

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | AUGUST 2017

Insights on Equality for Women

WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE "BOYS' CLUB" IN BUSINESS



Although women began pouring into the workforce more than 40 years ago, only a handful have made it all the way to the top in corporate America.

According to Take the Lead Women, a Vision 2020 Allied Organization, only 4.2 percent of C-suite positions at Fortune 500 companies are held by women; overall, women hold just 18 percent of top leadership positions across all sectors.

If women represent more than half the population and 47 percent of the workforce, why are we so underrepresented in senior management roles and on corporate boards?

[Here's where we are, where we ought to be and how we can get there.](#)

Vision 2020 News

THE "3 A.M. IDEA" THAT BECAME VISION 2020

Have you ever wondered how and why Vision 2020 got started? Mark Dent, a reporter at Philadelphia's *Billy Penn*, had that very question and decided to pay us a visit at our headquarters.

The article explores how Vision 2020 got started, and outlines the initiative's goals and plans for the year 2020. It also delves into what it was like for Vision 2020 Founder Lynn Yeakel to run for the U.S. Senate during what became known as "The Year of the Woman" (1992), and highlights the similarities she sees between then and now in terms of women's interest in politics.

What's more - representatives from two Vision 2020 Allied Organizations are included in this article: Debbie Walsh from the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University and Dana Brown from the Pennsylvania Center for Women & Politics at Chatham University.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS ON WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY?

Women gained the right to vote on August 26, 1920, a day now observed across the country as National Women's Equality Day.

On Saturday, August 26, Vision 2020 is hosting two free events to celebrate women's equality:

1. A women's history scavenger hunt throughout Independence National Historical Park. Teams of children and teens will uncover little-known stories that give voice to women who made a difference in history. [Register for the HERstory Hunt.](#)

2. A unified toast to the suffragists who paved the way. Honor those who persevered for 72 years to win voting rights for women. We will host several speakers - including a local woman who was born in-1920! - as well as musical guests and a grape juice toast (in recognition of 1920s Prohibition). [Register for the Toast to Tenacity.](#)

If you are unable to join us in Philadelphia on August 26 but would like to host your own Toast to Tenacity, email us at vision2020@drexel.edu for an event toolkit.



UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS BOOKS

Vision 2020 operates out of Drexel University College of Medicine's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership.

A recent IT update has changed our team's email addresses from the @drexelmed.edu format to @drexel.edu addresses.

While you may still reach us at our old addresses, below please find new primary addresses for each Vision 2020 team member:

- Lynn Yeakel, lhy22@drexel.edu
- Melinda Johnson, mkj52@drexel.edu
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2020 WOMEN ON BOARDS EXPOSES LACK OF FEMALE DIRECTORS AT NEWLY PUBLIC COMPANIES

Nearly half of the 75 biggest initial public offerings of the last three years involved companies that lacked female directors when they went public, according to a new analysis by 2020 Women on Boards, a Vision 2020 Allied Organization.

"We didn't expect it to be that bad," said Malli Gero, president of 2020 Women on Boards, in an interview with [The Wall Street Journal](#). The study was also covered by [Fortune](#) and [Bloomberg BNA](#).

Key findings include:

- Three-fourths of companies with the largest IPOs went public with one or no women on their boards.
- Two-thirds of such businesses had the same scant representation within two years of going public.

Download the full report: [Women: Not Present on IPO Company Boards](#).

WOMEN OUTVOTED MEN (AGAIN), REPORTS CAWP

Women voted in greater numbers and higher proportions than men in 2016, consistent with patterns evident in all presidential elections since 1980, according to a new fact sheet from the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers (CAWP).

The fact sheet provides the 2016 information along with comparative data for recent presidential election years. It also includes voter turnout numbers for men and women in non-presidential election years dating back to 1966 and voter registration numbers for men and women dating back to 1980.

Download the fact sheet: [Gender Differences in Voter Turnout](#).

Photo of the Month

Have an empowering photo to share? Send it to vision2020@drexel.edu

"BECAUSE WOMEN HAVE THE RIGHT TO BARE ARMS"



A new unofficial holiday was born last month: Sleeveless Friday.

Several women in the U.S. House of Representatives arrived to Congress on July 14 wearing sleeveless dresses as part of a campaign to modernize the House dress code. Several of their male peers in the House offered their support by wearing sleeveless shirts.

Female lawmakers began these efforts after a reporter was banned from entering the Speaker's Lobby for wearing a sleeveless dress.

In response to Sleeveless Friday, Speaker Paul Ryan announced he is working with the House Sergeant at Arms to modernize the dress code.

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