

The background features a warm orange color palette. On the left, there are stylized floral motifs, including a large, solid orange flower and several smaller, light-colored flowers. A series of thin, white, curved lines sweep across the page from the top right towards the bottom left, creating a sense of movement and depth.

**Women in
Republic of China**
2009

Fulltext



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WOMEN

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Recording Back, Moving Forward

The Foundation for Women's Rights Promotion and Development upholds the spirit to carry on the mission of updating the gender development history. Thus, this year we traces the events of gender-related issues took place in Taiwan to date. The content is structured upon two themes- "major laws and policies" and "introduction of organizations participated in international events".

Part I outlines the development of gender-related laws and regulations in Taiwan and records the major policies laid down by the government body and the Committee of Women's Rights Promotion (Executive Yuan).

Part II contains a collection of the local women's organizations that have actively participated in international events. Through introduction of the organizations, we present the diversity of Taiwan women and their efforts in the women's rights movements.

Again, we deeply appreciate the willingness and kindness of country-wide local groups and related government authorities. We hope the almanac will provide an open communication channel for contact with the international society. Furthermore, it will remind cross-departmental readers to value the importance of gender equality and presents the efforts of Taiwan's public and private sectors in promoting gender equality.

Chapter

Overview

1

Realization of “Gender Mainstreaming”


—Moving Gender Issues beyond the Framework of Family and Marriage

Background

The United Nations convened the first World Conference on Women in 1975, announcing that from 1975 to 1985 would be the “One Decade for UN Women-Equality, Development and Peace”. It demanded that all member states revoke laws discriminating against women within one decade and take all necessary actions, including enactment of laws, amendments to laws and enactment

of the various policies, to ensure the women’s complete development and basic rights and also to confer women equal rights under the Constitution and laws, so that women would have gender equality on social participation, political participation and policy making.

Though the “One Decade for Women” had no binding effect on Taiwan since Taiwan withdrew from the UN in 1971, Taiwan government has been working hard to amend the laws to protect women’s rights. Particularly, the “Genetic Health Law” enacted in 1984 provided the conditional legalization of abortion. The “Labor Standard Law” enacted in 1984 protected woman workers’ rights, and the amendments made to the “Family Part of the Civil Code” in 1985 protected women’s right in marriage and family. However, few women had the chance to participate in the amendments and, therefore, these laws were replete with “gender-blindness” that they could not physically protect the disadvantageous women





in the family after marriage. Private women groups have been dedicated to the enactment of and amendments to laws by “having women’s justice been served by the exercise of rights” since 1987.

At that moment, women’s movement advocates or feminists dedicated to boosting the law amendments were characterized by the supporters of male chauvinism as beast. These supporters were afraid that men’s right and strength would be broken down by the women right. Nevertheless, the advocates and feminists kept working hard to break down all barriers and took the lead, and stirred up the reform of laws and systems overwhelmingly at the end. The most brilliant part of the movement should be the four-year “Gender Mainstreaming Enforcement Program” approved by the Committee of Women’s Rights Promotion on July 25, 2005.

The “gender mainstreaming” enabled the women movement

advocates and feminists to have talks on gender issues with the technocrats in the government system more generally and scientifically, and also excluded the stereotypical gender impression for “prevailing feminism”, in 2006 and 2007. Therefore, the important laws and policies about women/gender for the latest years are collected in this book. Above all, under the “Gender Mainstreaming” policy promoted by the Executive Yuan, Directorate General of Budget, Accounting and Statistics has finished the “gender statistics”, and now is researching the procedure for preparation of a “gender budget” and performance appraisal. Central Personnel Administration is engaged in holding the various on-the-job training programs for cultivation of gender consciousness and boosting the improvement on the gender percentage in the multi-ministerial commissions of the Central Government. The Research, Development and Evaluation Commission even established the various indicators and evaluation mechanism for “gender impact assessment” identifying whether






the important programs or policies of Executive Yuan include a gender perspective. Apparently, the “gender mainstreaming” has received substantial effects and historical significance under the Government’s promotion in the past two years.

Women’s Political Participation

For the “women’s political participation”, as the amendments to the Constitution made in 2005 resulted in the change of the election system of legislators into the “Single-District Two-Vote System” and also provided that the female candidates in the name list of the elected recommended by the political party should be no less than one-half. As a result, the “Civil Servants Election and Recall Act” was amended relatively in 2007. The inclusion of women’s political participation right enhanced the female influence in the Congress. In the legislator election of 7th term in 2007, the elected female legislators accounted for 30.1% of the whole legislators, an increase of 10% more than the female

legislators of 6th term elected in 2004 which accounted for 20.9% only. “Local Government Act” also expressly defined the one-fourth reserved seats for women in the local councils in 1999 and, therefore, boosted the increase in political participation and election rate of women.

For the policy, the Government is dedicated to enhance the mechanism of women's right promotion, including enhancing the operating mechanism of multi-ministerial gender equality commissions subordinated to the Central Government, planning the central gender equality dedicated mechanism”, improving the gender percentage in the multi-ministerial commissions of the Central Government, holding the forum between local committees of women’s right promotion and the central committee of women’s right promotion, fulfilling the reimbursement for communication platform of women in aboriginal areas, and also is working hard to incorporate the “Taiwan Women’s Center”, in



order to enhance the democratic participation and inheritance of experience. The result achieved by the Government accordingly is remarkable indeed.


Women's Labor and Economy

For “women labor and economy”, Article 5 of “Employment Services Act” 2007 provides that any employer is prohibited from discriminating against any job applicant or employee on the basis of race, class, language, thought, religion, political party, place of origin, gender, appearance, facial features, disability or past membership in any labor union, in addition to the “place of birth”, “gender orientation”, “age” and “marital status”, and thereby enables the labor and economy areas to be better in line with the legislation of gender mainstreaming highlighting diversified gender.

Notwithstanding, another provision approved in 2007 is also

noticeable. That is, the “right to claim distribution of the remaining property” identified in Article 1030-1 of the Family Part of the Civil Code was changed from the “exclusive right” which was non-transferrable or non-inheritable into the “general right”. In other words, the creditor may claim the distribution on the ground of subrogation right, and the heir may inherit the property. As long as the couple divorces or either party of the couple is deceased, the party's creditor or heir may demand that the other party should liquidate the couple's property for distribution. Consequently, the original intent of the provision to protect the women engaged in housework without consideration in the wedlock fails to produce the effect as expected. At the same time, the women, who are more disadvantageous in wedlock, will be forced to liquidate the property or distribute the property to their spouses' creditors. Such provision is a concern indeed.

For the women worker and economy policies, the Ministry




of Economic Affairs and Council of Labor Affairs co-researched the small business startup credit or microcredit projects and guarantees to deal with women's difficulty in seeking business startup funds. Meanwhile, in order to improve the women's employment environment and solve women's concerns, the Executive Yuan established the taskforce dedicated to improving women's employment economy and benefit to initiate the "555 Day Care Program" to solve the day-care problems. Additionally, in order to increase women's employment opportunities and mitigate the economic burden for day care, and for the purpose of guiding the domestic population policy to grow positively, the Committee of Women's Rights Promotion proposed the "Babysitter Management and Reimbursement Implementation Program", in hope of making national day-care policy more available to the public and making remarkable improvement in this regard. The Committee also enhanced the audit on whether "Gender Equality in Employment Act" is strictly followed in the medical institutions/

organizations where female nursing staffs are the most basic-level human resource, in order to improve the conditions of women worker and economy.

Women's Welfare and Poverty Eradication

For the legislation of "women's welfare and poverty eradication", the amended "Act of Assistance for Women in Hardship" passed in 2006, which defined the women to be provided with special assistance, the qualifications for immediate living assistance and contents thereof more expressly and enabled the women under special circumstances to receive the care from the national resources in a timely manner and also to mitigate their economic burden. In the meantime, the amendments to the "Senior Citizens Welfare Act" and "People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act" passed successively in 2007, which highlighted that the Government should provide homes-based, community-based or institution-based services under the principle of whole




personal care, local elders, and diversified continuing care. The Government also worked with private institutions to provide the care providers of elders with temporary or short-term care service, consultation and group support. Due to the fact that women are used to playing the role of primary care provider for the elder, disabled or any family member requiring long-term care in the traditional family, these amendments to laws should be very helpful to support the women who bear the liability to take care of the family permanently, physically and mentally, and able to mitigate the women's responsibility as care provider and also look after the women's physical and mental development.

Women's Education and Culture

For "women's education and culture", the amendments to Article 8 and Article 15 of "Educational Fundamental Act" passing in 2006 expressly defined that rights and obligations of teachers shall be "reserved by laws", and their professional autonomy

shall be respected. Students' rights to learning and education, the right to develop mentally and physically, shall be protected by the country, and students shall be kept free from mental or physical punishment. Meanwhile, in the event of unjust or illegal infringements on the professional autonomy of the teacher and the students' rights, the Government shall provide fair and effective reliefs in accordance with relevant laws and regulations. Given this, the acts provide the optimal source of law when the professional autonomy of female basic-level education personnel accounting for a majority of the whole education personnel is infringed and female students are forced to drop out of school and their rights to education or rights to develop physically are affected due to unexpected pregnancy, or school violence occurs.

More interesting is the amendments to "Regulations for Ancestral Worshipping Property" passed in 2007, which permitted that women may be entitled to inherit the ancestral worshipping



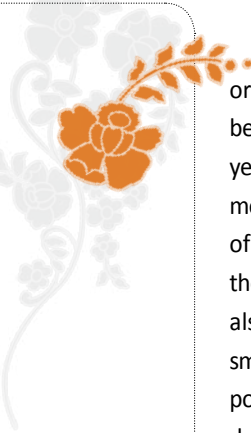
property under certain special circumstances (e.g. the member has no male descendants, the women have not yet been married, upon agreement of the other members in the male line, the women may assume the worshipping jointly). Customarily, only male descendants inherit the member's ancestral worshipping property in the private sector of Taiwan. Given the traditional male-domination and the concept about "having a son to carry on the family name" valued in society in Taiwan, it was impossible for female descendants to inherit ancestral worshipping property. The conditional offer in the amendments to the Regulations unexpectedly introduced female participation, although it is still impossible for the amendments to achieve the gender equality completely and the amendments were intended to solve the issue on inheritance of land of the ancestral worshipping property. Surprisingly, such unexpected introduction breaks down the concept about "having a son to carry on the family name" that has been prevailing for 5,000 years and, therefore, it can be identified

as an "unexpected achievement" of gender acts in the legal system of land and inheritance and it also reminds the women's right advocates and feminists that there is still a lot of gender inequality requirements hidden in the legal system and they still have to continue working on it.

The Executive Yuan demanded in the "Challenge 2008: e-Taiwan Program" drafted by Executive Yuan that the policy to "shorten the digital divide between city and countryside" should be planned in terms of gender, and also proposed the report of the taskforces dedicated to gender equality subordinated to it, in order to shorten the digital divide in gender, age, city and country side, and group.

