Background on Discrimination against Women

How women are discriminated against

Discrimination can be seen at all ages and stages of development for women in the U.S. and abroad. (…)

Background on Women’s Rights

Millions of women throughout the world live in conditions in which they are deprived of their basic human rights for no other reason than their gender.

Combatants in conflicts, like in Sierra Leone, Kosovo, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan, and Rwanda, have raped women as a weapon of war without consequence. Men in Pakistan, South Africa, Peru, Russia, and Uzbekistan beat women in the home at astounding rates. Women from Ukraine, Moldova, Nigeria, the Dominican Republic, Burma, and Thailand are bought and sold, trafficked to work in forced prostitution. In Guatemala, South Africa, and Mexico, women’s ability to enter and remain in the work force is obstructed. In the U.S., students discriminate against and attack girls in school who are lesbian, bi-sexual, or transgender, or do not conform to male standards of female behavior. Women in Morocco, Jordan, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia face government-sponsored discrimination that renders them unequal before the law.

Abuses against women are relentless, systematic, and widely tolerated, if not explicitly condoned. Violence and discrimination against women are global social epidemics. We live in a world in which women do not have basic control over what happens to their bodies. Millions of women and girls are forced to marry and have sex with men they do not desire. Husbands and other male family members obstruct or dictate women’s access to reproductive health care. Doctors and government officials disproportionately target women from disadvantaged or marginalized communities for coercive family planning policies.

The realization of women’s rights is a global struggle based on universal human rights and the rule of law. It requires all of us to unite in solidarity to end traditions, practices, and laws that harm women. It is a fight for freedom to be fully and completely human and equal without apology or permission. Ultimately, the struggle for women’s human rights must be about making women’s lives matter everywhere all the time. In practice, this means taking action to stop discrimination and violence against women.


Glossary:

– renders (line 15): submete.
– law (lines 16 and 25): lei.
16) The only alternative that presents the appropriate keywords of the text is
A) gender, violence and prostitution.
B) background, rights and girls.
C) women, violence and conflicts.
D) gender, discrimination and women.
E) discrimination, rights and men.

20) The pronoun “It” (line 25) refers to
A) the realization of women’s rights.
B) a global struggle.
C) universal human rights.
D) universal human rights and the rule of law.
E) the rule of law.

17) The pronoun “their” (line 6) refers to
A) women.
B) rights.
C) conditions.
D) gender.
E) than.

21) The word “systematic” (line 17) is related to
A) an amateur act.
B) a completely new fact.
C) a fact that is repeated regularly.
D) a brave act.
E) a fact that is completed.

18) The pronoun “who” (line 13) refers to
A) are lesbian.
B) lesbian.
C) in school.
D) attack.
E) girls in school.

22) The word “harm” (line 26) can be translated as
A) beneficiam.
B) prejudicam.
C) regulamentam.
D) exploram.
E) satisfazem.
23) The main reason for discrimination against women is
A) age.
B) gender.
C) nationality.
D) law.
E) traditions.

24) The best translation for the excerpt “In practice, this means taking action to stop discrimination and violence against women.” (lines 28 and 29) is
A) Na prática, isso quer dizer que uma ação deve ser tomada na discriminação e na violência entre mulheres.
B) Em essência, isso quer dizer que medidas devem ser tomadas para parar a discriminação e a violência das mulheres.
C) Na prática, isso significa tomar medidas para deter a discriminação e a violência contra mulheres.
D) Em suma, isso significa que uma ação deve parar a discriminação e a violência das mulheres.
E) Na prática, isso quer dizer que medidas devem ser tomadas para parar a discriminação e a violência da mulher.

25) The words related to discriminatory practices against women are
A) work force (line 12), bodies (line 19), family members (line 21) and human rights (line 24).
B) raped (line 8), beat (line 9), bought and sold (line 11) and forced prostitution (line 11).
C) beat (line 9), female behavior (line 14), bodies (line 19) and universal human rights (24).
D) bought and sold (line 11), bodies (line 19), family members (line 21) and human rights (24).
E) raped (line 8), work force (line 12), bodies (line 19) and universal human rights (24).

26) “Astounding rates” (lines 9 and 10) is related to the fact that
A) not many women are beaten in their home.
B) few women are beaten in their home.
C) some women are beaten in their home.
D) many women are beaten in their home.
E) very few women are beaten in their home.

27) “Throughout the world” (line 5) is related to the fact that
A) women from different nationalities suffer from discrimination.
B) only North American women suffer from discrimination.
C) some women suffer from violence and discrimination.
D) women are forced to have sex with men they do not desire.
E) women’s rights should be seen as a global struggle.

28) Women’s rights should be seen as
A) a fight for freedom, universal human rights and epidemics.
B) violence against women, freedom and solidarity.
C) solidarity, development and forced prostitution.
D) a global struggle, solidarity and a fight for freedom.
E) epidemics, a global struggle and forced prostitution.
29) The main aim of the text is
A) to catch the reader’s attention to marginalized communities.
B) to convince the reader to favor government-sponsored discrimination.
C) to ask the reader to end traditions and practices against girls.
D) to affirm that violence and discrimination are global social epidemics.
E) to call the reader’s attention to discrimination against women.

30) What does the author of the text suggest us to do?
A) to obstruct women’s access to reproductive health care.
B) to support discrimination and violence against women.
C) to unite in solidarity to end violence against girls.
D) to participate in a global struggle for women’s rights.
E) to face government-sponsored discrimination.