

EXERCISE 1: QUIZ

1. When was the first International Women's Day?

2. When was the first International Day of the Girl?

We are fighting - but there is still a long way to go in the fight for gender equality. Below are some statistics - can you match up the figures to the fact?

3. How many women are at risk of undergoing Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) each year?

- 100,000
 500,000
 1,000,000
 2,000,000

4. The gender pay gap is often talked about. It is the difference between male and female earnings. In the UK, women earn 83% of what men earn. Worldwide, this is even lower. What is the proportion?

- 79%
 89%
 69%
 59%

5. Niger has the lowest female literacy rate in the world. What is the proportion of the adult female population (aged 15+) who cannot read or write in Niger?

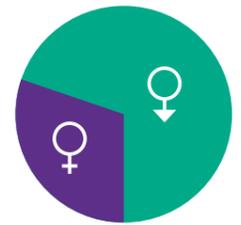
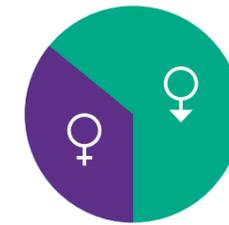
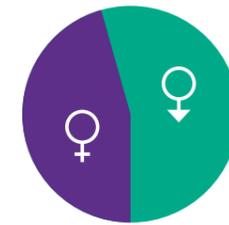
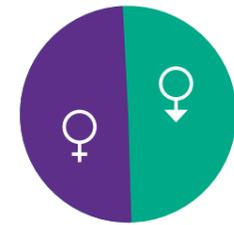
- 61%
 41%
 21%
 11%

6. What proportion of refugees are women?

- 30%
 50%
 80%
 90%

7. Below is a table which shows the proportions of women in parliaments of selected countries in 2004. Can you guess which country the clues relate to, and match them up with the correct female proportions in parliament?

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT, SELECTED COUNTRIES, MAY 2004 Country Percentage

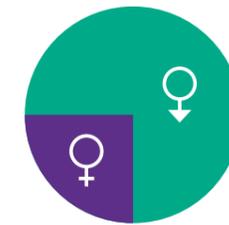
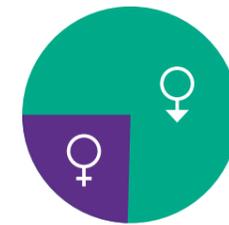


Sweden

Clue: An African country. A genocide took place here during the 1990s.

Clue: A Central American Country. Ran by a Communist government.

Clue: A country, run by a billionaire president who has made numerous sexist comments.

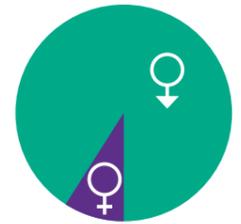
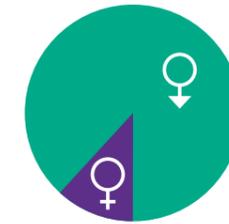
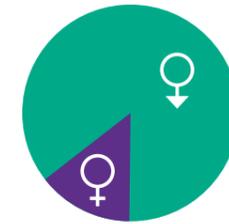
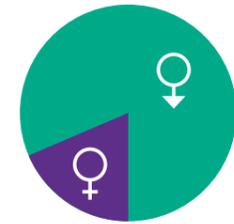


Bulgaria

Uganda

China

Clue: A country in Oceania. Famous for its hot weather and surfing.



Tunisia

Brazil

Clue: Island country, made up of 4 constituent nations.

Clue: An African country. The country experienced segregation, termed 'apartheid', until the 1990s.

Extension: look at the more recent statistics <http://archive.ipu.org/wmn-e/classif.htm>. Are they similar or different to the data from 16 years ago?

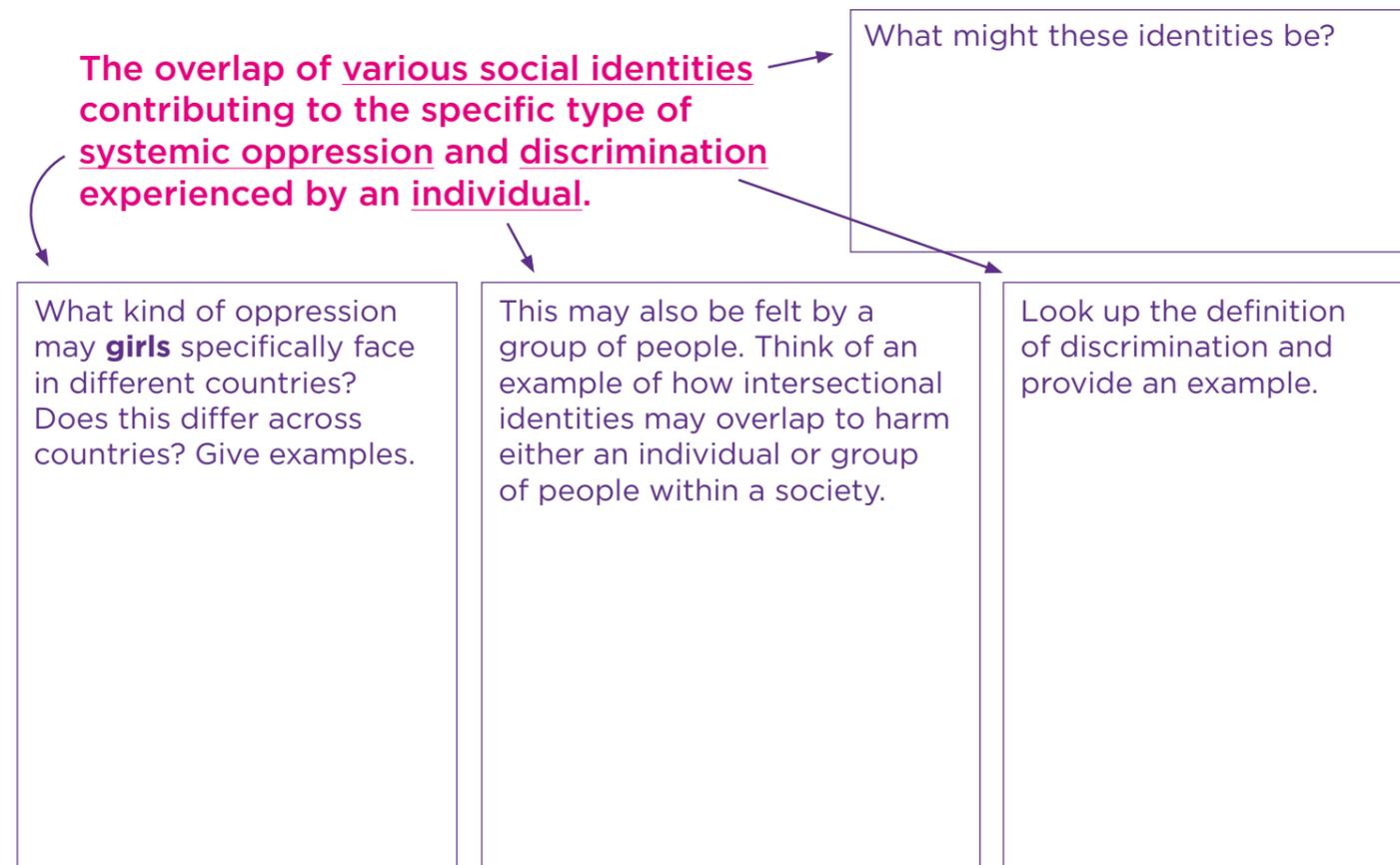
EXERCISE 2: DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How did your group do in the quiz? Did you have a realistic idea of the challenges women around the world are still facing? The answers to the quiz questions provide some interesting statistics. Work through the questions below.