Women's Health and Medical Care

For "women's health and medical care", the "Artificial Reproduction Act" was enacted and passed in 2007. In the past, artificial reproduction used to be subject to the administrative




orders rendered by the Department of Health. The Act finally became the source of law for artificial reproduction after so many years. Notwithstanding, the “surrogate motherhood” alleged by most women groups for instrumentalization and commercialization of women’s wombs was not approved under the Act. Further, the substantial amendments to “Tobacco Hazard Prevention Act” also passed in 2007, which prohibited pregnant women from smoking but provided no penalty requirements. Nevertheless, such policy to take the fetus as the first priority but limit mother’s self-determination right is disputable. To affect the permanent cure, such precautionary action as education shall still be applied to replace such negative measure as prohibition. The Act also included the added provision providing that no person shall force, induce or use other means to cause the pregnant women to smoke. The amendments also provided that except specific places, smoking shall be completely prohibited in all of the indoor public places. The amendments to the Act were scheduled to be enforced on January

11, 2009 in order to provide non-smokers with a healthier and safer living space.

Women’s Personal Safety

For “women’s personal safety”, the three major laws related thereto, namely “Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act,” “Sexual Harassment Prevention Act” and “Domestic Violence Prevention Act,” have been amended and added in the latest two years. In order to deal with the provision added into the “Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act” in 2005, providing that the competent authority shall be entitled to force the offender under the Act to have treatment and monitor the repeat offender with electronic devices. The amendments were made to the Criminal Code relatively in 2006, providing that the compulsory treatment related to the decision against safeguard of detained offenders’ personal freedom in the offence against sexual liberty and offences against morals shall be changed from treatment before sentence



as referred to in the Old Criminal Code into the treatment after sentence. Furthermore, the duration of treatment is not limited and days of the treatment cannot be commuted to term imprisonment or detention. Hoping develop the source of law for the relocation program for offender's compulsory treatment.

The amendments to the "Sexual Harassment Prevention Act" in 2006 also provided that a person who has sexually harassed another person should take the responsibility of offering compensation for damage.

Further, in order to better found the reporting of domestic violence cases, the laws were also amended in 2007 to expand the authority of reporting to village/neighborhood members, network service providers and telecommunication service providers, in hopes of enabling the public power to intervene as early as possible and helping woman victims of domestic violence cases

seeking the protection of a support system. Meanwhile, the laws were amended to extend the applicability of the laws to co-inhabit relationship, enhance the protective measures applicable to victims and add the provision that the offender committing serious domestic violence shall be detained directly. No court fees would be charged for the petition, revocation, change, extension or appeal against protection order.

In terms of policy, the social workers of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention centers in the various counties/cities have barely the human resources needed under the formal organization. It is difficult to reserve excellent social workers. Therefore, the Central Personnel Administration and Ministry of Interior are required to discuss the issue and propose the relevant solutions, in order to provide the victims of domestic violence and sexual assault with more effective services.




Women's Marriage and Family

For “women’s marriage and family”, the requirement providing that a child assumes the surname of the father as defined in Article 1059 of the Family Part of the Civil Code was changed into “a child assumes the surname agreed by the parents in writing” in 2007. The provision, which broke down the traditional practice providing that children should assume the surname of father, was supposed to be further legislated. However, the amendments thereto also provided that where a child’s surname was proven by certain facts to produce adverse effect to the child when parents are divorced, an application for changing the child’s surname might be filed with the court. Such provision was in conflict with the lenient provision referred to in the Name Act, providing that where a minor child’s surname is different from the surname of the father or mother who exercises the parenthood when parents are divorced, an application for changing the surname may be filed without the

court’s ruling. In the meantime, the Ministry of the Interior also issued an official letter to the household registration authorities to freeze the application of Article 6 of Name Act temporarily. The Legislative Yuan later deleted Article 6 of the Name Act in December 2007. As a result, it became more difficult for the children of single-parent families to claim the assumption of the mother’s name.

To take care of foreign and Mainland spouses, “the Immigration Act”, “Act Governing Relations between Peoples of the Taiwan Area and the Mainland Area” and “Act Governing Relations with Hong Kong and Macau” were also amended relatively. The Executive Yuan also instructed the Ministry of the Interior to work on research and evaluation of the “Foreign Spouse Care and Assistance Program”. Further, due to the concern about human trafficking caused by the business activity of marriage broker for foreign spouse as alleged by the international human right




organizations, Executive Yuan, under the proposal and promotion of the Committee of Women's Rights Promotion, revoked the matchmaker from the business lines granted by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Economic Affairs on September 19, 2007, and also strengthened the raid action against illegal advertisements and received remarkable effects. Further, the Committee of Women's Rights Promotion is now working hard to promote the "Bilateral Agreement on Legal Assistance between Taiwan and Vietnam", in hopes of resolving issues on international legal assistance and foreign affairs arising from international marriages.

International Participation

For the issue on international participation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs submitted a motion to the Executive Yuan on July 12, 2006 after women groups' initiation of the motion. The motion passed the Executive Yuan meeting, and at the Legislative

Yuan after the final reading on January 5, 2007, Taiwan was approved to sign the UN's Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women ("CEDAW"). The President promulgated the Instrument of Accession on February 9, 2007, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs was responsible for submitting and depositing the Instrument. On March 29, 2007, Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-Moon, indicated that according to the UNGA Resolution #2758, the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China are the only lawful representatives of China to the United Nations, and rejected Taiwan's instrument of accession. Notwithstanding, the Committee of Women's Rights Promotion still demanded that the ministries and committees subordinated to the Executive Yuan should draft the national report per four years pursuant to the CEDAW, to review the development in Taiwan's fulfillment of CEDAW.





Other Major Achievements


Among the Council of Grand Justice rulings on promotion of gender equality by Judicial Yuan, the Interpretation No. 620 rendered in 2006, concerning the interpretation of “estate tax collection when a spouse is deceased” specifying that “where a surviving spouse exercises the right to claim the distribution of remaining property/balance under laws, the claimed part shall not be identified collectable estate tax and, therefore, may be deducted from the estate and exempted from estate tax”, is the most notable one.

After the Examination Yuan established the “Advisory Committee on Gender Equality in National Examination” in the Ministry of Examination, the policy on promotion of gender equality from 2006 to 2007 still highlighted the recruiting authorities’ “cancellation of limits on gender” for special

examinations, e.g. discussion about the gender of official investigators, coastal guards and national security personnel, or the type of administrators in the National Judicial Examination, and also enhanced the coordination with the recruiting authorities to improve the working environment. As a result, the Ministry of Justice Investigation Bureau amended the rules for examination and cancelled the requirement about qualifier quota by gender, and the amended rules have applied to the Special Examination for Investigators since 2006.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the laws and policies related to women/gender enabled the issue on women/gender to break down the barriers of family and marriage. By virtue of the six “gender mainstreaming”-based major means, the laws and policies attempted to introduce the issue on gender into the areas of economy, finance and taxation, or public work, which are used to being identified as



more masculine and lacking the concept about gender equality, in order to include the concept about gender equality and care for the disadvantaged into the policies and to meet the gender equality and achieve the objective to benefit men and women both. It might be impossible to change the stereotypical gender impression in the social culture and administrative system immediately by the promotion and reform of laws and policies. Nevertheless, when the national system has successively fulfilled the gender impact assessment in the process of researching and drafting the laws and policies and allocated the government's sources in a most effective and fair manner, the nation and people will still benefit hereafter.



Chapter

2

Key Regulations and Policies


I. Women and Gender Related Regulations

By examining the current laws in Taiwan, based on the framework of “Guiding Principles of Women’s Policy”, as approved by the Women’s Rights Promotion, of Executive Yuan, the various women and gender related laws are categorized into 9 facets, include: “Women’s political participation”, “Women’s labor and economy”, “Women’s welfare and poverty eradication”, “Women’s education and culture”, “Women’s health and medical care” “Women’s personal safety” “Women’s marriage and family”, “Other laws” and

“International conventions”. We breakdown the important laws that have been affecting the domestic women’s rights and analyze the essence of the policies as follows:

Political Participation Related Laws

- 1999 The **Local Government Act**, Article 33, stipulates that for every 4 councilors of the special municipality, county/ city councilors, and township/city representatives, there should be one female candidate. For 4 candidates or above, there should be 1 additional women candidate per every 4 additional candidates.
- 2003 The amended **Civil Servants Election and Recall Act** stipulates that the national integrated election and overseas election of central civil servants shall be implemented in the proportion of political parties, and that within each party the proportion of women should not be less than one half, in order to protect the political




rights of women.

- 2005 According to Article 4 of the **Additional Articles of the Constitution of the Republic of China**, the number of elected female members on each party's list shall not be less than one-half of the total number. It also states that the government shall maintain the dignity of women, protect their personal safety and eradicate sexual discrimination, thereby encouraging equality between the sexes; this is the country's fundamental law for promoting women's rights.

Labor and Economy Related Laws

- 1975 The **Factory Law** prohibits hiring female workers less than 14 years ; it also stipulates that they are not allowed to undertake dangerous work. Moreover, the law states that remuneration of men and women should be the same, in order to protect the rights and welfare of women in the

workplace.

- 1984 According to the **Labor Standards Act**, the employer should not remunerate male and female workers differently for the same work. In Chapter 4, it further specifies the regulations concerning work time, breaks, vacation and limitations as well as procedures regarding the extended working hours. Chapter 5 deals with the protection of child workers and female workers, such as work time (if the employer has no safety and hygiene facilities or does not provide transportation or accommodation, then female workers are not allowed to work after 10PM and before 6AM), maternity leave, nursing time etc., these are all crucial issues of female working rights.
- 2002 The **Part of Family of the Civil Code** drastically amended regulations regarding matrimonial properties; the current system consists of contributed property, union property and separate property. Most couples adopt the contributed
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property system, which specifies that the husband and wife should manage, use, gain and utilize the properties separately, and ensure the independent management rights of married women. The law also stipulates that when the marriage relationship is terminated, the assets of both parties should be equally divided after matrimonial debt is deducted, thereby highlighting the economic security of unpaid labors such as housewives.

- 2002 The **Sex Equality in Employment Act** stipulates that there should be no discrimination based on the gender by the employer with regards to the employee recruitment, interview, hiring, allocation, deployment, evaluation, promotion, education & training, welfare, remuneration, retirement, dismissal with severance pay, resignation, dismissal etc.

It clearly states the workplace maternity protective mechanism, include: female employee's menstrual leave,

maternity leave, paternity leave, nursing hours, parental leave without pay, family care leave etc.

Concerning the prevention of workplace sexual harassment, for workplace with 30 or more employees, sexual harassment prevention, complaint and punitive measures should be implemented, while the victim should be compensated for damage by the employer and the offender.

