

United States Foreign Food Policy

This policy should address itself to the basic right of the individual to food within the context of an international economic order which includes a basic human needs approach. Recognizing that world hunger can be alleviated, an appropriate assistance policy to include the following should be pursued, based on a dialogue with developing nations:

- (a) taking steps toward food self-sufficiency of developing nations;
- (b) giving greater visibility to the significant role of rural women as primary food producers;
- (c) encouraging international cooperation in agricultural trade to benefit both United States farmers and consumers, while providing trade opportunities for developing nations;
- (d) providing for the eventual participation of the United States in international grain reserves, taking into account their use for disaster relief;
- (e) cooperating with the United Nations and other multilateral agencies in food and hunger programs.

11. IFUW

AAUW supports the joint recommendations of the AAUW and Canadian Federation of University Women concerning the IFUW.

12. ERA — Unratified States

AAUW, at its 30th Biennial Convention in the ratified state of New Mexico, deplores the failure of legislatures of the unratified states — Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia — to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment and reaffirms its stand taken in 1977 against holding national or regional conventions in unratified states; and further resolves that the Association, in session, urge the elected representatives of the women of those unratified states to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, that copies of this resolution be sent to the respective state governors and other elected officials, and that the request be made that this message be read in both houses of those state legislatures.

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THE
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF
UNIVERSITY WOMEN
**LEGISLATIVE
PROGRAM**
and
RESOLUTIONS
1979-81

ADOPTED AT THE
AAUW BIENNIAL CONVENTION
in
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO
JUNE 1979

AAUW Legislative Program

FOCUS: As AAUW completes its first century of advocacy for women, we acknowledge the uniqueness, strength, and balance that women have given to the developing concern for human rights and to the extension of support systems. We affirm the need for each individual to develop basic skills for living and to participate in the decision-making process that affects the cultural, educational, economic, and political aspects of life. We reaffirm the right of individual freedom expressed and understood in the context of community responsibility.

Rights of the Individual

AAUW supports measures that preserve and protect the basic legal and human rights of all individuals. To guarantee these rights, we support:

1. **Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.**
2. **Elimination of discrimination based on sex, race, ethnic origin, creed, marital and socioeconomic status, age, or disability.**
3. **Recognition and support of the contributing role of the homemaker in society.**
4. **Right to individual choice in the determination of one's reproductive life.**
5. Right to open, accessible, accountable, and responsive government at all levels.
6. Freedom from violent and abusive action.

Community

AAUW promotes the social and economic well-being of all persons through orderly community development and the improvement and conservation of the environment. We support measures that provide:

1. **Conservation, environment pollution control, comprehensive planning, and wise utilization of resources — including land, air, water, and both traditional and alternative energy sources.**
2. **Fiscal and program accountability at all governmental levels as well as fair and equitable taxation.**
3. **Preventive programs and adequate protection under the law, as well as shelter and counseling for abused adults and children.**
4. Revisions in Social Security and welfare programs to strengthen economic security.
5. Reinforcement of the family unit through education, counseling, and support systems.
6. Crime prevention and rehabilitation programs for people of all ages including diversion of juvenile status offenders.
7. Improved nutrition through educational programs and food services.

8. Comprehensive medical and dental health care services.
9. Quality day care including educational enrichment programs.
10. Improved accessibility to housing for the elderly, the economically disadvantaged, minorities, and middle-income families.
11. Protection of the consumer.
12. Improvement of the social and economic status of the elderly.
13. Urban center revitalization and preservation.
14. Citizen participation at all governmental levels.
15. Increased support and public funding for mass transportation.
16. Adequate handgun control legislation.

