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## UN Women Takes on Abortion: One Sentence Causes Major Controversy

Delegates from 40 countries sit side by side debating one of the most sensitive topics in the modern world: abortion. Burundi approaches the podium to share their position on the topic, and what is said shakes the room. The mood in the UN Women conference room is serious and respectful. A controversial topic like abortion was not taken lightly. Delegates were debating the necessity of abortion in women's healthcare. Countries laid out their views and shared how religion, morality, and culture influenced them.

The speaker's list opened and Albania went to the stand. The delegation shared their pro-choice stance on the topic. Bahrain then presented a pro-life perspective. Bahrain explained how this perspective came from their religion, and delegates with opposing views responded to this by taking cultural relativism into account. The speaker that stood out among the others was Burundi. The delegation was asked how they felt about women who weren't prepared to have children. Burundi responded by saying, "If a woman didn't want a child she shouldn't have gotten pregnant." This was not received well and almost every single delegation, pro-life and pro-choice alike, raised their placard to respond. When asked how they felt in an interview, Ghana and Somalia (two countries with abortion bans), called this response insensitive and inconsiderate.

**"This is an extremely serious, sensitive topic"**

**—Canada**

Throughout the conference, many notes were being passed as countries tried to come up with a solution. The USA planned a "CARE" initiative that focused on getting women access to the healthcare they need post abortion. The USA stressed that regardless of the countries stance on the topic, women were entitled to care. Other countries, like Brazil, with a more religious take on the topic made plans that focused on educating women and promoting contraceptive use. Both solutions were backed by powerful countries and taken extremely well. Even though countries had differing views, respect and decorum was upheld throughout majority of the conference. The proposed solutions will change in the world. What will the response be? Only time will tell.



### CRISIS UPDATE

Word of a misogynistic terrorist group was presented to the UN Women council. The organization had plans to bomb women based organizations unless shut down immediately. The bombs were apparently pre-planted. Troops are currently searching for these bombs. In a shocking turn of events, the terrorist group hacked into the news broadcast and explained their plan to the public. These bombs would destroy not only the building, but also anything within a 10 mile radius, which would be detrimental to society.

**"This debate can affect the lives of millions of women around the world"**

**—Brazil**