1. Look at the answer to Question 4, on Exercise 1. What are some of the factors which lead to a gender pay gap? Think about the responsibilities that women and girls around the world often face.

2. Think about the discussion the panel had earlier, and some of the questions/ answers that were asked and answered. How can you, as a student, become an activist? Think about what is important to you; is it personal, or does it relate to your community? What are practical steps you could take? Think about some of the ways that the panellists express their activism.

3. One definition of 'intersectionality' is 'the overlap of various social identities contributing to the specific type of systemic oppression and discrimination experienced by an individual.' Whilst this is complex, we can break it down.



4. Think back to the proportion of women in the UK parliament. One potential solution is 'all-female shortlists', which means that there is a quota of female politicians. Try to think about some of the positive and negative effects of this.

POSITIVES	NEGATIVES

EXERCISE 3

As you can see, there are many challenges and obstacles that girls and women across the world face.

However, activists – especially young activists! – are helping to make the world a better place, through focus on the different intersections that women and girls around the world face.

John F Kennedy said “the one unchangeable certainty is that nothing is certain or unchangeable”.

With this in mind, we want you to plan how you can be activists after today. In your group, you need to make a plan of something you could change, and how you could change it. Based on your discussions so far, think about the ways which you could become an activist.

Is it making sharing slides and petitions on social media? Is it organising in your local community? Is it through your school council? Is it through writing to your local MP? What is the most effective technique to create change?

Mind map some ideas below of how you could become the future of activism!



EXERCISE 4

Look at the images below of different activists. Do you know who they are? What is their activism based around? What techniques have they used? At what personal cost? What was the legacy of their activism?



Notes

Their names

What is their activism based around?

Techniques which made them successful?

What were/are the costs of their activism?

What was the legacy of their activism/ what might be the legacy of their activism still (for those who are still alive)?

Do they inspire you? Why?

EXERCISE 5

Read the quotations below. All relate to change, and what we as individuals can do within the world we live in. Reflect on the social structures that we live within that both influence and are influenced by politics, arts and culture. Is change necessary? What is the recipe for change, if it is?



“You can’t easily fit women into a structure that is already coded as male; you have to change the structure.”

Mary Beard, Academic and author of Women and Power, a Manifesto, 2017



“If you are disgusted by what you see, and if you feel the fire coursing through your veins, then it’s up to you. You don’t have to be the leader of a global movement or a household name. It can be as small scale as chipping away at the warped power relations in your workplace. It can be passing on knowledge and skills to those who wouldn’t access them otherwise. It can be creative. It can be informal. It can be your job. It doesn’t matter what it is, as long as you’re doing something.”

Reni Eddo-Lodge, Author of Why I’m No Longer Talking to White People about Race



“Right here, right now is where we draw the line. The world is waking up. And change is coming whether you like it or not.”

Greta Thunberg, Youth Climate Activist



“There’s much more we can be doing in Parliament, we could be giving more power back to people at local government level, through local referendums”

Theresa May, Former British Prime Minister



‘Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.’

Barack Obama, Former President of the United States of America

“I don’t think it’s helpful to go dismantling the past, but you can refuse to honour aspects of it that you don’t believe in anymore.”

Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director of UNAIDS and an Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations



Some people say that there is real need to change the status quo. Others say that “it’s all gone too far.” What are your views? Give reasons for your answer.

Further reading:

- Long read on social media activism <https://www.newyorker.com/culture/cultural-comment/the-second-act-of-social-media-activism>
- COVID-19 effect on activism <https://www.e-ir.info/2020/08/21/covid-19-and-online-climate-activism-a-momentum-for-radical-change/>
- How to be an activist <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R1yNnmHvukw>