- 2007 The **Employment Services Act** amended that the employee should not be discriminated against based on "birth place, gender orientation, age, marital status", and should be provided with livelihood subsidies or grants, or vocational training and counseling etc.

- 2008 In order to cope with the diversification of gender, the original "Sex Equality in Employment Act" was renamed as the "**Gender Equality in Employment Act**", moreover the scope of parental leave without pay and family care

leave was broadened, whereby paternity leave days were increased and employer penal provisions as well as compensatory responsibilities were augmented.

Welfare and Poverty Eradication Related Laws

1980 According to the **Legal Aids Act**, for low-income households or for those who are 6 months into pregnancy, the local authority should increase its original cash payout. In addition, in 2005 an amendment was made whereby those who are capable for employment are identified from those who are sole care providers for dependents under the age of 6, as well as women who are 6 months into pregnancy and less than 2 month after giving birth. Additional regulations also stipulate that support should be afforded to pregnant women and infant in terms of nutrition, procreation etc., so that more single mothers will be able to benefit.

- 1997 The **Senior Citizens Welfare Act** is amended, which states that the local authority should abide by the principles of whole personal care, local elders, and diversified continuing care, as well as provide home base, community-base or institution-base services to elders. Furthermore, by integrating private resources, relief care, counseling services and support groups should be provided for family of the incapacitated elderly, in order to enhance the quality of life for the caretakers of elderly women.
- 2000 State of **Act of Assistance for Woman in Hardship** that, in order to increase the welfare of women, women with special needs should be assisted and provided with emergency care, thereby aiding them to become independent and improve their living conditions. Assistance provided includes emergency livelihood aid, children's education subsidies, illness and injury medical grants, children nursing subsidies, lawsuit grants and



entrepreneurship grants.


- 2003 The **Children and Youth Welfare Act** stipulates that when handling children and youth affairs, the government, public and private institutions should consider children's welfare as priority. In particular, Article 24 states that the transportation and medical industries should provide priority service to children and pregnant women. According to this law, improvement should also be made to the human rights of children and youth, prevention of violent abuse against female children, discrimination, neglect and other gender limitations in the traditional society.
- 2007 The original "Disabled Citizens Protection Act" was renamed "**People with Disabilities Rights Protection Act**", in order to highlight the spirit of rights protection. A comprehensive revision was made to the definition of the disabled, evaluation of the welfare services, reporting system responsibility and vocational aid etc, also the

economic security and personal safety protection chapter, in order to substantially increase the legal backing of the disabled people's rights.

- 2009 The original "Act of Assistance for Woman in Hardship" was renamed "**Act of Assistance for Family in Hardship**", in order to broaden the protection and support to single father family and highlight the gender equality of service delivery.

Education and Culture Related Laws


- 1983 The **Motion Picture Act** stipulates that any scene containing obscenity or endangers the physical and mental development of children and youth shall be edited, cut or prohibited by the central authorities.
- 1993 The **Cable Radio and Televisions Act** regulate that any program or commercial should not be in violation of the law, or contain any scene of obscenity, or endanger the



physical and mental development of children and youth, or disrupt public order. Furthermore, the penal provisions are also stipulated.

- 1998 The **Education Act for Indigenous Peoples** serves to protect the educational rights of indigenous peoples, as well as to develop their ethnic education and culture. The law regulates the enrolment, study, teacher training of indigenous people, and the relevant courses as well as promotion and development of educational institutions.
- 1999 The **Educational Fundamentals Act** states that the citizens have equal opportunities for education regardless of gender.
- 2003 The **Family Education Law** stipulates that the central and local government should organize various educations that enhance the relationships between family members and functions. Furthermore, 4-hour courses should also be held in the elementary and high schools. Family

education includes parent education, filial education, gender education, marriage education, ethical education, education on family resources and management etc.

- 2004 The **Gender Equity Education Act** stipulates that, in order to encourage substantive equality between men and women, and to establish education resources and environment of gender equality, the law emphasizes that the school should respect the gender characteristics and orientations of students and the teaching staff; there should be no discrimination in terms of recruitment, study permission, teaching evaluation, award and penal provisions, welfare and services etc. In addition, schools should actively uphold the pregnant students' rights to education, and to provide any assistance necessary. Moreover, the preventative measures on sexual assault or sexual harassment should be clearly regulated.
- 2007 The **Statute for Ancestral Estates in Joint Ownership** states
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that although it is a neutral statute, however, in the tradition of male supremacy over female, this law, under certain circumstances, protects the women's rights to inheritance of ancestral estates in joint ownership; this is a vast improvement over the previous regulation, whereby women were not allowed to enjoy such rights.

Health and Medical Care Related Laws

1984 The **Genetic Health Law** stipulates that induced abortions may be carried out voluntarily by those who are affected by the pregnancy or childbirth; limited legalization of abortion is open to women. However, the law regulates that consent from the spouse must be obtained, which is considered as the paternal clause in the limitation of female independent birth right, thus in reality making the situation of abused women more difficult.

1997 The **Tobacco Hazards Prevention Act** stipulates that the prevention of smoking hazards and maintenance of the citizens' health is considered priority. In particular, the law clearly prohibits smoking in indoor venues where there may be the presence of pregnant women. Later in 2007, the law was amended to prohibit anyone from making pregnant women to smoke via force, enticement or any other means.


2007 The **Artificial Reproduction Act** stipulates that the purpose of the law is to ensure healthy development in artificial reproduction, thereby protecting the rights of infertile couples, children born via artificial reproduction process and the donor. Additionally, the ethics and health of citizens are maintained, the law is crucially related to women reproduction and infertile couples.

Personal Safety Related Laws

- 1997 The **Sexual Assault Crime Prevention Act** stipulates that local governments should setup sexual assault crime prevention centers, while the central government is responsible for creating the national database on sexual assault offenders. Furthermore, elementary and high schools should have at least 4 hours of sexual assault prevention courses per year. In 2005, the law was significantly amended, which stipulates the reporting time horizon of relevant personnel. The protective measures for questioning and injury assessment of the victim were also established, as well as increased control, monitoring and treatment of offenders.
- 1999 The Criminal Law of the Republic of China amended the chapter on **“Crime on Interference of Sexual Autonomy”**, for the comprehensive protection of the autonomy of

victims and women; the scope of forced sexual intercourse protection is extended to cover men and the male homosexual communities. In addition, the “Crime on Interference of Sexual Autonomy” is changed from no trial without complaint to trial without complaint.

- 1995 The **Child and Youth Sexual Transaction Prevention Act** serves to prevent and eradicate incidents whereby children and youths are involved in sexual transactions, in so doing protecting young girls from becoming the targets of sexual transactions and human trafficking. The law was amended in 2007 to extend the responsibilities of reporting to the secretaries of village and neighborhoods, network supplier and telecommunications operators, thereby forming an even more comprehensive protection network.
- 1998 The **Domestic Violence Prevention Act** has broken the traditional concept of the “law does not interfere with household matters”, and intervenes in domestic violence



cases through legal power, so as to protect the weak in the house (elderly, women, children etc.), who are able to file for ordinary, provisional or emergency protection orders. This is to prohibit the offender from approaching and repeating the offence. Furthermore, in order to expedite the assistance process, county and city governments are required to setup domestic violence prevention centers; hence, the law is an important step towards the maintenance of women's personal safety. The law was amended in 2007 to incorporate couples who live together, and the protection measures for victims were also strengthened.


- 2005 The **Sexual Harassment Prevention Act** serves the purpose of preventing sexual harassment and to protect the rights of the victims, as well as the public space personal safety of women. The law stipulates the responsibilities for regulating sexual harassment, complaint & investigation,

mediatory procedures and related penal provisions; the joint and several liability of the employer is also strengthened.

- 2009 **The Human Trafficking Prevention Act** clearly defines the meaning of human trafficking, the identification process of the victims, in order to make sure of the shared responsibilities of governmental organizations, and establish the victims protection network. In addition, the personal safety of investigators are ensured, as well as related compensations, making this law the milestone in terms of human trafficking crime prevention in Taiwan.

Marriage and Family Related Laws

- 1930 The **Taiwan Code of Civil Procedure** enacted and has been amended 15 times afterwards. In particular, regulations on lawsuit procedures, security procedures, marriage and parent-child relationship procedures, are most relevant




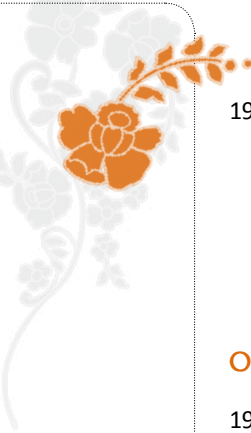
to women's rights. The law also stipulates that marital lawsuits (nullification of, or the revocation of a marriage, or an action for a declaratory judgment confirming the existence or nonexistence of a marriage, for divorce or for the husband's or the wife's fulfillment of mutual obligation to cohabit), or non-marital lawsuits (distribution or partition of the husband's and the wife's property, the return of property, payment of household living expenses, alimony or maintenance), are to be initiated jointly in order to reduce litigation costs.

1980 The **Regulations Governing the Handling of Domestic Affairs** stipulate that the local court should setup domestic affairs court to handle domestic affairs. For courts with fewer cases, it can be handled by the civil court. Furthermore, mediatory procedures are also established, as well as investigation of authority of office and the exercising of obligatory rights of underage children etc.,

thereby providing divorced women with additional protection and assistance. As time fade, more and more laws regarding lawsuit has been enacted. The orientation and function of this Regulation was gradually replaced and recently abolished on 2009.

1996 The Enforcement Act of **the Part of Family of the Civil Code** is amended and regulates that the custody of children of divorced couples should be considered in the best interest of the children; furthermore, both parties are able to retain their family name, changing the previous condition of paternal supremacy. In 2002, the marital property regulation was amended to protect the property rights of women in marriage. In 2007, the law was amended so that parents are able to decide the surname of their children by written consent, abolishing the previous regulation where children adopted only the surname of the father.






1999 The **Immigration Act** is announced. Due to the increase in the number of new immigrated female citizens, the law specifies the residential qualification, prevention of domestic violence clause, international human trafficking and the victims' protection chapter, thus significantly influencing the new female citizens' rights.


Other Regulations

1994 **The Legal Aids Act** serves to protect people's rights and interests, this law is enacted for providing necessary legal aids to people who are indigent or are unable to receive proper legal protections for other reasons. In contrast to men, women in Taiwan are considered as economically weak; hence, the law protects the fundamental litigation rights of women.

