



# Beyond Mission



Women make up 70% of the world's poor.

Girls and women are less likely to: go to school, get medical care, own property, vote, abuse drugs or alcohol

Girls and women are more likely to: be abused by a family member, care for children on their own, spend money on their children  
Poverty places women at greater risk of violence and human rights abuses (particularly during conflicts where women and children often bear the brunt of civilian casualties), marginalising and preventing their full participation in society.

- 500,000 women die during childbirth every year
- 80% of the world's refugees are female
- Gender-based violence kills more women between the ages of 15 and 44 than cancer, malaria, traffic accidents and war combined
- Women own just 10% of the world's resources and earn 10% of its annual income yet look after 90% of its children

There is no longer Jew or Greek,  
there is no longer slave or free,  
***there is no longer  
male and female;***  
for all of you are one in Christ  
Jesus. Galatians 3:28

## EMPOWERING WOMEN

Sustainable growth and development can only occur when everyone – women, men and children – are involved. Economically empowering women often results in the benefits flowing throughout the whole community. Research has shown that women are more likely than men to spend their earnings on the health and wellbeing of their family by providing food, medicine and education. Increased female education levels are also linked with improvements in maternal and child health, as well as infant survival rates.

***Women are not the problem  
... they are the solution.***

Nicholas D. Kristof



### ACTIVITIES

- 1 List three ways women suffer more poverty than men.
- 2 Suggest three reasons *why* this may be the case.
- 3 Suggest two ways to empower men while benefiting women.

### INVESTIGATE

Follow the link at the bottom of the page and discover how Caritas is helping to address gender injustice.



Images: <http://www.caritas.org.au>

**LINK TO  
FURTHER INFORMATION**  
<http://www.caritas.org.au/learn/global-poverty->