



wp WOMEN AND PROGRESS

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Today is International Women's Day, and it's important to recognize how economic freedom improves the lives of women and girls everywhere. Economic freedom is based on the concept of self-ownership—its cornerstones are personal choice, voluntary exchange, open markets, and clearly defined and enforced property rights.

Decades of economic research have demonstrated that increasing levels of economic freedom benefits everyone, especially women, whose lives are improved markedly in many important ways. For example, comparing the lot of women in countries with high (and low) levels of economic freedom:

- Women live more than 15 years longer—82 years (compared to 65 years).
- They're nearly twice as likely to have a job—45 per cent (compared to 24 per cent)
- More than 80 per cent have bank accounts, (compared to just 25 per cent).
- 94 per cent can read (compared to just 60 per cent).

This International Women's Day, let's truly help improve the lives of women and girls everywhere by encouraging equal access to the institutions that help protect economic freedom and allow women worldwide the ability to make their own economic decisions.

To learn more about Women and Progress, watch the video, visit the website and view the publication.



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