

A review of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Global Gender Gap.

GOVN 540 - Global Governance and Law

Analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on the global gender gap offers a crucial perspective on how the pandemic exacerbated pre-existing disparities and reversed the gains achieved in closing the global gender gap. Incorporating this work into my ePortfolio brings this critical subject matter to light. It showcases how the international response to crises exposes deficiencies and opportunities within governance frameworks and has the potential to guide tactics for attaining equity and justice in an evolving society. This aligns with the objectives of GOVN 540: Global Governance and Law in examining essential interconnections of leadership and human rights within the broader framework of globalization.

During the pandemic, marginalized communities faced significantly more challenges than affluent groups. They were front-line workers, those without benefits or support, and were also at increased risk of domestic violence. The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the deficiencies of governance models. Responses to gender gaps throughout the crisis, including access to healthcare, employment security, and education, differed greatly among nations and institutions, outlining the critical role of strong systems in alleviating inequality. Analyzing these discrepancies reveals how global processes can sustain structural imbalances or serve as agents of change. International institutions, such as the United Nations, highlighted the unequal effects on women, which underscored the necessity for gender-sensitive policy interventions. This aligns with the course objectives of examining the importance of contemporary governance models and demonstrates their effectiveness—or ineffectiveness—in tackling global gender disparities during crises.

The pandemic revealed difficulties within the sovereign state system as governments struggled to balance national interests with international cooperation. Legal authority on labour rights, healthcare access, and gender-based violence frequently proved inadequate, disproportionately impacting women and underprivileged communities. Numerous women in the global South experienced heightened economic insecurity owing to their disproportionate presence in informal labour sectors. Examining these processes offers a basis for assessing the

deficiencies of current legal frameworks in safeguarding vulnerable groups during global crises while also investigating the possibilities for more inclusive and adaptive legal systems.

The COVID-19 pandemic also stimulated worldwide social movements for gender equality. Initiatives such as SheDecides and campaigns against domestic violence gained momentum as awareness of these issues increased during lockdowns. These movements illustrate how globalization promotes transnational advocacy networks that contest state-centric models. This research examines the influence of social movements in advocating for novel democratic and governance models, especially those that prioritize disadvantaged voices and promote gender parity.

Crisis reinforces the interconnectedness of gender, human rights, and socioeconomic welfare. For example, women disproportionately encountered heightened caring duties, employment losses, and obstacles to healthcare, intensifying gender disparities in health, education, and economic involvement. Understanding these connections is essential for assessing how theories, including feminist and intersectional views, influence global governance policies to foster equitable recovery. My eportfolio provides an opportunity to share this information and to help bring awareness to how we can all learn from these challenges.

Highlighting the importance of critically analyzing the interaction of gender, governance, and law during global crises illustrates my comprehension of how theoretical frameworks, such as intersectionality and globalization, influence policy and legal determinations. Moreover, it demonstrates my dedication to exploring the evolution of global systems to mitigate inequality and foster more inclusive, equitable futures. This analysis shows the interdisciplinary character of GOVN 540 and underscores the importance of utilizing academic insights to address real-world difficulties. Sharing this artefact will provide an important starting point for advocacy and emphasizes the urgency of closing the global gender gap.