Cultural Policy

AAUW believes that the arts and humanities develop and preserve human, aesthetic, and cultural values that perpetuate civilization. We support measures that provide:

1. **Historic preservation and cultural enhancement.**
2. **Favorable role models for prevention of sex-role stereotyping in all media presentations.**
3. **Continuance of programs in the arts to develop and encourage creative and aesthetic values for lifelong learning.**
4. **Development of an understanding of the inherent diversity of ethnic groups in this country and abroad and support for the right of those individuals to maintain and develop their own cultural heritages.**
5. Enhancement of the physical environment through constructive and creative planning in the private and public sectors.
6. Encouragement and support of the arts through both public and private funding.
7. Innovative museum education services including traveling exhibitions, creative programs, and projects designed for special populations.
8. Policies that prevent sex discrimination in all fields of the arts and protect property rights of artists.
9. Adequate financing of public broadcasting for public affairs and special programming for diverse audiences.
10. Protection for the retention in broadcasting principles of the fairness doctrine, affirmative action, and public interest.

Educational Policy

AAUW supports equal and quality educational programs at all levels essential to a democratic society. We support measures that provide:

1. **Adequate forward funding of public educational programs at all levels.**
2. **Protection of the basic principle of public funds for public schools.**

3. Maximum opportunities for lifelong learning to meet individual needs: general, vocational, technical, career, and nontraditional forms of postsecondary education.
4. Libraries, learning centers, public television, and other mass communication services.
5. Academic freedom and responsibility.
6. Creative and innovative programs designed to meet special needs.
7. Comprehensive family life and sex education programs in grades K through 12.
8. Reinforcement of high standards and quality education at accredited institutions of higher learning.
9. Education in the prevention of substance abuse.

Foreign Policy

AAUW recognizes that the attainment of peace in an interdependent world requires national and international policies that promote economic justice, social development, and political security for all people. To gain these objectives, we support:

1. **Human rights in their fullest dimensions for all people.**
2. **Ratification of the Convention on Genocide and other conventions on human rights.**
3. **Inclusion of women as equal participants in all phases of development.**
4. **Continued negotiations for the reduction and control of armaments, with special regard to nuclear proliferation and sales of conventional weapons.**
5. The UN, its affiliated agencies, the Organization of American States, and other regional alliances in the Western Hemisphere.
6. Programs and cooperation that recognize the interdependency of nations and emphasize the interrelated nature of food, energy, natural resources, and population.
7. The establishment of a code of conduct for the operation of multinational corporations.
8. Equitable trade policies.
9. The establishment of a sound world monetary policy.
10. Economic aid that focuses on development and makes increased use of multinational agencies.
11. Cultural, educational, scientific, and technical exchange programs and multinational conferences.
12. Cooperation in prevention and elimination of terrorist activity.

AAUW Resolutions

1. ERA

AAUW reaffirms as its highest priority ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and will continue to commit appropriate personnel and funds to that goal.

2. Educational Equity through Title IX

AAUW reaffirms its commitment to achieve educational equity for women, particularly focusing on women in higher education; will continue actively to monitor and pursue implementation of Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972; and will take action against attempts to undermine such implementation.

3. Women's Conferences

AAUW endorses and urges its membership to pursue actively the goals of the National Plan of Action that relate to the program of AAUW.

Furthermore, AAUW urges Congress and the President to support fully the aims of the World Conference of the UN Decade for Women of 1980 in order to continue vigilance on behalf of women's rights and efforts to pursue these rights in all countries. Such support should include the early appointment of the delegation and its advisory personnel with expertise in the issues of the decade and with emphasis on health, employment, and education; such participation should include congressional funding activities attendant to that conference.

4. Voting Rights for DC

AAUW supports the proposed 28th Amendment to the US Constitution to give voting representation to the District of Columbia in Congress.

5. Rights of the Child

AAUW urges the US government to support the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child through legislation and programs insuring that all children enjoy these rights regardless of race, color, sex, religion, and national or social origin.

6. Constitutional Amending Process

AAUW supports the time-honored process of amending the US Constitution for single subject changes; therefore, AAUW opposes the calling of a Constitutional Convention.

7. AAUW Internships

AAUW directs the Educational Foundation and the Association Legislative Program Committee to study the feasibility of establishing internships within the state and federal government under the Fellowships or Research & Projects Programs. These internships would enable women with a high interest in effective government to acquire political expertise. A report of this study shall be presented at the 1981 Association Convention and shall include a plan of action provided feasibility is confirmed.

