Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada

88th Session, 2020-2021

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF WOMEN'S WEEK

Resolution Number: 142

Authored By: Intern Beltran, Senator Ramirez, and Senator Casildo-Rios

Sponsored By: The Committee on Diversity Equity, and Inclusion

Whereas, the University of Nevada, Reno does not hold an event focused on women empowerment despite the disproportionate rate in which women suffer from dysphoria of body image, suicide, eating disorders, reproductive health, and self-esteem for each educational college;

Whereas, given how recent equal women's rights have been integrated, women have never been entirely successful when taking a stance on social and economic inequality proportionate to how often they face it;

Whereas, the Women's March efforts inspired women to run for positions in power and ultimately ended up making history;[1]

Whereas, in Nevada, the Women's March launched a major voter registration drive in 2018, and voters elected the state's first majority-women legislature;[1]

Whereas, women began taking initiative to speak up about the injustice, such as unequal wage and lack of reproductive education, which sparked the media's attention, showcasing the impact that proper advocacy and empowerment can do for a group that has been oppressed;

Whereas, according to King University, 87% of women compare their bodies to images they consume on social and traditional media and 22% feel bad about themselves if their photos are ignored and not grabbing the attention they think they deserve;[2]

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[1] https://www.vox.com/2020/1/17/21068870/2020-womens-march-washington-election-women-voting

[2] https://online.king.edu/news/social-media-and-body-image/

Whereas, according to Mental Health America, about 12 million women in the United States experiencing clinical depression each year meaning that one in every eight women can expect to develop clinical depression in their lifetime;[3]

Whereas, according to an article by Axia: Women's Health about the mental health impact of COVID-19, 83% of women report significant increase in depression and 53% of women report a significant negative impact on their mental health after COVID-19 lockdown;[4]

Whereas, women already in emotional distress and anxiety prior to the pandemic, further exacerbate stress and underscore a feeling of being alone, trapped, and helpless in the face of their fear and anxiety;[4]

Whereas, according to Governor's State University, 27% of women had reported increases in challenges related to mental illness, compared to men's 10%;[5]

Whereas, according to PubMed, 103 women from a sample of 294 women were diagnosed as having bulimia nervosa;[6]

Whereas, minority women are especially affected by eating disorders and suicide;

Whereas, according to the American Association of Suicidology, in 2014, there were 475 African American female suicides in the US;[7]

Whereas, according to WebMD, suicide deaths among black females aged 13 to 19 rose 182% between 2001 and 2017;[8]

Whereas, according to the US Department of Health and Human Services, 5.2% of Hispanic women 18 and over suffered from serious psychological distress;[9]

Whereas, other universities have been influenced by the attention women's inequality has received on social media and held events to educate their students about such topics;

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[3] https://www.mhanational.org/depression-women
[4] https://axiawh.com/resources/covid-mental-health/
[5] https://www.govst.edu/suicide-prevention/
[6] https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9697013/
[7] https://www.wellspacehealth.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/African-American-Suicide-Fact-Sheet-2016.pdf
[8] https://www.webmd.com/mental-health/news/20190626/suicide-rates-soaring-among-black-teens
[9] https://www.minorityhealth.hhs.gov/omh/browse.aspx?lvl=4&lvlid=69

Whereas, according to the University of Utah, the University of Utah holds an annual weeklong event focused on issues and challenges faced by those who identify as female or women;[10]

Whereas, according to their events calendar, The University of Oregon holds International Women's Day Celebration to provide a safe and inclusive space for students of all genders to honor women and their global cultures and stride towards gender equity and international peace;[11]

Whereas, according to their Women's Center webpage, Montana State University holds Women's History which highlights notable women in history and looks at the latest focus among today's gender historians;[12]

Whereas, according to The University of Nevada, Reno, The College of Business and The Ozmen Center for Entrepreneurship hold the Women's Entrepreneurship Symposium;[13]

Whereas, there is a lack of university run initiatives at the University of Nevada, Reno to support women and their hardships;

Whereas, deteriorating mental health, suicide, depression, eating disorders, and gender inequality among college women often goes unnoticed,

Whereas, women at the University of Nevada, Reno have spoken out about the need for education on such topics;

Whereas, ucating college students about these topics will improve the overall environment of the campus as well as aid women in their fight for equality;

Be it resolved that, the University of Nevada, Reno should create a Women's Week to draw attention to the issues of body image, self-esteem, gender inequality and celebrate the contributions of women;

Be it further resolved that, a copy of this resolution be sent to:

- Vice President of Student Services, Shannon Ellis
- ASUN President, Dominque Hall
- ASUN Vice President, Austin Brown
- University Diversity and Inclusion Officer, Eloisa Gordon-Mora
- Director of Public and Campus Relations, Kyla Kwan
- Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Priya Bajwa
- Director of Sustainability, Elizabeth Guillen

[10] http://diversity.utah.edu/ww/
[11] https://calendar.uoregon.edu/event/international_womens_day_celebration#.X6W2S2hKg2w
[12] https://www.montana.edu/women/womenshistorymonth.html
[13] https://www.unr.edu/business/initiatives/iwes

- Director of Campus Wellness, Parker Samuelson
- Program Development Specialist for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Jovonnie Esquierdo-Leal
- Director of Programming, Tara Okui
- Assistant Director of Marketing and Interns for the Department of Programming, Michala Matovina
- Assistant Director of Diversity and Inclusion, Kaeli Britt
- Medical Director of the Student Health Center, Cheryl Hug-English, M.D.
- Director of Counseling Services, Jacqueline Pistorello
- Health Center Coordinator of Operations and Outreach, Carla Franich

Adopted in Senate on February 24th, 2021

Attest:

Hope Cronan, Senate Secretary

Keegan Murphy, Speaker of the Senate