International Conventions

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was passed in 1979 by the UN's No. 34180 resolution and enacted in 1981. The convention was open to be signed, sanctioned and joined by all countries (currently there are 185 countries signed to this convention). The convention clearly states that "discrimination against women" refers to any distinction, exclusion or limitation made based on gender, which has the influence of hindering or denying married/unmarried women to their fundamental human rights and freedom in terms of politics, economy, society, culture and citizenship etc. The various countries signed to this convention should make any means appropriate to promote the policy on elimination of discrimination against women. The convention is considered as the code of laws for international women's rights.





In Taiwan, the convention was initiated by private women's organization, motioned by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and passed by the Executive Yuan on July 12, 2006; it was ratified by the Legislative Yuan on January 5, 2007, the instrument of accession was promulgated by the President and delivered to the UN. On March 29 of the same year, the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon announced that, according to the UN Resolution No. 2758, the People's Republic of China was the only legal representative in the UN, and thus Taiwan was denied of participation and signing to the convention.



Chapter

2

II. Achievements of Executive Yuan in promoting women's rights

The Executive Yuan in Taiwan is in charge of programming and enforcing nation-wide policies and services. Overseeing 39 ministries in various fields, the Executive Yuan take a leading role in social and economical progress. The followings are major resolutions of the Executive Yuan Meetings relating to women and gender issues during 2006 to 2009.

Major Resolutions of 2006

Consultation Measures for Foreign Spouses

- ◆ This resolution entails a study on the assistance policies for foreign spouses targeting on family life counseling, medical and health care, education of language and culture, marriage counseling, and assistance in childcare. A study on the naming for "foreign spouses" has also been carried out to avoid commoditized.

Children and Adolescents Protection

- ◆ This resolution entails directives for children and adolescents policies in four main axes: economic development, reinforcing law and order, care for the minority, and punishment for corruption. The local governments are requested to place the works at the highest priority.

Initiation to Join Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discriminations Against Women (CEDAW)

- ◆ The Government has submitted requests to the Legislative Yuan for review of "The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights" and the "International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights" in 2005. In the past 10 years, countries around the world have successively implemented gender mainstreaming action strategies. Even though our nation is not a UN member, we continue to demonstrate and implement human rights protection policies and actively pursue establishment of a gender-equal society.

Draft for Amendment of the Genetic Health Law

- ◆ Reproductive health involves the health and safety issues of pregnant women and their fetuses; therefore, legal interests relating to women's fundamental rights and the right to life of the fetuses must be taken seriously. This amendment aims to improve the quality of genetic medical services, maintain the

fetal rights and women's rights to their bodies, and carefully lay out regulations for the obligations of medical institutions that implement abortion to ensure the health of women and the fetuses and improve family and social harmony.

Major Resolutions of 2007

Family Violence and Children/Adolescent Protection

- ◆ This resolution entails a detailed analysis of statistical data, an in-depth review on policy planning, implementation direction, and the attitude and response abilities of local social workers, and integration of the links to public resources. A study has also been carried out to explore how community and village human resources may be utilized.

Amendments Relating to Child-care Leave Subsidy

- ◆ This resolution entails an amendment of the "Employment Insurance Act" and "Gender Equality in Employment Law", which involves implementation of Child-care Leave Subsidy

through employment insurance and expansion of the scope of Child-care Leave Subsidy to provide all employed workers subsidies for Child -care Leaves.

- ◆ To help small and medium enterprises from a major impact of implementation of this policy and ensure protection of employees' rights, the Council of Labor Affairs will be requested to reinforce promotion and education for the relevant policy packages for the short-term dispatch and temporary workers.

Management of Marriage Matchmaking

- ◆ To improve our immigration policy, a cross-ministerial "Marriage Matchmaking Management Contact Taskforce" is set up, which combines the power of the ministries to reinforce the immigration interview mechanism, implement residence inspection, remove the marriage matchmaking industry from the official categorization list, and actively investigate illegal matchmaking ads.

Major Resolutions of 2008

Building a Friendly Daycare Environment- Home Daycare Management and Subsidy

- ◆ According to statistics, Taiwan has become a low birthrate country. In addition to the changing values of marriage and childbirth, the burden in raising and educating children is an important factor in the downward sliding birthrate. In the aspect of education, the government promotes downward extension of free early childhood education policies. It is estimated that, in school year 2011, a comprehensive early childhood education program with full support to children of 5 years old will be achieved through the "Home Daycare Management and Expense Subsidy Program". This program aims to reduce the burden on families raising children, promote localization of women employment, and encourage child birth through establishment of a comprehensive community nanny system and childcare subsidies.



White Paper on Population Policy

- ◆ Taiwan has become a country of immigrants. Views from varied perspectives on the major issues, including the continuously decreasing birthrate, population aging, and immigration, all have been reported in the "Population Policy White Paper". It is the first White Paper on Population Policy in the nation, symbolizing a big step forward in Taiwan's population policy. Detailed plans are developed and approved by the relevant authorities and monitored regularly by the Ministry of the Interior.

Enhance the Achievements for Women's Rights Policies


- ◆ According to the 2005 Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) conducted by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), Taiwan ranks No. 19 among 93 countries globally and No. 2 in Asia, following only behind Singapore. This demonstrates that the Government has been closely working

on women's rights over the years and achieved outstanding results.

- ◆ To strengthen gender equality in participation and decision-making mechanisms, the Executive Yuan has added the "Commission for Gender Equality" into the amendment draft of the "Executive Yuan Origination Law" and established the "Taiwan Women's Center" on March 8th. It is a manifestation of the government's efforts in protecting women's rights and improving women's status in society. Taiwan will become a new base for an all-rounded promotion of women's rights, gender equality, and international exchange on relevant issues.

Prevention on Human Trafficking Coordination Taskforce

- ◆ It has become quite common for foreigners to come to Taiwan for work or marriage. Therefore, how to protect their basic rights from being exploited and abused is an important work of a responsible government. According to the 2008 Human



Trafficking Report published in the US, issues relating to human rights, law enforcement, external negotiations, and cooperation with non-governmental organizations should be adopted in a subject-oriented mode for planning of improvement programs for each of the problems and execution of in-depth reviews from the dimensions of policy and implementation.

Amendment to the Ordinance Governing the Relationships between People of Taiwan and Mainland China

- ◆ The number of cross-strait marriages has reached over 290 thousand couples. The amendments to this Ordinance shortens the time for the spouses from Mainland China to obtain citizenship in Taiwan, and at the same time, amends the work and inheritance rights of Mainland Chinese spouses to meet the principles of equity and human rights.


Major Resolutions of 2009

Women's Rights Vision in the next Decade

- ◆ In 1997, Taiwan established a Committee of Women's Rights Promotion, aiming to inject the concept of gender equality into the national policies. Today, under the effort of the administration and the legislation body and enforcement of relevant policies and laws, the international indicators have presented outstanding results. However, the current rates of political participation, income, and labor force participation for women are still relatively lower than that of the men. This shows that there is still room for continuous effort.

Drafting of the Children's Education and Care Law

- ◆ This law entails comprehensive establishment of a consolidated education and care system for children from 0 to 12 years of age, which will cover the services of the original kindergarten, daycare centers, home daycare, baby care, and after school



care for primary school students.

Reinforce the Children and Adolescent Protection and Family Violence Prevention Program

- ◆ This program aims to continuously consolidate the security net in society, targeting on the disadvantaged children under six years of age from high-risk families. The program aims to provide proactive care services, reinforce social education on relevant issues, and consolidate the forces of the private sectors to provide comprehensive and well-managed care.

III. Achievements of the Committee of Women's Rights Promotion

The Committee of Women's Rights Promotion was set up on 1997 to achieve gender issues in a cross-departmental fashion. It wishes that through the formation of the committee to unite all of the scattering offices to work as one for the effective improvement of women welfare, and to implement security in the works for women rights. Major resolutions made by the committee of women's rights promotion from 2006 to 2009 are as below:

Reinforce the Mechanisms for Women's Rights

- 2006
- STo assist the public departments for gender equality promotion work and supervise the 38 ministries to set up the "Committee for Gender Equality", the Executive Yuan has drawn up a "Gender Equality Taskforce Operational Guidelines", which stipulates that the number of members of either gender must exceed 1/3 of the total members of the committee. The Executive Yuan has also implemented a tracking system to monitor the implementation.
 - The Taiwan Women's Center has been established. It is the first gender-based information network center at the national level.
 - The Executive Yuan studied and planned the central level gender equality administration mechanism under

the projected structure of the future governmental organization and supervises establishment of the "Government Agencies Implementation of Gender Affairs Human Resource Database."

- 2007
- The Executive Yuan laid down policies to promote involvement of local women's rights organizations in gender mainstreaming works and encourage the local governments to conduct "Dialogues between the Central and Local Women's Eights Promotion Committees Forums".
- 2008
- The Executive Yuan requested the public offices to submit policy drafts to the Committee of Women's Rights Promotion for discussion when conducting studies for proposal or amendments of women/gender-related regulations or policies to ensure that gender perspectives are well integrated.

Implementation data for the "Women's Rights Work Delegation Chart" filed by the public offices should be submitted to the Gender Equality Committee of each office for discussion or future reference.


- 2009
- The Committee convened a project meeting to converge the opinions of the committee members and non-governmental organizations for the Gender Equality Basic Law.

Development and Promotion of Gender Mainstreaming

- 2006
- The Committee encourages the public service personnel to participate in training of Gender Mainstreaming practices and coordinate with the relevant offices to actively plan professional and general gender mainstreaming courses, aiming to expand the base of seed teachers in the public sector.
 - The Committee clarifies the scope of budgeting for

women/gender policies and operating guidelines to assist the public offices to plan relevant budgets in more effective ways.

- The Committee reinforces promotion of gender survey, conducts gender survey study camps, and takes charge to compile the annual gender images.
- 2007
- The Committee supervises the office of the central administration agencies to establish a website dedicated for gender survey statistics.
 - The Committee pushed forward establishment of the Gender Mainstreaming Support Team and conducts regular meetings to assist each of the public offices.
 - The Committee planned the Gender Impact Assessment system to establish a gender survey indicating and tracking mechanism, aiming to ensure that the concept of gender equality is brought into the major programs and policies of the nation.

- 
- The Committee planned the proactive active and strategies for signing of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).
- 2008
- The Committee drafted a set of Gender Impact Assessment targeted for the public construction sector, which will be used to assess whether the architecture laws and regulations are friendly to the different genders and explore how to bring gender issues into the planning stages of public infrastructure projects.
 - The Committee pushed forward legislation of the Gender Impact Assessment mechanism. The Committee proposed to make the Gender Impact Assessment part of the nation's mid to long term programs, as well as the legislation proposal and evaluation procedures, to ensure that the nation's policies are gender friendly.
- 2009
- The Committee proposed that at least one gender issue expert should participate in the process of gender-issue

related procurement projects and provide gender related human resource data to the local governments.

- The Committee supervised the “Taiwan National Report and Expert Conference on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)”, which serves as a reference for policy implementation and amendment to national reports. The Committee continued to assist the private organizations in drafting of the replacement and shadow reports and hosted several workshops for awareness of gender related issues.

