

Women's Declaration of Independence - Short Version

(A 2-Minute Public Reading)

Presented to citizens on July 4, 2026

When, in the course of human events,
it becomes necessary for one-half of the people
to call a nation back to its own truths,
we declare the causes which compel us to speak.

We hold these truths to be self-evident:
that all persons are created equal;
that women are persons;
and that government exists to secure these truths—
not to delay or deny them.

The words “Equal Justice Under Law” are carved in stone.
Yet they have never applied fully to women,
because women have never had full legal equality
under the United States Constitution.

Although the Fourteenth Amendment promised equal protection,
it has never been applied equally to women.

And although the Equal Rights Amendment—
ratified in 2020—establishes equality,
it has not been implemented.

“Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged
by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”

Women bring forth life,
sustain families,
serve their communities,
and defend this nation.
To deny them constitutional equality
is to deny their dignity, humanity, and rights.

Yet courts apply a lesser standard—
intermediate scrutiny—
to laws that discriminate on the basis of sex,
allowing inequality to continue.
The highest standard, strict scrutiny,
remains unavailable to women.

As a result, women are denied equal protection,

economic equality,
and full protection from violence and exploitation.

These injustices are not accidental—
they are legally authorized.

We declare:
women are equal citizens of this Republic.
Equality must be clear in law
and in its enforcement.
We call upon the people to demand:
the full implementation and enforcement

of the Equal Rights Amendment—
by all courts,
and all government officials.

A nation that treats women unequally
cannot be a democracy.

Therefore, we declare:
the Equal Rights Amendment is part of the Constitution.
It is the law.

Women will no longer accept inequality.
We demand equality now—
nothing more, nothing less.

*In the spirit of 1776, the Declaration of Sentiments of 1848, and the ratification of the Equal Rights
Amendment in 2020.*

Drafted in 2026 by a Committee of the [National ERA Publication Task Force. org.](https://www.nationalera.org/)

[Until women are equal.org](https://www.untilwomenareequal.org/), we will not be silent.