8. Use of Chairman/Chair

AAUW recognizes the desire of AAUW members to use the term chairman and chair interchangeably in AAUW correspondence. Therefore, the Association Bylaws Committee is instructed to bring a Bylaws change to the 1981 Convention to allow

this optional use of chair and chairman.

9. Review of Nuclear Power/Energy Resolution

AAUW reaffirms the energy policy as stated in the 1977 Resolution, except that we oppose the issuance of permits for new construction of nuclear power facilities for two years. In the meantime, a review shall be carried out by the membership working with the *Managing Resources for Tomorrow* Topic Committee and AAUW experts from scientific and humanistic fields with special attention to diverse regional needs. Results of this review shall be reported to the 1981 Association Convention with interim reports issued prior to that time.

10. Politics of Food

AAUW adopts the food policy statement as presented by the Association *Politics of Food* Topic Committee.

The American Association of University Women recognizes that the United States is the world's major food supplier. AAUW acknowledges the importance of a comprehensive and holistic approach to policy in the area of food and agriculture. In the development of such a policy, AAUW affirms the following food policy statement:

Environmental Impact

The following should be encouraged:

1. Long-range innovative *land use planning* with the emphasis on maintaining agricultural land in agricultural use.
2. Recognition of the finiteness of *natural resources*; and a commitment to conservation and reclamation, including education in alternatives and economic and social incentives to protect the environment.
3. *Research* (with widely disseminated results) on pollution control and agricultural use of renewable and nonrenewable natural resources — with specific attention to increased and more efficient use of renewable resources as an alternative to continued depletion of nonrenewable resources.

Adequate Nutrition at Home and Abroad: A Domestic Right to Food

1. Programs providing adequate information about good nutrition for all phases of the lifecycle (prenatal to elderly) should be encouraged, including:

- (a) utilization of the school curricula from kindergarten through postsecondary;
- (b) use of TV, other media, and nonformal learning groups;
- (c) reinforcement of knowledge about a good diet and opportunities for nutrition education as a part of all government programs of food assistance, (e.g., school lunch, food stamps, Title VII program for elderly, WIC, etc.);
- (d) training of medical, dental, and other health professionals in the prevention and treatment of

disease;

(e) intensified research on human nutrient needs and subsequent development of human nutritional guides.

2. A commitment to the eradication of malnutrition (both too much and too little nutrient intake) should be encouraged in the United States and throughout the world, including:

- (a) the basic right to an adequate, safe, and nutritious diet for all people;
- (b) stabilization of population growth;
- (c) increased employment opportunities so that food assistance programs can be substantially decreased.

3. Conservation measures should be supported, including reduction of waste of food and water in food service establishments and in the home.

4. Comprehensive labeling of processed foods by industry, to indicate all intentional additives, warnings of any need for refrigeration after opening, and warnings against any inappropriate dilutions should be assured.

Production and Distribution

Production, adequate to meet domestic and international nutritional requirements, and United States trade needs should be stimulated and sustained, to include:

- (a) reassessing which areas of agriculture will be supported;
- (b) investigating implications of rising land costs for the future;
- (c) assuring to the farmer adequate elements of production, (agricultural supplies, equipment, etc.)
- (d) providing incentives for adequate competition in marketing;
- (e) developing a policy of grain reserves that reflects the interests of both producers and consumers;
- (f) incentives for both governmental and private research of food products which would provide higher nutrient content;
- (g) educating both consumers and businesses to the advantages of appropriate packaging and appropriate and truthful advertising.

Multinational Corporations

There should be national and international accountability of multinational corporations to ensure the development of viable agricultural processes and distribution within a humanitarian context, to include:

- (a) establishing an international code of conduct;
- (b) developing import and export policies cognizant of human needs;
- (c) recognizing human, social, and economic responsibilities to host countries in such areas as technology-transfer, training and employment policies.