Paying Attention to Primary Elections

In the 2016 primaries, only 28.5% of eligible voters cast their votes, roughly half the number who later showed up on Election Day in November. And when it's not a presidential election year, turnout for the primaries is even lower.

What puzzles me is the element of choice in the general election that voters forfeit when they don't participate in the primaries. After all, although general election voters decide the winners, primary voters are the ones who set up the match, and that's a responsibility that should be taken seriously.

Putting aside my frustrations with historically low voter turnout in primaries, there are important trends on my mind in this election year.

Vision 2020 News

Registration Now Open for National Congress in Miami
Vision 2020's national coalition of Delegates and Allied Organizations has convened in Philadelphia; Chicago; Portland, Oregon; and Nashville, and now we're headed to Miami!

Registration is now live for the next Vision 2020 National Congress in Miami.

**WHAT:** Brainpower and willpower, united by a common purpose and uncommon commitment: That's a Vision 2020 National Congress. It's 48 hours of an action agenda pinpointing the unfinished business of achieving equality for women in the United States.

This year's theme is "Paths to Shared Leadership," and programming will include speakers and sessions on the workplace gender and pay gaps, engaging men as allies, 19th Amendment centennial plans, economic security, civic engagement and more. You can find a link to the full agenda here.

**WHEN:** Thursday, September 27, to Saturday, September 29, 2018

**WHERE:** Miami Marriott Biscayne Bay

**RSVP:** There are two steps you must take in order to register for the Vision 2020 Congress in Miami:

1. Complete the registration form
2. Reserve your hotel room at the Miami Marriott Biscayne Bay

Many thanks to our generous sponsors for making this important event possible: Bank of America, EY and Morgan Lewis.

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**Three Ways to Act on Gender Equality After 50/50 Day**
The second annual 50/50 Day took place on April 26 and was a huge success. Vision 2020 extends its congratulations to Let It Ripple, one of our Allied Organizations and the brains behind this global event.

Because of Let It Ripple's hard work, vision and passion for gender equality, 50/50 Day was even bigger than last year: more than 36,000 live events in companies, schools, museums and homes in 62 countries, with people tapping in online from nearly all 195 countries worldwide, resulting in 700,000 views of livestream programming (including a feature of Vision 2020's event in Philadelphia!)

Read our event highlights and the three actions you can take to advance gender equality.

In the News: Catch Up on Recent Vision 2020 Coverage

The New York Times: A Surge of Women Candidates, but Crowded Primaries and Tough Races Await

NPR Philadelphia (WHYY): Recalling 1992's 'Year of the Woman,' Lynn Yeakel Assesses Gender
Vision 2020 Supports Annual Chess Tournament for Girls

Drexel University's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, the home of Vision 2020, hosted the 10th annual Philly Girls Play Chess tournament run by ASAP, an organization providing after-school activities and educational clubs for the city's youth (K-12).

Wells Fargo is the founding supporter of Vision 2020's Youth Education Initiative and was represented at this year's tournament. Thank you, Wells Fargo and ASAP!

Delegate & Ally News

If you are a Delegate or your organization is an Ally, send your news to vision2020@drexel.edu to be featured!

Four New Delegates and Allies Join Vision 2020's National Coalition

Vision 2020 is pleased to welcome four new Delegates and Allied Organizations:

- Mariandl Hufford in Pennsylvania
- Hena Wadhwa in New Jersey
- TechGirlz
- Chester County Fund for Women and Girls

Nominate a Delegate!

There are many individuals working for gender equality. If you know people who are involved, nominate them to be a Vision 2020 Delegate.
Delegate!

Vision 2020 is growing its national network and is accepting nominations for new Delegates.

All applicants are welcome as long as they have demonstrated a commitment to advancing women and girls.

To apply, simply fill out our Delegate application. If you are nominating someone, include your name in the "nominator" field.

While applicants anywhere in the U.S. will be considered, Vision 2020 is especially interested in the following states: **Maine, Michigan, South Dakota, Vermont and Wyoming.**

**Mark Your Calendar**

**August 23: Toast to Tenacity in Honor of Women's Equality Day**

*cheers!*

Join Vision 2020 in raising a glass of grape juice to the suffragists who won women's right to vote 98 years ago.

Planning is underway for Vision 2020's annual Toast to Tenacity, an event honoring the suffragists who brought about the passage of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote on August 26, 1920.

This year, as August 26 is a Sunday, Vision 2020 will celebrate in Philadelphia early on Thursday, August 23.

If you are in the Philadelphia area, email us to join our event mailing list. If you're elsewhere, as many members of our coalition are, be on the lookout for the Toast to Tenacity Toolkit, a comprehensive resource for you to host your own event in celebration of Women's Equality Day.

**Must-Reads for May**

- [Half of the Women Running in House Primaries Have Won So Far](#)
- [Women Win. Men Take a Powder](#)
Miss America Organizations Puts Women in Its Top Three Leadership Positions

These 200 Women Will Change the Way You See the World

Meet the 'Difficult' Women Who Wrote Their Own Rules

Shortchanged: Where's My 19.5 Cents?
Written by Cindy Hounsell, president of WISER, a Vision 2020 Allied Organization

This Is Why Organizations Should Not Investigate Themselves
Written by Lauren Stiller Rikleen, a Vision 2020 Delegate

The Opportunity for Inclusion in Financial Services

Empowering Photos of the Month

[Cartoon by Signe Wilkinson. Check out Signe's work on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.]
Eighty-two women working in the film industry swarmed the red carpet at the Cannes Film Festival on May 12 to *denounce the gender inequality in their field*.

Why 82? Because in the 71 festival competitions since 1946, only 82 movies by female directors have been in contention for prizes. This compares with a total of 1,645 films by male directors.