

Women with Disability

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Purpose

- To describe the bases for the discussion of the issues related to the policies on the rights of Women with Disability
- To give emphasis on two special thematic areas which could be included in policy planning in the future:
 - The access of Women with Disability to the **Medical Services** -
 - The **victimization** of Women with Disability
- To make policy recommendations on these issues.

**The Bases
for the
Discussion**

According to the sociological (disability) theories, Women with Disability face a double stigma. Being women and being disabled means that they cannot apply to the roles, which are orientated to be those who are males or non-disabled women. As a consequence, Women with Disability are excluded from the disability political agenda and the feminists' policy recommendations.

Medical Assistances

Despite the fact that disability comprises a social phenomenon, in common practice, it is considered as a **medical case**. Considering this:

Information: Women with Disability must be given information, of their options, in the language in which they communicate and understand, through translation if necessary, in an accessible format and plain, Sign Language. All the documents should be provided in an accessible format, including braille or pdf documents.

Accessibility of the building environment: All the areas where medical services are provided should include facilities, oriented to the accessibility of Persons with Disability, (elevators, assistive technologies, announcements in braille format or in large print, tactile diagrams, plain texts, etc.

Education : The governments should ensure that all medical staff will get informed about the latest medical technologies, appropriate for the independent living of Women with Disability. Additionally, they should get informed about the special form of violence against Women with Disability such as sterilisation.

Victimization

- The governments should ensure the collection of statistic and research data concerning the victimization of Women with Disability. National data is additionally needed for a better planning policy.
- The specific forms of victimization of Women with Disability, such as sterilization and crimes against women, who are hosted in institutions, should be criminalised. The governments should also take precautional measures for the elimination of these criminal acts.
- The governments should ensure the access of Women with Disability to the Criminal Justice System, as victims or witnesses, including the accessibility of the processes, documents or application forms in accessible format.
- The buildings where victims of domestic violence are hosted should be open and accessible to all women, including Women with Mental or Intellectual Disability.
- TV, radio or media spots and campaigns related to the elimination of women's victimization should be provided in alternative, accessible format.

General Approaches

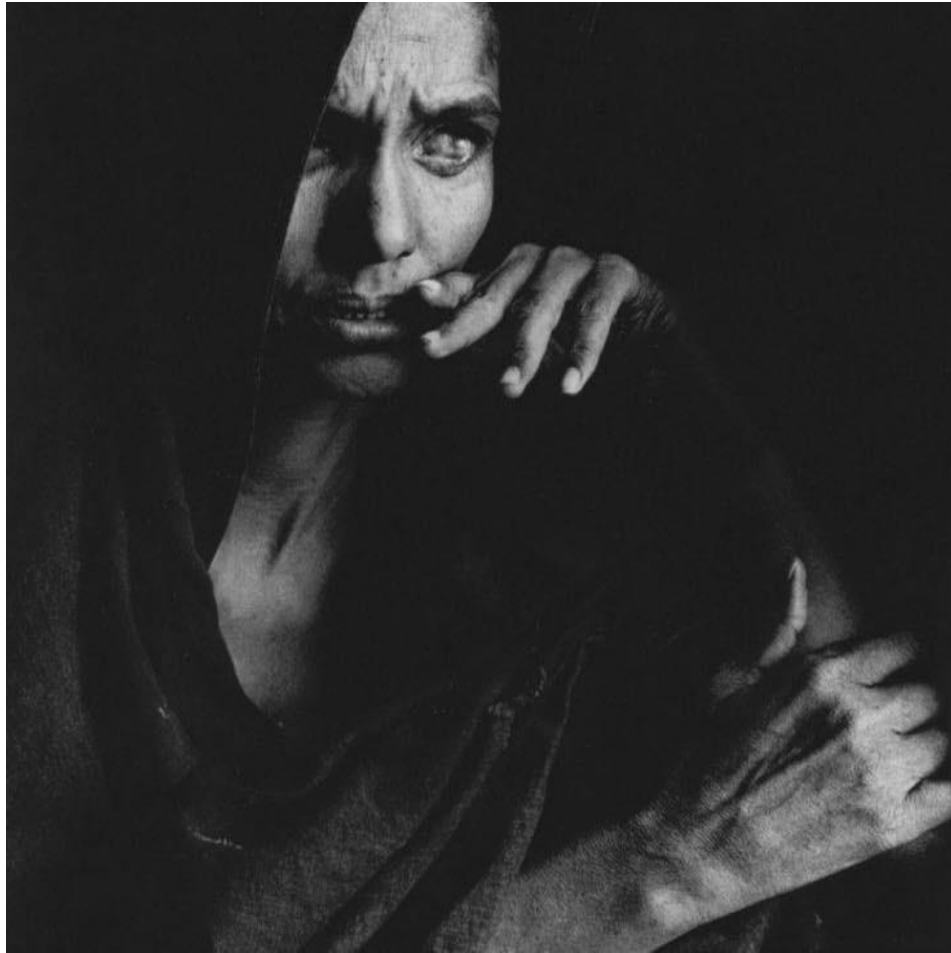
1. The policies for Women with Disability should be included in any feminist (general) policy.
2. The legal definitions of Women with Disability should include all aspects of disability, including Women with Mental, Intellectual and multiple disabilities or other living conditions.
3. The adoption of a general approach of gender identity, including Trans Persons or Lesbians with Disability.



Education



Maternity



Life