



Pat-MedMUNC III

UNHRC

Changing the Roles of Women in Traditional Societies

Globally and daily, women are stripped away from rights that other women earn in nations that are already developed, while women struggle for their equality in third world nations in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. The want for equality, suffrage, and fair treatment is not giving in every country for the reason of cultural beliefs and the traditions of the people. As people who follow the strict traditions of their cultures immigrate to developed nations -that have already reached the demands for women such as the U.S. and Western Europe nations -the traditions that may harm women are practiced here as well, causing a greater violation of women's rights.

Harmful acts, such as Female Genital Mutilation (also known as FGM), is notoriously practiced in traditional societies, communities, and by the people themselves no matter where they live. Thus causing damage a great deal of damage; with effects such as severe bleeding, infections such as UTI's (Urinary Tract Infections) or Sepsis, a bacterial infection, infertility, sores, cysts and an increase in newborn deaths, among others. FGM is usually not only associated with cultural reasons, but religious reasons as well. FGM violates many rights, such as the right to a high standard health, the right to be free of discrimination against women, the right to be rid of torture or inhumane treatment, as well as the right of mental and physical integrity.

As women seek the right for suffrage and the rights to education in traditional societies, their lives are put at risk; sometimes killed, sexually assaulted, or beaten just for a simple right that is given to women, in already developed nations. Families prohibit their daughters from going to school, and send their sons instead, because they are deemed more capable for a better education, as well as supporting the family altogether.

Nations around the world deal with this issue of fair treatment towards women and equality, and many Nations don't take actions for these efforts, and instead risking the health, safety, mental interests of women. In some Nations women are gaining more and more changes in their roles,

allowing them to have some type of equality compared to men. Now it's time for the rest of the world's women to receive change in traditional societies that don't allow the advances of women.

Points to Consider

- Does your nation support equal rights and opportunities for women? If not, why?
- How does your nation's culture affect the status and the rights of the women in your nation?
- What actions has your nation taken in order to help with equal rights and opportunities for women? Has your nation aided other nations with their efforts?