

EVEN THOUGH, OVER THE LAST DECADES, ADVANCED AND HAVE OCCUPIED MORE AND MORE SPACES, WE, WOMEN, DON'T HAVE ALL OUR RIGHTS RESPECTED AND PROTECTED

- In the labour world, we have less access to formal work opportunities and we receive lower wages;
- Our participation in institutional politics, achieved after prolonged struggles, is still vastly inferior to that of men;
- We are still the ones who are mainly responsible for household chores and the care of children, elderly and sick ones, even when we work outside the house;
- We are still victims of domestic violence all around the globe;
- In cases of forced evictions, we often face verbal abuses, beatings, rapes and even murders;
- Many times we are forced to leave our houses in cases of divorce, inheritance distribution, etc;
- In poor housing conditions – overcrowding, lack of toilets, absence of water supply and electricity services – we are the most at risk.

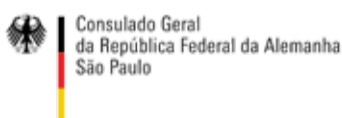


IN CASE OF QUESTIONS OR IF YOU WANT TO LEARN MORE, LOOK FOR THE UN SPECIAL RAPPOREUR ON ADEQUATE HOUSING OR ORGANISATIONS THAT WORK WITH THE ISSUE



www.righttohousing.org/women

SUPPORT:



PROGRAMA APRENDER COM CULTURA E EXTENSÃO UNIVERSITÁRIA

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**I AM A WOMAN.
HOW CAN
MY RIGHT TO
HOUSING BE
EFFECTIVE?**

HOW CAN WE CHANGE THE SITUATION?

* WE SHOULD BE LISTENED TO, ALWAYS!

We have the right to participate in all steps of the development of laws, policies, programs and projects related to housing. Only then can they really address our specific needs.

* WITH EQUAL RIGHTS

All laws must guarantee we have the same rights as men to housing and land regardless of our personal, family or relationship status. That is also the case with inheritance and divorce.

* WE CANNOT BE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST

All laws and social practices that discriminate against us and prevent us from having access to housing and land must be eliminated.

* WE HAVE PRIORITY

Housing policies must prioritize housing ownership for women. We also must be prioritized in the planning and implementation of housing policies especially for the poor, single mothers, the elderly, or those who have special needs because of a disability or disease, like HIV.

* WE NEED MORE THAN A ROOF AND FOUR WALLS

Our houses should be connected to water supply, electricity and sewage systems, to the telephone network and to public transportation. They should be near public facilities and services, such as health clinics, kindergartens and schools, and also provide opportunities for work, leisure and culture to enable our economic and social autonomy.

* WE NEED HABITABLE SPACE

Our houses should be as big as our family really needs (particularly in terms of bedrooms and bathrooms) and should protect us from cold, heat, rain, wind, humidity and against threats of fire, landslide, flood and any other factor that might pose a risk to our health and our life.

* RESPECT OUR CULTURE

We live in countries with different cultures and a variety of family and social organizations. All those differences should be respected and be taken into account in the planning and in the materials used in our houses and neighbourhoods.

* THE COST OF HOUSING CANNOT BE AN ARM AND A LEG

Expenses payable by instalments such as rent and household expenses (water, electricity and gas bills, taxes, etc.) should not prevent us living with dignity. It is important that we be given information on housing programs and that we have access to housing credit systems and housing assistance.

* DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS ALSO A MATTER OF HOUSING

In order for us to be able to escape situations of violence, we depend on the availability of temporary shelters or emergency social rent programs and housing assistance.

* WITH ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND TO QUALIFIED INFORMATION!

We need educational initiatives about our rights. Housing programmes should incorporate indicators that allow us to monitor the implementation of our right to housing.

TOGETHER WE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

It is very important that we continue mobilizing to reflect on our countries' laws, social practices, customs and traditions and that we act to eliminate social and cultural barriers and transform relations of inequality in everyday life. This task, if done individually, is very hard. However, together, in groups, we can promote deep social transformations and achieve the realization of our right to housing.