Political and Social Participation for Women

- 2007
- The Committee implemented a subsidy for communication platforms for women in remote areas and actively assisted the remote areas to establish non-governmental organizations and links to other resources through


building of policy platforms and advocacy of working rights for aboriginal women.

- The Committee continuously tracked the improvement in the member-ratio of the Gender Equality Committee of each ministry explore the reasons and causes of non-accomplishment, verify whether there is room for further improvements, and gather suggestions.

Labor Participation and Economic Status for Women

- 2006
- The Committee set up the “Improving Women’s Income and Welfare Taskforce” starting from the after-school child care program, as well assessed the effectiveness of implementation and drafted the short, mid, and long term goals, principles, and strategies.
 - The Committee discussed the “Nanny Management and Subsidy System” and explored the current status on implementation.

- 2007
- The Committee urged the relevant bodies to complete legislation of the “Children’s Education and Care Law” to prevent commercialization of daycare services and improve the children’s education and care system.
 - The Committee discussed implementation of the Gender Equality in Employment Law and labor inspection mechanisms in medical workplaces.
- 2008
- The Committee evaluated the Women Labor Policy White Paper and drafted strategies for issues in women’s employment opportunities in the industrial sector and counter strategies for the single status requirement for women workers in small and medium enterprises.
 - The Committee advocated placing the Child Care Leave Subsidy appendixes for the Employment Insurance Law as priority issues.
 - The Committee monitored implementation of government policies for helping women in business startup and




assessed the relevant data and statistic charts.

- 2009 • The employment standards and regulations of gender equality related laws targeting on medical institutions are incorporated into the medical institution assessment items and the Committee has also reinforced surveillance of sexual harassment in medical workplaces.

Welfare and Anti-Poverty Policies for Women

- 2007 • To ascertain fair and just allocation of the Public Welfare Lottery Proceeds, the Committee inspected the fairness in the gender ratio and resource allocation.
- 2008 • To ensure implementation of the Nanny Care Management and Subsidy Program, the Committee requested the Children's Bureau (Ministry of the Interior) to amend the Daycare Center Assessment Standards and change the 2009 budget for daycare subsidies to cover the general public.

Education and Cultural Development for Women

- 2006 • To protect the children and promote healthy psychological and physical development, the Committee urged the Ministry of Education to amend the Supplementary and Continuing Education Act under the principle of forbidding supplementary classes for children below 6 years old, as well as advocate for consensus from the public.
- The Committee proposed to the Examination Yuan, urging the relevant authorities to incorporate the issues of personal safety, including family violence and sexual assault, into the scope of national examinations, aiming to bring the personal safety issues to the attention of the professional workers in the public and private sectors.
- 2007 • The Committee monitors the effectiveness of implementation of the Reduce Urban-Rural Digital Divide Program.
- 



Health and Medical Care for Women

- 2006
- The Committee proposed to host the Gender, Women, and Health International Forum.
 - The Committee requested the Department of Health to reinforce promotion and public education for regulation and cautions, targeting on the recent events whereas patients of infectious diseases are shunned by their communities, in an aim to safeguarding the housing rights.
- 2008
- The Committee reviewed the "Women's Health Policies" from the perspective of gender mainstreaming in three dimensions- health promotion, reproductive health, and disease care, for an in-depth analysis on the problems women may face in the health care system, as well as propose specific improvement strategies.

Personal Safety for Women

- 2006
- The Committee seeks to strengthen management of the marriage matchmaking industry. Under the principle of protection for human rights, women should not be a product of marriage matchmaking businesses. The authorities have drafted relevant laws and regulations to reinforce management of registered businesses through strict inspection and punishments.
 - The Committee promotes gender-friendly transportation policies and called upon relevant authorities to actively promote relevant actions.
 - The Committee proposed to set up the "Women's Participation in the Public Safety Consultation Taskforce" and invited the Central Government and local non-governmental women's groups to participate in decision-making discussions, aiming to integrate the gender

perspectives into all policies relating to law and order issues.

- The Committee promoted study of a "Taiwan-Vietnam Bilateral Judicial Agreement" to resolve problems involving Taiwanese-Vietnamese marriages and the related international justice and foreign policy issues.
- 2007
- The Committee proposed to continuously reinforce actions taken by the Campus Gender Equality Committee for campus sexual assault or harassment events and protection and prevention measures for the victim students.
 - The Committee enhanced the service effectiveness of the "113 Women and Children Protection and Anti-Violence Hotline" by providing emergency shelter services and helping private organizations for effective services implementation.

- The Committee urged the relevant authorities to compile domestic violence and sexual assault prevention manpower demand assessment and social workers' backgrounds to provide comprehensive information and protection as a reference for human resource future planning.
- 2008
- The Committee called on the Judicial Yuan and requested the Judicial Yuan to seriously face the non-guilty verdicts for sexual harassment cases and its effects to society and urged the Judicial Yuan to reinforce the training of judicial officers in gender mainstreaming programs to ensure maximum protection for women's personal safety.
 - The Committee requested relevant authorities to establish mechanisms and develop countermeasures against sexual harassment and assaults to students, targeting sports coaches.
 - To reinforce Internet safety supervision for children and adolescents, the Committee proposed to set up an inter-

departmental taskforce and incorporated participation of non-governmental organizations, aiming to accelerate improvements in internet management as well as prevention and counseling measures. The education materials should be designed with consideration of gender differences.

- 2009
- "Taiwanese-Vietnamese Bilateral Judicial Agreement" was signed and the Committee keeps track of the effectiveness of management and implementation.
 - The Committee proposed a full scale review and amendment for the definition and naming of "sexual assault".

International Participation for Women

- 2006
- The Committee requested the Ministry of Economic Affairs to organize a group to participate in the Global Summit of Women and actively encourage

representatives of private organizations to participate in this event. The Committee has also set up a booth to market Taiwan.

- 2008
- Taiwan participated in The Fifth Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN) in the 2007 APEC Conference. In the conference, Taiwan's representative team proposed the issues of women migrant workers and requested the Council of Labor Affairs to develop measures to protect the rights and provide services for the female foreign workers currently working in Taiwan.
 - Taiwan participated in The 12th Women Leaders' Network (WLN) in the 2007 APEC Conference. Taiwan's representative team proposed several issues in this conference, including paying attention to the international trends, establishing a resource platform for women, and creating more education opportunities in digitalization related subjects for women and requested

the authorities to plan relevant programs. The Committee also recommended establishment of a platform to link female artists to the businesses in aim to encourage the development of the creative industry.

- 2009
- To assist the private organizations to participation in international events and conferences, the Committee requested the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and relevant authorities to study feasible strategies for active counter actions against suppressions on Taiwan's participation in international conferences.
 - The Committee called for reinforced advocacy on international women's issues, aiming to raise women's awareness in mainstream international issues, increase domestic and international information exchange, and heighten Taiwan's international visibility by integrating the power of network platforms linking the public and private sectors.





Part

2

Taiwan Women's Organizations



Chapter

Overview

1


Images of the Women's Groups in Taiwan

For the past 30 years in Taiwan, women's groups have delivered outstanding results in terms of quality and quantity. Since the ending of the martial law era, through the progress of democracy, numerous women's groups have been established in Taiwan; since the creation of the Committee of Women's Rights Promotion, Executive Yuan, a democratic involvement approach is adopted by the government and women's groups, whereby the women's

groups directly participate in governmental policies. This approach not only allows the government to understand women's needs more closely during policy formulation, but also bring about the diverse development in women's groups. Under the circumstance, whereby the resources of the government and the decision process are shared, the main images appeared by women's groups are:

Flourishing Developments within Women's Groups

Since 2004, the Foundation for Women's Rights Promotion and Development (FWRPD) has conducted program for communications platforms and private women's groups, such as the Taiwan Women's Link, YWCA, National Alliance of Taiwan Women's Associations etc. Furthermore, the local women's group development project is also progressively demonstrating its effects, whereby women's groups throughout the country are organizing forums, lectures and other activities on issues



that concern them, in order to link with other groups and act as a bridge between women and the government. The women communications platform initiated by the FWRPD has not only shown an increased number of participations by county or city women's groups, additional attention has also been paid towards issues such as indigenous people, sex workers, female immigrants etc. In addition, the women's organization development project initiated by FWRPD, has also nurtured many local women's groups, so that the fundamental development of women's organizations can become more diversified.

In addition to the various women's groups developed by the FWRPD, in 2004, together with local women's groups, the Taiwan Women's Link established the Taiwan Women's Health Network. The Network focused specifically on the health issues of women in Taiwan. From 2006, the Taiwan Women's Health Network has organized numerous women's health related activities

and meetings. Moreover, with the developments in women's microenterprises, and the establishment of women entrepreneurs associations across the country, women entrepreneurs are provided with support and partners. Women's associations as well as YWCA are actively developing local women's groups and membership groups through various projects.

Increased Proposition and Advocating Capabilities

For a long time, due to the influence of the political environment, most proposition driven groups are centered in Taipei City. Later, Kaohsiung City's women's groups formed the "Starry Sky Women's Group Alliance" to supervise the women's policy of the local government; furthermore, it has collaborated with the Kaohsiung City Government on several projects. Many women's groups in the central region are dedicated to the promotion of gender mainstreaming. Tainan Association for the Promotion of Women's Rights further expands the experience to the establishment of the



women's right promotion in Tainan County. In 2007, the Yun Xuan Women and Children Cultural Foundation of Yunlin organized the "5th Women's Forum", demonstrating that women's organization with propositional capabilities are slowly growing roots in the community.

Strengthened Linkage of the Groups toward Diverse Issues


Gender mainstreaming, initiated by the central government, gradually emerging in the various counties and cities, for instance, women's groups in central counties have organized gender mainstreaming forums, while the universal care service mechanism is also implemented (pilot program in Taizhong County), thanks to the dedicated work by local women's groups and the Peng Wan-Ru Foundation.

Apart from the linkages between women's groups, the women's

groups have also targeted at specific issues and the linkages with other social welfare organizations. For instance, the Taiwan Women's Group National United Association and the social movement groups have formed the Constitution Reform Alliance, thus incorporating the women's perspective into the reform of constitutions. The Taiwan Women's Link and the social welfare groups have formed the National Health Insurance Supervisory Alliance and the National Pensions Promotion Alliance. Together, they serve to supervise national health insurance policies and promote the protection of the elderly women's economic safety through national pension. Furthermore, the Women's Awakening Foundation and social welfare groups have formed private social welfare task teams to supervise the social welfare policies of the government.

Political and Social Participation

In addition to significant growth in quantity, the issues focused



by the women's groups are diverse; in terms of political and social participation, women's groups jointly recommend women legislators, examine the implementation status on the women policy of various county and city governments. Furthermore, the non-district candidates from the various political parties are also examined with other social welfare groups.

