Women make up the majority of college students overall, but lag behind in several fields and in earning doctoral and professional degrees. In recent years, the government has rolled back protections for transgender students under Title IX, announcing it would dismiss complaints filed about trans students being discriminated against when attempting to use facilities that correspond with their gender.

Across the country, women professors earn less, hold lower ranking positions, and are less likely to have tenure. While women make up more than 50% of the lecturers and instructors, they comprise 36% of associate professors and only 21% of full professors. Only 2.4% of full professors are women of color.

Only 25% of college presidents are women, with more than a third leading two-year colleges.

Women are still vastly underrepresented in media, making up only 24% of the persons heard, read about, or seen in news outlets. Of the 100 top domestic grossing films in 2017, only 24% of protagonists were women. Behind the scenes, only 9% of film directors and 11% of writers were women.

While women receive over half of bachelor’s degrees awarded in biological sciences, in computer sciences (18.2%) and engineering (18.4%), the numbers are much lower. Women of color make up 16% of the U.S. population, but only earn 3% of bachelor’s degrees in engineering, 5% in computer sciences, and 6% in physical sciences.

"Feminism means that people of all genders should be able to be their true selves, make decisions that are best for themselves and their communities, and achieve their dreams."

- Angeline Echeverría
One in five women on U.S. college campuses have experienced sexual assault, and 13% of college women have been stalked.

More than one in four trans people have faced a bias-driven assault, and rates are higher for trans women and trans people of color.

#MMIWG: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls - 4 out of 5 Native Women are affected by violence, and the U.S. Department of Justice found that American Indian women face murder rates that are more than 10 times the national average.

“Carceral feminism describes an approach that sees increased policing, prosecution, and imprisonment as the primary solution to violence against women. This stance does not acknowledge that police are often purveyors of violence and that prisons are always sites of violence. Carceral feminism ignores the ways in which race, class, gender identity, and immigration status leave certain women more vulnerable to violence and that greater criminalization often places these same women at risk of state violence.” – Victoria Law

Women on average earn $41,977 as compared with the $52,146 that their male counterparts earn, losing out on $500 billion a year because of a persistent gender pay gap.

The United Nations estimates that 75% of women with disabilities are unemployed and women with disabilities who are employed often earn less than their male counterparts and women without disabilities.

Marriage and parenthood are associated with higher wages for men but not for women.

The U.S. is one of only four countries in the world that do not provide paid parental leave to all workers.

In 1972, 90% of women’s teams’ coaches were women. Title IX helped increase women’s participation in sports and increased coaches’ salaries, but in 2015, the percentage of women coaches had slipped to 43% and only 26.6% of Division I Women’s teams are led by women.

Transphobia has led to discrimination against trans women competing in women’s sports.

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Women’s Center
Office for Equity and Diversity
University of Minnesota

This is the time for us to not just dream about what could be, but also start to build alternatives that we want to see.

-Alicia Garza