



EQUALITY FOR WOMEN = PROSPERITY FOR ALL

by
Augusto Lopez-Claros
and
Bahiyyih Nakhjavani



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This pioneering book explores why the economics of gender inequality is so much more than equal pay for equal work. When women are deprived of their rights, violence often results, the foundations of economic prosperity are eroded, democracies are weakened, and the fabric of societies can be radically undermined. Gender inequality leads to political instability, gives rise to endemic poverty, and provokes cultural disaffection. In *Equality for Women = Prosperity for All: The Disastrous Global Crisis of Gender Inequality* authors Augusto Lopez-Claros and Bahiyyih Nakhjavani explore the correlation between the freedoms due to women and the prosperity deserved by all.



“The authors of *Equality for Women=Prosperity for All* expose the economic wastefulness of gender inequity.” – Excerpted from [Domesticity's Gross Product](#), a review published in the Stanford Social Innovation Review.

Alyson Colón, Associate Director at the Institute for Gender and the Economy (GATE)
Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto.

“A compelling and often disturbing read by two authors well read in other social sciences, religion and history – and with a fluid command of the pen. The chapter on violence against women is gripping and disturbing, its commonality amply documented. Do not overlook the chapter on culture, with its argument that incentives are what matter, and its thorough rejection of doctrinal beliefs as legitimate “cultural” traditions – a message for the Taliban and the Pope as well.”

Nancy Birdsall, founding President of the Center for Global Development and former executive vice-president of the Inter-American Development Bank

"Based on solid research and current data, the authors speak to the hearts as well as minds to all readers who are determined to find an antidote against this virus and bring an end to an egregious breach of human rights."

Maud de Boer Buquicchio, UN Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, Former Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

"The authors of *Equality for Women=Prosperity for All* offer a refreshing look at gender inequality, a subject rendered all the more painful for being both entrenched in society and exhausted by analysis over the past decades. Their unique combination of economics and literature, of a deep commitment to feminism and an extensive grasp of global politics succeeds in looking at gender relations from an unconventional perspective, and in a language that is exceptionally transparent."

Prof. Ruth Halperin-Kaddari, Chair The Ruth and Emanuel Rackman Center
for the Advancement of the Status of Women Faculty of Law, Bar-Ilan University, Israel
Vice-President: UN CEDAW Experts Committee

"The authors of *Equality for Women = Prosperity for All* provide fresh insights into a systemic problem expected to have been solved many years ago. Yet gender inequality remains pervasive, despite economic arguments that prove it inefficient. This is a wonderfully compelling book, combining as it does a breadth and depth of relevant statistical data with unique insights and stories that bring the subject matter to life. Beautifully written - I literally couldn't put it down!"

Amanda Ellis, New Zealand Ambassador, Geneva, Switzerland

"*Equality for Women = Prosperity for All* is a captivating read. It shines a spotlight on the discrimination and injustice that keep women and girls in the shadows of society; it shows the links between gender stereotyping and oppression, between domestic violence and political instability. It highlights how the costs of gender inequality are borne not only by the individual but by society as a whole."

Veronika Bard, Swedish Ambassador, Geneva, Switzerland

"Lopez-Claros and Nakhjavani's book *Equality for Women* is not only timely but profoundly important: its clarity and accessibility clearly sets out the reasons we simply cannot afford gender inequality to continue - at any level or on any analysis. The book's wide-ranging subjects convincingly make the case that gender inequality has and continues to cost the world too much: from the pandemic of violence against women and girls to religious and cultural totalitarianism, *Equality for Women* provides statistics and examples from every corner of the globe, it is truly a tour de force for anyone, not just scholars in the field, and a must-read."

Jackie Jones, Professor of Feminist Legal Studies, Department of Law
University of the West of England, Bristol, UK

"This book on the economic dimensions of gender inequality is full of insights on different cultures, on their selectivity in relation to women's rights and on the terrible consequences of gender inequality which result across the world. It is a thought-provoking analysis of how such inequality impacts every aspect of politics and society, whether at home, in the workplace, within particular countries or internationally."

Rt Hon Baroness Lindsay Northover, Member of the House of Lords,
Former Minister in the Department for International Development, UK