

Equal Means Equal

There are no more excuses. One more state to ratify the ERA.



Let's make it now! YOU can help make South Carolina the 38th state to ratify the 27th Amendment: *Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex.*

How can you help fuel the fight for Equal Rights?

1. Share Critical Talking Points* regarding the ERA with family, friends, neighbors. (Many people are not aware that South Carolina is only one of 13 states that has NOT ratified the ERA)
2. Ask for a meeting, call, send a letter, email your state representative and senator stating that you support the immediate passage of the Equal Rights Amendment in South Carolina.
3. Ask candidates who are running for public office if she/he supports the ERA and ask them to contact their state representative and senator asking for their support of immediate passage of the ERA.

JOIN:

- The League of Women Voters, Hilton Head and Bluffton
<https://www.lww.org/local-leagues/lww-hilton-head-islandbluffton-area>
- The Equal Means Equal Coalition at equalmeansequal.com.



CRITICAL TALKING POINTS

(There are many more, but let's get the conversation started)

1. The ERA is a nonpartisan, moral issue that requires political action.
2. The ERA seeks a legal system in which every person will be judged on the basis of individual merit enabling ALL citizens to make full use of their political and economic capabilities. The ERA provides equality to men and women, our sons and our daughters.
3. Nowhere in the United States Constitution does it say that “women” are guaranteed equal rights. (Thomas Jefferson wrote: *“Were our state a pure democracy, there would still be excluded from our deliberations women, who, to prevent depravation of morals and ambiguity of issues, should not mix promiscuously with men.”*)
4. Women do not constitute a protected class of citizenship. With the exception of the right to vote (19th Amendment), women do not have any rights guaranteed by the Constitution. Laws can be revoked (e.g., *2014 Fair Pay and Safe Workplace Order*).
5. The 14th Amendment's (1868) equal protection clause does not protect or grant rights to women. (Justice Anton Scalia when asked if they were wrong to use the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause in cases of sex discrimination said: *“Yes, sorry to tell you that...Certainly the constitution does not require discrimination on the basis of sex. The only issue is whether it prohibits it. It doesn't. Nobody ever thought that's what it meant. Nobody ever voted for that.”*)
6. The ERA will help to alleviate poverty and strengthen the economy. Women are 35% more likely than men to live in poverty in the United States. (Melinda Gates: *“When you lift up women, you lift up humanity. All that's need is to stop pulling them down.”*)
7. The ERA guarantees protection from Domestic Violence. One out of every four women in the United States experiences violence from an intimate partner.