Personal Safety

For specially designated groups, the issue on single parenting, domestic violence, foreign spouses, due to the influx of resources such as the Domestic Violence Act, Regulation for the Assistance of Women with Special Circumstances and foreign spouse fund, the direct service of the various cities and counties are deeply rooted. Meanwhile, the Taiwan Coalition Against Violence, created by numerous women's groups that are committed to the development of personal safety issues, takes advantage of the working experience of the various organizations, and use

collective power to monitor the personal safety policy for women and revision of the relevant laws, such as the promotion of Sexual Harassment Prevention Act and the proposed amendments to the Domestic Violence Prevention Act etc. In terms of human trafficking, the "Anti Human Trafficking Alliance" was created in 2006, which supervised the government's policy implementation and development of plans on human trafficking.

In terms of media monitoring and internet safety, the End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism Taiwan has collaborated with Taiwan Advertisers' Association to complete the "Internet Pornography Surveillance Report", while the Garden of Hope Foundation has organized action plays to protest against the stereotyping of the female gender. Other organizations such as the Women's Awakening Foundation, Taiwan Gender Equity Education Association and Taiwan Tongzhi Hotline Association, have also raised protests through press conferences to politician who made



opening remarks of gender discrimination during the election.

Immigrant Women

As regards to the immigrants, the government and the private organizations have collaborated to form community care spots for immigrant women. Moreover, they are also given support in terms of familiarization of the living environment, family parental education, vocational training. In addition, by organizing various activities, women groups also educate the public to understand more about the diverse culture of women immigrants, eliminate myths and prejudice. Women groups also unite to form the “Alliance for Human Rights Legislation for Immigrants and Migrants”, which oversees the revision of the Immigration Act, as well as the implementation of governmental immigration policies.


Employment

In terms of entrepreneurship and employment, due to the

government policy encouraging women entrepreneurship for the past years, the development activities, support groups of women entrepreneurs have increased in quantity and quality. In the protection of employment rights, in addition to continual promotion of the Gender Equality in Employment Act, the labor rights of nursing staff, private school teachers, homosexuals and specially designated groups are receiving increasing attention, as well as the employment rights of private school administrative staff, gender ratio limitations of police, and the employment rights of homosexuals.

Health and Medical Care

Concerning health and medical care, in 2006, the women's groups initiated a petition on the General Health Law, and held several press conferences as well as lobbying activities. They strongly opposed the compulsory requirement of women to be counseled and forced to deliberate over a period of time before



being allowed to abortion. Furthermore, they have also paid additional attention to the issues of female living with AIDS, rights of breast cancer patients, drug safety and vaccine for cervical cancer etc. The Taipei Women's Rights Promotion Association also organized the "Forum on the Promotion of Women Homosexuals' Health and Welfare", which contributed significantly towards the health requirements and medical care experience of domestic women homosexuals.

International Participation

In terms of international participation, the FWRPD has played a significant role; several important international women's meetings, such as Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) of UN and Women Leaders' Network (WLN) meeting and Gender Focal Point Network (GFPN) meeting of APEC, have all been promoted mainly by the Foundation. Meanwhile, women's groups continue to participate in the UN CSW and NGO forums, APEC meetings and

meetings of affiliated international organizations, as well as other women related international conferences, hoping to increase their energy through international exchange.

In 2007, after the Legislative Yuan passed the "Convention on the Elimination of all Discriminations against Women (CEDAW)", numerous women's groups around the country actively engaged in related domestic activities, in order to realize the contents of the convention. In addition, many women's groups have also held international affairs training programs. Including National Family Caregivers Association has participated in the "Disability, Elderly Care and Technology" international seminar; Taiwan Feminist Scholars Association participate in the "Women's Worlds 2008"; Taiwan Loudres Association participate in the "XVI International AIDS Conference" etc. The indigenous women's groups are beginning to contact the international community as well. They took part in the "7th International Organization Conference" and



the Cordillera Day.

Existing development gap between cities and townships still requires hard work

Through women's communication platforms and the efforts of national women's groups, women's organizations around the country are gradually being "developed". However, majority of the local women's organizations still tend to be service-oriented or friendship bonding. The main reasons are that women's organizations were not encouraged to develop subjects of debate, and the local government lacked resources to support the local organizations financially. Moreover, understaffing makes women's organizations unable to develop topics or conduct promotional works when they are already inundated with numerous individual cases. Furthermore, we can also discover that certain counties and cities lack of proactive women's organizations, which is a pity.

Also, in terms of services and issues concerning indigenous women, although communications platform and the tribal resources linkage meetings are available to gain insight into the needs and thoughts of indigenous women, generally speaking, groups that focus on the issues of indigenous women are scarce. How to collaborate with indigenous women to fight for the rights of women and to educate the public faced with cultural differences and social prejudice, remains a future challenge.

From the development of women's groups, it is evident that the FWRPD has played a key role in terms of the promotion of women's communication platforms, international participation and gender mainstreaming. The Foundation encouraged local women's organizations to connect with others, as well as to learn and support from each other. More importantly, it has also helped women's organizations to synchronize with the world through international meetings. In addition to the current issues,



women's groups are also paying increasing attention to topics such as entrepreneurship, economy, social welfare, long-term care, female homosexual health and other public agendas. They also collaborate with other social welfare groups such as constitution reform, national pension, social welfare policy, national health insurance etc. In terms of gender mainstreaming, besides the work done by the government, we are also seeing women's groups progressively introducing the concept into local authorities or political parties. Nevertheless, the development gap between cities and towns is still a major problem, since gender related women's organizations are still lacking in many cities and towns; it is clear that the women's movement still has a long way to go.



Chapter

2

Introduction to Women's Organizations Active in International Affairs

End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism, Taiwan

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International organization

ECPAT International

International Association of Internet Hotlines (INHOPE)

About us

To confront the severe issue of commercial sexual prostitution in Asian tourism, several NGOs from different countries gathered in Chiang Mai, Thailand in 1990, and launched the International Campaign to End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT) trying to protect children and to keep them away from commercial sexual exploitation.

We have joined ECPAT International in 1991. Registering on March 31st, 1994, we determine to provide better services for children and women, to fight against the huge criminal networks, and to find the children's smile back. The vision of ECPAT is to end child prostitution, end child pornography and end transnational sexual exploitation.

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International organization

World Council of Churches

About us

The members of the Women Ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Taiwan come from different ethnic groups and regions in Taiwan. The ministries are carried out by 23 presbyteries and 4 districts.

With the love of God and the strength of our faith we aim to cultivate women; to promote women's spirituality and feminist theology studies. Furthermore, we co-operate with local and international women organizations to exchange information and help one another in pursuing women's rights, justice and peace. We hold several study groups, workshops, seminars for sisters, engage in community empowerment work, publish magazine and gender education publications to promote gender issues.

Parents' Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability

Tel 886-2-27017271

Fax 886-2-27547250

Email papmh@yahoo.com.tw

Web www.papmh.org.tw

Address

3F, 285, JianGuo S. Rd., Sec. 1, Taipei City 106, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

International organization

Inclusion International

About us

The Parents' Association for Persons with Intellectual Disability (PAPID) was founded on Jan. 5th, 1992, by representatives of local associations of parents with intellectual disability all over Taiwan and Penghu. To establish PAPID is to speak for all intellectually disabled in Taiwan, strive for their rights and protection.

The aim of the PAPID is to connect all local associations to fight for the inherent rights and privilege of the intellectually disabled. We provide supporting and assistance to the parents. On the one hand, we assist all families with intellectually disabled persons to bravely deal with problems they must face. On the other hand, we push the government to work out measures for offering lifetime caring for the intellectually disabled.

Taipei Family Life Education Association

Tel 886-2-28946537

Fax 886-2-28946524

Email tfle.wlls@msa.hinet.net

Web www.ifle.org

Address

No.1, Lane 231, Gongguan Rd., Taipei City 112, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

International organization

International Family Life Education Center

About us

Taipei Family Life Education Association (TFLEA) was founded by a group of well-trained professionals in family life education in 1991. TFLEA specifically focus on promoting family quality of life ideals, programming counseling courses and community activities, setting up family education center within different counties. In the long term, we hope to found a professional international institute.

The primary goals of TFLEA are: a) to promote family life education (emotional, communication, parental education), b) to improve quality of family life, c) to train qualified professionals in family life education, d) to integrate public and private resources, e) to formulate family-related policies in step with current trends.

Girl Scouts of Taiwan

Tel 886-2-27771714

Fax 886-2-27771674

Email gstaiwan@ms78.hinet.net

Web gstaiwan.org

Address

28, Lane 23, Sec. 1, Jianguo N. Rd., Taipei City 104, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

International organization

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts

About us

The Girl Scouts Association of Taiwan aims to nurture the working ability of girls, to cultivate their good habits and noble characters, to equip them with useful knowledge, and to promote their mental and physical health in order that they have the qualities of intelligence and bravery to disseminate the virtues of women and make contribution to the whole society.

We hope to promote the fundamental principles and spirit of Girl Scouting laid out in the promise and law, to develop the concept and values system, and to provide opportunities with broad insight into the scope of movement to experience international guiding and gain in their practical personal growth. The vision is to enable girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world

Young Women's Christian Association, R.O.C.

Tel 886-2-23140408

Fax 886-2-23831340

Email ywca@ywca.org.tw

Web www.ywca.org.tw

Address

10F., No.7, Ching Tao W. Rd., Taipei City 100, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

International organization

World YWCA

About us

Taipei YWCA was established in 1949 and committed to its purpose of developing the leadership of women, sharing the global views on women issues, helping women to work for communities and beyond. YWCA of Taiwan has a long history and is one of the major women's organizations in Taiwan, R.O.C., with ten branches and two Foreign Spouse Family Service Centers.

The principles we value are: a) our worldwide solidarity as a women's volunteer membership movement; b) our history and foundation in the Christian faith; c) diversity, inclusiveness, tolerance and mutual respect; d) integrity and responsible accountability. The social services we provide includes helping foreign brides adjust to their new life, promoting comprehensive HIV/AIDS education and Young Women's International Affairs Training Project.

Taiwan Nurses Association

Tel 886-2-27552291

Fax 886-2-27019817

Email twna@twna.org.tw

Web www.twna.org.tw

Address

4F, 281 Hsin-Yi Road Section 4, Taipei 10681, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

International organization

The International Council of Nurses

About us

The Taiwan Nurses Association (TWNA), serving the practical needs of nurses for 93 years, is one of the oldest and well-organized nursing organizations in Taiwan. Facing rapidly changing medical care needs and priorities, the TWNA works hard to maintain its strengths, while pursuing further opportunities to help members. In a Board Meeting in July 2007, the Association passed a resolution stipulating six TWNA core values, including Professionalism; Visionary Leadership; Partnership; Globalization; Innovation; and Excellence.

