could be revoked if changes occur in the political balance of Congress, the philosophy of the Administration, or the make-up of the Supreme Court.

The Equal Rights Amendment will make women's gains permanent. Once equality of men and women is written into our fundamental law, only an overwhelming consensus of the American people can remove it.

**W**ithout the ERA in the Constitution: The shift of a few legislative votes could wipe out equal employment opportunity, equal access to credit, and equal education.

One or two appointments to the Supreme Court could wipe out rights that you consider fundamental - rights which actually depend on court amplifications of ambiguous laws and legal principles.

**W**ith the ERA in the Constitution: Equal rights and opportunity for women will be fundamental law, as much a part of our system as the right to vote, freedom of the press, and the separation of church and state.



## **But they couldn't take away our rights now... or could they?**

**M**any women's rights laws were enacted by small margins.

The law that gives a woman the right to sue an employer who discriminates against her would not be on the books if three Senators had changed their votes.

The breakthrough federal law against sex discrimination would have been filibustered to death if only two more Senators had voted against it.

Victories won in the Supreme Court are equally vulnerable. Appointments within the past ten years have cut many of our victories to one-vote margins, and we have suffered some important defeats.

Changes in the courts and legislatures have already begun to erode our victories. ERA will protect our rights.

## **ERA means permanent equality.**

**T**he Equal Rights Amendment, once written into the Constitution, will put women's right to equality beyond the reach of politics and changing policy. It will extend the American ideal that all people are equal.

Furthermore, the Equal Rights Amendment will give a clear constitutional basis for overturning dozens of state laws still on the books that fail to give equal treatment to men and women.

It's time to gather together all our piecemeal victories won in the legislatures and the courts, and to engrave them into the Constitution with one simple, comprehensive statement that gender will not be a cause for discrimination.

## The will of the people: "Yes" to ERA

## Who supports ERA?

**M**ost Americans want the Equal Rights Amendment added to the Constitution. Even in states where the legislatures have rejected the Amendment, polls show that citizens favor it by heavy margins.

No impartial state-wide poll anywhere in the country shows a majority opposed to the Equal Rights Amendment.

But the Equal Rights Amendment is not yet law. Why? Because a few state legislators, ignoring the wishes of their constituents, have bottled it up in committees, tied it up in parliamentary technicalities, and used backroom political pressure to swing votes against it.

## ERAmerica makes your "Yes" count.

**E**RAmerica is the national coalition speaking for the pro-ERA majority. ERAmerica will not stop until the last ratification is won.

But ERAmerica needs your help to organize and sustain both a nationwide campaign and intense lobbying efforts in key unratified states.

Now is the time for you to support the ERA and ERAmerica with your contribution.

Liz Carpenter and Elly Peterson,  
Honorary Co-chairs

Sharon Percy Rockefeller and Helen Milliken,  
Co-chairs

### ERAmerica

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**T**he Equal Rights Amendment has been endorsed by Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford and Carter.

It has also been endorsed by more than 200 civic, religious, educational, labor, and women's organizations including:

Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union  
American Association of University Women  
American Baptist Churches, U.S.A.  
American Bar Association  
American Civil Liberties Union  
American Federation of Government Employees  
AFL-CIO and affiliated unions  
American Federation of Teachers  
American Federation of Television and Radio Artists  
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees  
Americans for Democratic Action  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Home Economics Association  
American Jewish Committee  
American Jewish Congress  
American Nurses' Association  
American Veterans Committee  
American Women's Clergy Association  
American Women in Radio and Television  
B'nai B'rith Women  
Brotherhood of Railway, Airline and Steamship Clerks,  
Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees  
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
Church Women United, National Board of Managers  
Coalition of Labor Union Women  
Common Cause  
Communications Workers of America  
Democratic National Committee  
Federally Employed Women  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
General Federation of Women's Clubs  
Girls Clubs of America, Inc.  
Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.  
Homemakers Equal Rights Association  
International Association of Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers  
International Ladies' Garment Workers Union  
International Union of Electrical, Radio and Machine  
Workers  
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights  
League of Women Voters of the United States  
Lutheran Church in America  
Mexican American Women's National Association  
National Assembly of Women Religious  
National Association for the Advancement of Colored  
People

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National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, Inc.  
National Association of Cuban American Women  
National Black Feminist Organization  
National Coalition of American Nuns  
National Conference of Puerto Rican Women  
National Conference of State Legislatures  
National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Council of Negro Women  
National Education Association  
National Federation of Business and Professional  
Women's Clubs  
National Federation of Democratic Women  
National Governors' Conference  
National Hook-up of Black Women, Inc.  
National Organization for Women  
National Woman's Party  
National Women's Political Caucus  
Newspaper Guild  
Organization of Chinese American Women  
Republican National Committee  
Soroptimist International of the Americas, Inc.  
Southern Christian Leadership Conference  
The Links, Inc.  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation  
United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agriculture  
Workers of America  
United Church of Christ  
United Food and Commercial Workers International  
Union  
United Methodist Church  
United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.  
United States Conference of Mayors  
United Steelworkers of America  
Women in Communications, Inc.  
Women's Equity Action League  
Young Women's Christian Association  
Zonta International

**The Equal Rights Amendment is supported  
by a majority of the American people,  
who realize it is a matter of simple justice.**

**ERAmerica**

1525 M Street NW, Suite 206  
Washington, D.C. 20005



**For full  
and permanent  
equality...**

**... The  
Equal Rights  
Amendment**