

# Women and equal rights



Name:

Date:



## Info

Women's rights and equality matter now more than ever. But did you know that throughout history, many women made groundbreaking scientific discoveries yet never received the recognition they deserved—simply because they were women?

In this worksheet, we'll explore these overlooked pioneers, the challenges they faced, and the biases that may still exist today. Get ready for inspiring stories of courageous women who achieved greatness against all odds!

At the beginning, you will learn more about the current situation of equal rights by listening to a girl talk about her life.

## Work assignment

Listen to the audio file and then answer the questions.



## Audio Content

To listen to audio content just scan the QR code and listen to it on the digital worksheet.

# Women and equal rights



Name:

Date:

 Choose the correct answer.

**What is one major area where men and women are not treated equally in the USA?**

- Gender pay gap    Right to vote    Property ownership    Access to education

**Why is the representation of women in leadership roles an issue in the USA?**

- Women lack the necessary education    There are no laws supporting women in leadership  
 Women are not interested in leadership roles  
 It leads to laws and policies that do not fully consider women's needs

**What percentage of women held seats in the U.S. Congress in 2022?**

- 50%    28%    60%    15%

**Despite laws against it, what percentage of working women in the USA have experienced gender discrimination at work?**

- 25%    55%    42%    10%

**What are some steps mentioned to achieve true equality between men and women?**

- Increasing the retirement age for women    Reducing taxes for women  
 Providing more vacation days for women  
 Closing the pay gap, stopping gender discrimination, and ensuring more women in leadership roles

**What role does education and awareness play in achieving gender equality?**

- They only benefit women    They only benefit men    They are not necessary for change  
 They help people understand the importance of gender equality and how to achieve it

# Women and equal rights



Name:

Date:

Lise Meitner, Rosalind Franklin and Jocelyn Bell Burnell will now tell you about their lives and the obstacles they faced.

## Work assignment

Read the texts and then answer the questions.

### Lise Meitner



I am Lise Meitner, a physicist who co-discovered nuclear fission. Despite my pivotal role, Otto Hahn alone received the Nobel Prize. As a Jewish woman, I faced immense prejudice and was forced to flee Nazi Germany. My contributions were overshadowed by my male colleagues, leading to a lack of recognition during my lifetime. However, today, my achievements are acknowledged, and awards and institutions bear my name.

Lise Meitner, born in 1878, was a physicist who co-discovered nuclear fission but was overshadowed by her male colleague, Otto Hahn. She faced prejudice as a Jewish woman, which affected her recognition. Today, her contributions are acknowledged.

### Rosalind Franklin



I am Rosalind Franklin, known for my work on the structure of DNA. My photograph 51 was crucial in identifying the double helix, but Watson and Crick took credit. As a woman in science, I faced sexism and was not acknowledged for my contributions during my life. I died young, at 37, but today, my work is celebrated, and many institutions and awards honor my name.

Rosalind Franklin, born in 1920, played a critical role in discovering the DNA structure. Despite her pivotal photo 51, Watson and Crick received credit. She faced sexism and died young. Today, her contributions are celebrated.

### Jocelyn Bell Burnell



I am Jocelyn Bell Burnell, who discovered pulsars. Despite my discovery, my supervisor Antony Hewish received the Nobel Prize. As a woman in astrophysics, my contributions were initially overlooked. This lack of recognition affected my career, but I continued to work passionately. Today, my achievements are recognized, and I have received numerous prestigious awards.

Jocelyn Bell Burnell, born in 1943, discovered pulsars, but her supervisor got the Nobel Prize. Initially overlooked due to gender bias, she continued her work and is now widely recognized and honored.

# Women and equal rights



Name:

Date:

**Describe the challenges faced by Lise Meitner, Rosalind Franklin, and Jocelyn Bell Burnell in their scientific careers. How did these challenges affect their recognition during their lifetimes?**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Compare the experiences of these three women scientists in terms of the prejudice they faced. How do you think their stories can inspire you when you face difficulties in your own life?**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# Women and equal rights



Name:

Date:

## Additional task

Watch the video to learn more about the lack of equality between women and men. Then, answer the questions.



**Youtube: Explained | Why Women Are Paid Less | FULL EPISODE | Netflix**

To watch the youtube video just scan the QR code.

## Choose the correct answer.

**Why did the idea of guaranteed maternity leave in Iceland initially reinforce cultural norms at the heart of the pay gap?**

- It made it harder for women to find jobs.  It raised the cost of hiring women for employers.
- It encouraged moms to stay home while new fathers kept working.
- It increased the number of single mothers.

**What major event in 1994 significantly changed the role of women in Rwanda?**

- The Rwandan Genocide.  The introduction of free college education.
- A nationwide women's strike.  The election of the first female president.

**What is one major reason women are paid less than men according to the text?**

- Women are less educated than men.  Women do not want to work full-time jobs.
- Women often take on the role of primary caregiver.  Women do not work as hard as men.

**What policy did Iceland implement to encourage fathers to take parental leave?**

- Free childcare services for all families.  A law requiring equal pay for men and women.
- Tax incentives for companies hiring new dads.  A use-it-or-lose-it paternity leave benefit.

**Why do some women not see the motherhood penalty as a problem?**

- They want to spend more time with their children.  They believe men should earn more.
- They do not face discrimination at work.  They do not want to have children.