

# International Women's Day 2014: Inspiring Change

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the economic, political, and social achievements of women past, present, and future. In some countries, this is a national holiday. This year's theme is Inspiring Change for greater awareness of women's equality.

## Famous moments in Legal Women's History:

- 1869** Arabella Mansfield becomes the first female lawyer. She was admitted to the Iowa bar.

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- 1878** Clara Shortridge Foltz becomes the first female lawyer in CA. Prior to sitting for the bar, she authored the state bill which changed the requirement of "white male" to "person" so she could be eligible.

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- 1909** First National Woman's Day in US

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- 1920** Nineteenth Amendment ratified – Women granted the right to vote

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- 1949** Burnita Shelton Matthews becomes the first Federal Circuit judge.

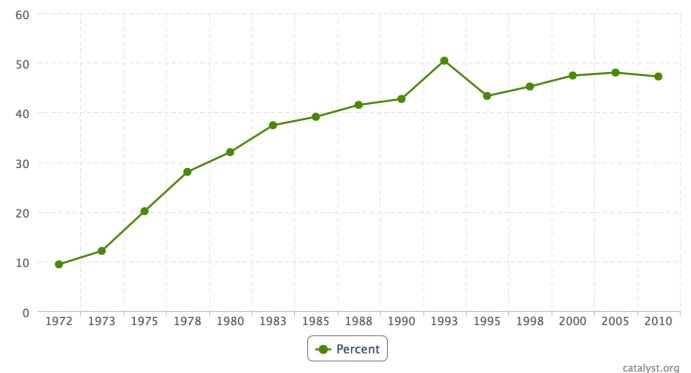
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- 1973** Roe v. Wade decided

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- 1981** Sandra Day O'Connor is the first woman appointed to the Supreme Court.

Women as a Percent of J.D. Enrollment in the U.S., 1972-2010



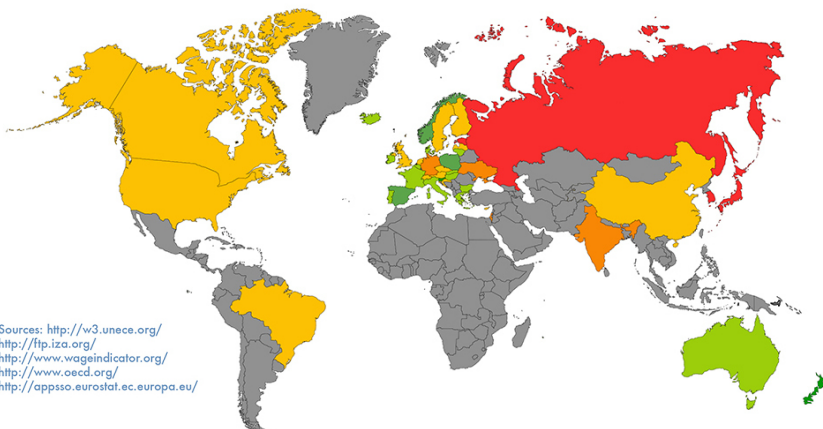
Source: American Bar Association, "First Year and Total J.D. Enrollment by Gender 1947 – 2010."

Women at UC Davis School of Law	
Class of 2016	47% female
Professors and Senior Lecturers	43% female
Women's Law Organizations:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• King Hall Women's Law Association</li> <li>• Law Students for Reproductive Justice</li> </ul>	

*"The power I exert on the court depends on the power of my arguments, not on my gender."*

- Sandra Day O'Connor

## Percentage pay gap around the world



Sources: <http://w3.unece.org/>  
<http://ftp.iza.org/>  
<http://www.wageindicator.org/>  
<http://www.oecd.org/>  
<http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/>

## The Gender Gap in the Law:

- In 1970, just 4.9% of lawyers were women. Today women represent 1/3 of the country's lawyers.
- No state has ever achieved equality of women and the men in federal or state judgeships.
- Of the top 200 law firms, 11% have no women on their management committees.
- The number of women general counsel at Fortune 500 Companies has doubled since 1999 to more than 21%
- Only 2% of law firm equity partners are women of color.

## Sources:

Women's History Facts adapted from:

- "50 Famous Firsts in Women's History (Answers)." *Encyclopedia Britannica Online*. Encyclopedia Britannica. <http://www.britannica.com/blogs/50-famous-womens-history-answers/>
- "About International Women's Day 2014(8 March)." *International Women's Day.com*. <http://www.internationalwomensday.com/about>
- "Women in the United States Judiciary." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, 23 Feb. 2014. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States\\_judiciary](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_the_United_States_judiciary)

Women in the Law Infographics:

- Catalyst. Catalyst Quick Take: Women in Law in the U.S.. New York: Catalyst, 2013. <http://www.catalyst.org/knowledge/women-law-us>

Gender Gap in the Law:

- "Has Women Lawyers' Progress Stalled? | Ms. JD." *Ms. JD*. <http://ms-jd.org/has-women-lawyers-progress-stalled>

Global Pay Gap Map and Statistics:

- Grossman, Samantha. "This Map Shows Just How Big The Wage Gap Between Men and Women Is." *Time*. <http://time.com/14153/global-gender-pay-gap-map/>

UC Davis Statistics:

- <https://www.law.ucdavis.edu/prospective/JD/student-body-profile.html>
- <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/faculty/dean-and-faculty-directory.html>

This handout has been prepared for King Hall Women's Law Association (KHWLA). To get more involved in Women's Law issues, please sign up for the KHWLA listserve at <http://students.law.ucdavis.edu/KHWLA/>.