The Association operates for the purposes of promoting professional nursing services, improving nursing-related academic research, upgrading standards of nursing education, enhancing the health of all citizens, and enhancing the association's international status.

Women's Federation for World Peace, Taiwan R.O.C.

Tel 886-2-23637656

Fax 886-2-23641110

Email wfwf@wfwf.twmail.org

Web www.unification.org.tw/wfwf/

Address

7F-3, 95, Roosevelt RD., Sec. 2, Taipei City 100, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

International organization

The Women's Federation For World Peace

About us

The Era of Women is an era of cooperation of true partnership in which men and women understand that each was created to complement the good qualities of the other. As needs were identified, the Women's Federation brings women together to use their unique perspective, abilities, resources, energy and experience to stimulate a spirit of volunteerism in a common effort to establish better communities, societies, nations and global village.

Events we hold recently include international activities, local activities (rebuilding family ethics), seminars on AIDS prevention and school activities (establishment of youth common value).

Department of Women's Development, Democratic Progressive Party

Tel 886-2-23929989

Fax 886-2-23932079

Email dppsisterhood@gmail.com

Web www.sisterhood.org.tw

Address

10 F, No. 30, Pei-Ping East Rd., Taipei City, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

To promote a more equal and fair situation between women and men in Taiwan, Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) founded the Women's Development Committee in September, 1993. To advance gender equality, DPP renamed the Women's Development Committee as the Department of Women's Development in July 1996 in order to set up local women organizations and empower women's abilities.

We encourage female party members to participate in political affairs, create a women-friendly political environment, strive for more right and relevant welfare for women. We connect with local female party members who work within our party to increase women's political participation. We establish and advocate the policies of women/gender, using the power of our party to improve the social status of Taiwanese women.

Taiwan Gender Equity Education Association

Tel 886-2-23638841

Fax 886-2-23698234

Email tgeea.y2002@msa.hinet.net

Web www.tgeea.org.tw

Address

2F, No.7, Lane 56, Hsin-Sheng South Rd., Sec. 3, Taipei City 106, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

Taiwan Gender Equity Education Association, TGEEA, is founded on November 16, 2002. The goals of TGEEA are: a) to offer training courses and workshops to all-level teachers; b) to develop a network to support teachers devoted to gender equity education; c) to create teaching materials and pedagogy on gender equity education; d) to build up international networks of gender equity education.

Our members include: a) all-level teachers who are interested in and devoted to gender equity education; b) college and university professors who do researches on gender studies or teach women/gender courses; c) other adults and college students who support gender equity education.

Taiwan Association of Family Caregivers

Tel 886-2-25111751

Fax 886-2-25415653

Email takecare@ms17.hinet.net

Web www.familycare.org.tw

Address

3F., No.57, Alley 1, Lane 56, Sec. 1, Chang-an E. Rd., Taipei City 104, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

In Taiwan, the caring services for the disabled are almost always provided by their families. To respond this situation that the long-term ignorance to the needs of family caregivers, the Taiwan Association of Family Caregivers (T AFC) was set up by experts, scholars and professionals established in 1996. It is the first non-profit organization to advocate the rights and needs for the family caregivers. As well as relevant organizations, members of T AFC's include scholars, nurses, doctors, occupational therapists, social workers and caregivers.

Our main tasks are to accelerate the public understanding and care about family caregivers, oversee the policy quality and budgets provided by government, connect local groups' resources and conduct related researches and training workshops.

Awakening Foundation

Tel 886-2-25028715

Fax 886-2-25028725

Email service@awakening.org.tw

Web www.awakening.org.tw

Address

4F, No.264, Lungchiang Rd., Taipei, 104, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

In 1982, a group of women published a monthly magazine called the Awakening Magazine for the purpose of raising women's self-awareness and striving for women's rights in Taiwan. With the goal of broader mobilization of women and resources, the founders established the Awakening Foundation in October, 1987.

Our mission includes advocacy, awakening, mobilization and equality. The Awakening Foundation has been given impetus to policy and institutional reform that actively practices and promotes gender equality. It has taken actions on lobbying women issues and broadening women's participation in public affairs. Furthermore, the Foundation hosting lectures and seminars for communities and providing legal aid, information and consultation to individual women and other organizations.

National Alliance of Taiwan Women's Associations

Tel 886-2-27334668

Fax 886-2-27334659

Email natwa@natwa.org.tw

Web www.natwa.org.tw

Address

7F, 165, Hsin-Hai Rd., Sec. 2, Taipei City 106, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

International organization

World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (WANGO)

About us

National Alliance of Taiwan Women's Associations (NATWA) is a non-governmental, non-profit organization affiliated with more than 65 women's organizations in Taiwan. The head office serves as a platform to consolidate and share resources. Together, we aim to advance gender equality, mainstream gender policy and promote women's status.

We concern many areas ranging from policy advocacy, direct service, vocational training and social welfare provision. We have arranged activities such as career planning, micro-business development and computer skill training program. We monitor government's annual gender budget. We promote gender equality and women's rights by organizing trips, public hearings, and press conferences.

The Homemakers' Union & Foundation

Tel 886-2-23686211

Fax 886-2-23686213

Email homemakr@ms15.hinet.net

Web www.huf.org.tw

Address

5F-1, No.4, Ln. 160, Sec. 3, Tingzhou Rd., Taipei City 100, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

A group of housewives began to promote green living in 1987 and officially established the Foundation in 1989. Its mission was to consolidate women's power to care for the communities, enhance the quality of life, promote gender harmony, and improve the living environment. Since its inception, the Foundation has involved in environmental issues, education, women's growth and consumer quality. We foster the system of joint thinking and decision-making with an aim to observe and care for public issues.

So far, the Foundation has set up the environmental protection, women's growth, education, and consumer rights committees. It is a manifestation of women's power in environmental protection and reform through collective participation.

National Council of Women of Taiwan, R.O.C.

Tel 886-2-23144002

Fax 886-2-23831340

Email ncw@ncw.org.tw

Web www.ncw.org.tw

Address

4F-A, No.67, Sec. 1, Minguan E. Rd., Taipei City 104, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

International organization

International Council of Women

About us

Early as in the 1960s, The president of YMCA of Taiwan Cecilia Y. Koo united several women's groups to establish the NCW. She lead for the goals of raising awareness on important women's issues, promoting women's social status, improving the lives of disadvantaged women and children, enhancing civilian diplomacy, cultivating women's leadership , etc. At present, NCW has 10 group members and 89 individual members.

Over the years, NCW had actively interacted with other international women's groups and attend many international conventions with great success. NCW has become members of the most important women's organizations includes International Council of Women (ICW), Federation of Asia-Pacific Women's Association (FAWA), The General Federation of Women's Club (GFWC).

Foundation for Women's Rights Promotion and Development

Tel 886-2-23212100

Fax 886-2-23212120

Email womenweb@wrp.org.tw

Web www.wrp.org.tw

Address

9F., No.15, Sec. 1, Hangzhou S. Rd., Taipei City 100, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

To further the national interest and develop and coordinate a comprehensive women's policy, the Commission on Women's Rights Promotion (CWRP) was established by the Executive Yuan in 1997. To sustain the government's commitment, the CWRP established the Foundation for Women's Rights Promotion and Development (FWRPD) in 1997, to serve as a bridge for constructive dialogue between the government and the private sectors, and to build a center of resource and information exchange for all women in Taiwan.

FWRPD has conducted gender equality development on researching gender mainstreaming and gender resources kits, providing women's training and education, promoting and networking women groups and women entrepreneurs, participating international exchange and UN, APEC gender related meetings.

The Garden of Hope Foundation

Tel 886-2-23679595

Fax 886-2-23673002

Email master@goh.org.tw

Web www.goh.org.tw

Address

7F, No.75, Roosevelt Rd., Sec. 2, Taipei City 106, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

The Garden of Hope Foundation is a non-profit group established in 1988 to help disadvantaged girls and young women. With determination and courage to pursue justice and love, we strive not only to prevent and eliminate harms of sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, teen pregnancy and human trafficking, but also to create a friendly environment for children and women through progressive social reform.

We provide national network of shelters and centers provides professional services in counseling, temporary housing, employment training, social work and legal aid for women and girls in need. On top of victim services, the Garden of Hope also recognizes the fundamental needs of advocacy, preventive actions and empowerment in eliminating violence against women and girls.

Taiwan Breast Cancer Alliance

Tel 886-2-25578050

Fax 886-2-25578049

Email tbca.npo@msa.hinet.net

Web www.tbca-npo.org.tw

Address

2F., No.258, Mincyuan W. Rd., Taipei City 103, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

Taiwan Breast Cancer Alliance (TBCA) was founded in 2002. The goal of TBCA is to unite all breast cancer patient support groups, to share resources and experiences while promoting self-awareness for the nation's public health.

The missions of TBCA are: a) to assist the foundation of breast cancer patients' groups; b) to facilitate the communications and cooperation among breast cancer patients' groups and related government agencies; c) to set up breast cancer information/ services website; d) to set agenda on breast cancer prevention/ treatment, raise awareness and promote research development; e) to voice opinions for breast cancer patients, and safeguard the rights of breast cancer patients; f) to take part in international breast cancer prevention/treatment campaigns to strengthen global exchanges on this issue.

Taipei Association for the Promotion of Women's Rights

Tel 886-2-33221350

Fax 886-2-23224632

Email info@tapwr.org.tw

Web www.tapwr.org.tw

Address

2F, No.102, Sec 1, Shinshen S. Rd., Taipei City, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

Taipei Association for the Promotion of Women's Rights (TAPWR) was formed on February 5, 1994. Its ultimate goal is to serve the female citizens and thus promote the gender equality. The main belief of TAPWR is to educate women, promote feminism ideology, and advocate gender equality of the society. The mission is to elevate woman's prestige, to solicit more women's rights and benefits, and to promote equal rights for men and women.

TAPWR especially concerned about women's health promotion, Sex equality education, Personal Safety advocacy and participate in Community Work. We provide teenager unexpected pregnancy assistance, legal aid during separation period, health promotion and education for lesbian.

Modern Women's Foundation

Tel 886-2-23917133

Fax 886-2-23917129

Email mwf.org@msa.hinet.net

Web www.38.org.tw

Address

7F-1B, No.7, Roosevelt Rd., Sec.1, Taipei City 100, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

The Modern Women's Foundation was founded in 1987 by the Office of Legislator Wei-kang Pan's enthusiastic appeal and promotion. The Foundation is committed to women's self-recognition, self-fulfillment and self-development. It keeps driving the public attention to the issues of women's safety and rights.

Early as in 1988, we set up a women protection center, offering woman victims professional information and service in legal, medical services. We continue to fight for an equal, safe and dignified social environment for women who are victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse or sexual harassment. We aggressively promote various forward-looking systems and service projects.

