

COVID-19's Impact Foreshadows Gendered Food Insecurity in the Age of Climate Change

How Climate Change Will Follow the 2020 Pandemic Pattern, Deepening Women's Food Insecurity in the US



Economic Inequality Drives Gendered Food Insecurity in the US

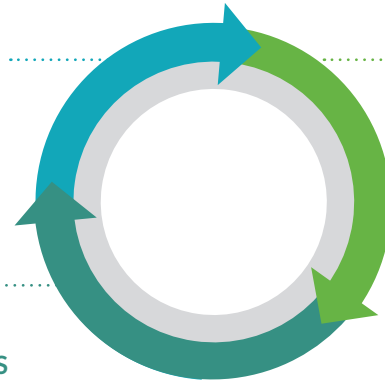
- Reported food insecurity rates are 40% higher among women than men; female-headed households are 75% more likely to be food insecure than male-headed households.
- Women take on the majority of unpaid care work for elderly adults and children, limiting waged work opportunities and income.
- As food becomes scarce in a household, women tend to reduce their personal food consumption relative to other family members, putting their personal health at risk.

EXISTING ECONOMIC INSECURITY

Gender Wage & Benefit Gaps
Multi-Job Time Constraints

CLIMATE CHANGE AMPLIFIES OTHER CRISES

Increased Gender-Based Violence
Discriminatory Hiring



CLIMATE CHANGE INTENSIFIES FOOD INSECURITY ISSUES

Shrinking Crop Yields
Falling Macronutrient Density
Rising Food Prices



Climate Change, like COVID-19, Will Intensify Food Insecurities for US Women

CLIMATE CHANGE WILL CAUSE INCREASES IN FOOD SECURITY AND PRICING

- Reductions in maize, soybeans, and wheat outputs are already being felt by American farmers.
- Increases in surface water temperatures; extreme weather event frequency, and sea level rise will all negatively impact fisheries and aquaculture.

GENDER WAGE AND BENEFITS GAPS WIDEN

- During major market shocks or economic depressions, there is an increase in gendered wage discrimination.
- Approximately 60% of job losses during COVID already were experienced by women, primarily in the leisure, service, and hospitality industries.

INCREASE IN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- Women often face an increase in gender-based violence during times of economic shock.



Feminist Responses to Build Food Security & Climate Resilience

ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY

- A Feminist Green New Deal would center the right of access to clean air, water and land for all. It must remediate gendered food insecurity and nutritional disparities by bolstering social safety nets that include healthy food access as a human right. It would invest in regenerative agriculture and food provision strategies that transition away from extractive land practices that only fuel environmental degradation.

STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

- Address the unwaged and unpaid labor burdens faced by many women, potentially including the implementation of a Universal Basic Income, investing seriously in a publicly-funded care industry, and providing universal and accessible health care, child, elder and disability care.
- Dismantle barriers to full economic participation faced by women, particularly women of color, including closing the wage gap, free education, child and health care, ending predatory loan practices, the criminal bail system, and providing protect against discrimination based on race and class in financial institutions.

PREVENTING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- Programs focused on shifting the cultural conversation around gender-based violence should also be developed; include participation and education of all members of society; ensure engagement of children, extended family, and the wider community; and target institutional and political structures as well.



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