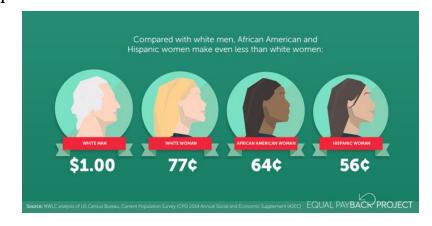


Cougar News Vol. 1 December 2018 Its 2018! What's Up With Gender Pay Equality?

Why do men generally receive larger pay... if women and men are all equal human beings? Sometimes women are discriminated against simply because of the fact they are women. What some people don't know or realize, is that women can be just as smart and skilled as men in the workplace. The gender pay gap really shouldn't be an issue anymore. Women are getting less pay just because of

the fact they are women. Women and men are both human and shouldn't be treated differently, they deserve equal pay and equal rights regardless of their gender.

As a matter of fact, women overall have lost a lot of money based solely on their gender in the workplace. "Women lose \$513 billion due to the gender pay gap," according to USA Today. Women have to feed themselves, raise a family or



just need money on which to live on. A lot of women don't know they could live a wealthier life, if it were not for the gender pay gap. Furthermore, it's not just about the money, women have to live knowing there are people who continue to believe that men are more financially valuable in a profession than women. We need to start making an effort to help people change their minds about women in the workplace. Women work just as hard as men to earn their position, if not harder. No matter how hard women work in their career, they shouldn't receive less pay for the same position, same job and same amount of work based solely on gender. It should simply be the same pay no matter what your gender is.

According to the Orlando Weekly newspaper, Florida will probably become the first state to eliminate the gender pay gap in the year 2038. We believe this should be the case everywhere in 2018. There shouldn't be gender discrimination anywhere, but as history has shown, these things do take time and some getting use to. Currently, Alabama and Mississippi are the only states that have no equal pay laws at all. Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin and the district of Columbia have pay related provisions.

Additionally, women's salaries on average are 22% lower than a men's median salaries. And for every dollar a man makes a women makes only 78 cents. Even though it's only 22 cents, that 22 cents add up over time will equal to a lot more in the long run. All women should be getting equal pay. Women get less money than men and women of color receive even less. A women's median annual earnings are \$10,086 less than men's, according to data from the US Census Bureau.



The stereotypes people make are unacceptable. We are getting separated like file folders. The government must stop this discrimination on all types of women around the world. Women should receive equal pay with men. Men and women are both human and should be valued equally, no one is less than the other or more than another.

As a final note, I interviewed a female office worker, Ms. Victoria Banton Pulley, at city hall in our hometown of Englewood. Ms. Banton-Pulley mentioned, she had observed males go the extra mile to pay attention to detail and over exert themselves in order to complete a task. "There are also women who do the exact same thing so why should they be getting paid any more or less?" Why, indeed?



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