Taipei Women's Rescue Foundation

Tel 886-2-25558595

Fax 886-2-25555995

Email twr95@ms4.hinet.net

Web www.twr.org.tw

Address

10F, No.240, Minsheng W. Rd., Taipei City 103, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

In the years of 1987 and 1988, to rescue and provide long-term assistance to the large group of girls who have been sold by their parents and forced into prostitution, a number of enthusiastic lawyers, scholars, and social workers joined to establish "Taiwan Women's Rescue Foundation" in August 1987, aiming to rescue unfortunate women, provide legal consultation and service, and give living and education guidance, while rebuilding their self-confidence and helping them go back to family and the society.

The foundation has been a pioneer to eliminate women trafficking in Taiwan and eradicate child prostitution. Moreover, the TWRF will utilize the advocacy of law, social education and promotion to merge the government and the society into the process of women rights movement in Taiwan without a moment of hesitation.

Warm Life Association

Tel 886-2-27080126

Fax 886-2-27092223

Email warm.life@msa.hinet.net

Web www.warmlife.tw

Address

No.4, Ln. 135, Rui-an St., Taipei City 106, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

In 1984, an associate professor gathered groups of divorced women and established an informal organization called the "Give Her a Hand Association", which aimed to provide psychological support for women in need. Through the dedication and efforts of the pioneers, the Warm Life Association was formally established in 1988.

Not only for divorced women, many married and single women identified with our mission and joined to help others. The "sisters" support each other through provisions of legal advice, marital consultation groups, case interviews, social resource referral, and education training. and actively promote legislative reform to improve protection of women's rights through institutional initiatives.

Taiwan Woman's Association of Taipei City

Tel 886-2-27266047

Fax 886-2-27262202

Email major@twwoman.url.tw

Web www.twwoman.url.tw

Address

2F., No.229, Songde Rd., Xinyi Dist., Taipei City 110, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

The Association was founded by Taipei City Councilor, Ms Chen Shu-Hua in 1995. In view that a number of legal provisions were unfair to women under the time and socio-economic background, the President of the Association gathered a group of women to protest against the laws and demand for amendment, in an aim to solve the problems of long-term absence of human rights protection for women in Taiwan from the fundamental rule of laws. Through this event, the Association was officially set up and registered, and aims to promote the local culture and instill independent thinking and confidence for women, as well as uplift the women's social status in the society. The Association has organized numerous reading clubs, charity auctions, and cultural exchange activities over the years.

Chinese Woman's Business Association

Tel 886-2-23821701

Fax 886-2-23821655

Email cwba.roc@msa.hinet.net

Web www.wretch.cc/blog/cwba

Address

9F, No.136, Bo-ai Rd., Taipei City 100, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

The Association had set up for 29 years. In this period, more than 20 branches have been founded internationally, with a total membership exceeding two thousand. The country's economy is gearing up to become leading edgy in high-technology and service industry. These are two sectors in which woman professionals are making great contributions.

The Chinese Woman's Business Association is not a purely professional association. "From the society, for the society", this is our spirit. We provide information and support for our members. We have been engaged in charity affairs, such as visiting orphanages and handicapped, not only in Taiwan, but also in Mainland China and abroad.

Living with Hope Organization

Tel 886-3-3475721

Fax 886-3-3477075

Email livingwithhope@gmail.com

Web www.aids.org.tw

Address

Mailbox 20-43 Banqiao City, Taipei County 220, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

The Organization was set up by Professor Chen Yi-Ming of National Yang Ming University in 1994. It was initiated as a "halfway house for AIDS patients", aiming to provide care for HIV positive patients. Up to 1999, the establishment of relevant organizations and the notable effect of the cocktail therapy reduced the demand for a halfway house; therefore, the Organization began to gradually redirect towards advocacy for patient's rights. The Organization provides continuing services and supports for patient visits and anonymous screening to solve the social and medical problems brought by the spread of AIDS and to promote AIDS prevention activities and education, including training of volunteers and AIDS bed linen charity drive, aiming to raise public awareness and concern about AIDS.

Taiwan Lourdes Association

Tel 886-2-23711406

Fax 886-2-23711478

Email lourdes@ms42.hinet.net

Web www.lourdes.org.tw

Address

Rm. 203, 2F., No.2, Sec. 1, Zhongshan N. Rd., Taipei City 100, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

Lourdes Association was established by the Daughters of Charity in Taiwan. During the 1990's the Daughters of Charity became aware of the suffering of those people who are infected with HIV/AIDS and their families. Hence, in 1997 the work for the children was terminated and the purpose of the home has been for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families. It is the only Catholic organization in Taiwan for the service of people living with HIV/AIDS.

The objectivities of Lourdes are: 1) providing community-based services which improve the quality of life of those infected with HIV and AIDS; 2) campaigning for the human rights of those infected with HIV and AIDS; 3) educating greater public understanding of the personal impact of HIV and AIDS in order to break off the prejudice and discrimination against them.

Centre for Grassroots Women Workers

Tel 886-2-27621006

Fax 886-2-27694226

Email tgwwc@ms16.hinet.net

Web tgwwc.womenweb.org.tw

Address

No.208-3, Jiankang Rd., Taipei City 105, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

Established in July 1988, the Centre for Grassroots Women Workers intends to provide opportunities for women workers and housewife who do part-time jobs to reform the male-dominated workers' unions, and to develop women workers' unions and workers' movements through the promotion of feminism.

In the beginning, the organizational structure was dominated by women intellectuals who often ironically oppress the voices and the feeling of grassroots women. After 1990, the women workers took the lead while assisted by advisors. We meet when the need arises. We hold community activities regarding legal advice, court case assistance, public education, prison visiting and also provide temporary shelter for migrant women.

Dorcas Family Ministry Organization

Tel 886-2-22479311

Fax 886-2-22479278

Email dorcas.tw@msa.hinet.net

Web www.dorcas.org.tw

Address

10F-1, No.634-9, Jingping Rd., Zhonghe City, Taipei County 235, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

Dorcas Family Ministry Organization was organized by a group of Christians who have gone through marital difficulties. With an understanding heart, founder, Miss Wu Wei-Jie has supported numerous people who were struggling in their marriages over the years. The Organization brought many people to relearn the value of marriage and family, understand themselves and their spouses, and re-embrace love.

The Organization has been devoted to organizing pre-marital courses, life-rebuilding programs, and happy marriage camps, as well as overseas volunteer activities. The Organization has also established a halfway house to provide emergency shelter for battered women and their children, as well as rehabilitation counseling, occupational training, and legal consultation.

Lan-Shin Women and Children Service Center

Tel 886-3-9510518

Fax 886-3-9510445

Email lanshin@roton.tw

Web www.roton.tw

Address

No.166, Guangming St., Luodong Township, Yilan County 265, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

The Center was founded in Ilan, Taiwan, and is committed to serving disadvantaged groups. The problem of increasing violence in the society has been threatening the safety of women, so "Ilan needed a space dedicated to women". This speech brought Miss Huang Shu-Ling to found the Center and become committed to the works of welfare for women. In addition to women victim, the Organization also services other disadvantaged groups, including single parents, children under care by grandparents, new immigrant families, and the physically and mentally disabled people, in aim to seek the best interests through utilization of social resources.

Services provided include family care home visits, emergency shelter, promotional education in schools, life adaptation counseling classes, daycare services, and nanny supervision home visits.

Collective of Sex Workers and Supporters

Tel 886-2-25535138

Fax 886-2-25535236

Email coswas@mail2000.com.tw

Web coswas.org

Address

No. 128. Kui-Sui Street, Taipei City 103, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

Collective of Sex Workers and Supporters (COSWAS) was formed by the supporters of sex workers' rights and those concerned with policies for the sex industry, as well as the core members of the Taipei Alliance of Licensed Prostitutes (TALP). It is the continuation of our extended struggle of the Taipei Licensed Prostitutes. COSWAS aims to follow-up and deepen our understanding on the system and conditions of the TALP. We are also concerned with the rights of sex workers and their working conditions and further catalyze policy debates on sex industry to develop concrete, realistic and positive policies as well as system with regards to the industry.

Taichung Kaihuai Association

Tel 886-4-24625990

Fax 886-4-24627622

Email tckaihuai@yahoo.com.tw

Web tchappy.natwa.org.tw

Address

2F., No.148-33, Sec. 3, Xitun Rd., Taichung City 407, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

"Kaihuai Club", the predecessor of Taichung Kaihuai Association, is a service organization founded by hospital and social workers in 1994. In 1998, the Club was officially reorganized and registered. The Association integrated professional knowledge and patient's experience and power to service breast cancer patients through helping them adapt psychologically and emotionally and educate their families and the society.

The Association hosts patients' forums, rehabilitation patients counseling, and medical seminars regularly. Each year, the Association services nearly 10 thousand patients and co-operate with support groups of other counties and cities for breast cancer patients on long-term basis, as well as actively promote breast cancer prevention work and provide support through the power of patients and their family members.

Indigenous Women Growth Association

Tel 886-7-7821618

Fax 886-7-7821273

Email kciwga@hotmail.com

Web tw.myblog.yahoo.com/abus089

Address

No.23, Zhongxing Rd., Daliuo Township, Kaohsiung County 831, Taiwan (R.O.C.)

About us

The Association was officially established in 1997. It was initiated to develop the value of indigenous communities and break the stereotype of indigenous peoples. A group of aboriginal women took the initiative to care for indigenous people in the tribes as well as in the cities and made attempts to raise their identifications to their cultures. Through tasks in the four major areas, life education, social care, cultural heritage, and political development, the Association organized reading sessions and seminars to improve the self-awareness of aboriginal women, facilitate spiritual growth, and bring together the aboriginal women in the urban and rural communities. Through a variety of activities, the Association studies and records the traditional aboriginal cultures and participate in international events, aiming to improve aboriginal women's social status and quality of life, raise ethnic awareness, and manifest the thriving vitality of indigenous peoples.





About Editor



***Foundation for
Women's Rights Promotion
and Development***





Foundation for Women's Rights Promotion and Development

Background

To develop and coordinate a comprehensive women's policy, the Commission on Women's Rights Promotion (CWRP) was established by the Executive Yuan in 1997 in cross-departmental fashion. In 1999, the Foundation for Women's Rights Promotion and Development (FWRPD) was established under the "Executive Yuan National Women Personal Safety Fund", to serve as a bridge between the government and the private sectors, and to build a resource center for women in Taiwan.

Major Achievements

The FWRPD are dedicated to enhancing and developing women's rights and has conducted gender equality development on the following issues:

- Promote gender mainstreaming and gender resources kits
- Enhance Women empowerment and education
- Develop women/gender Network through various platform
- Engage in International exchange and participation

In the future, FWRPD will continue to promote and develop women's rights and establish a society of gender equality and mutual respect.

Contact Us

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