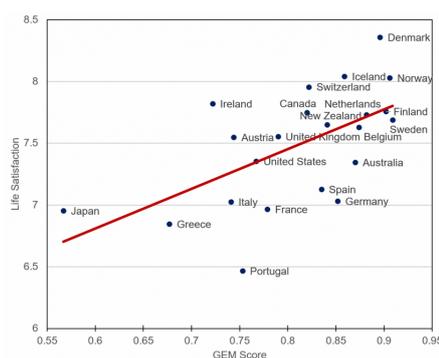


GENDER EQUALITY AND TACKLING BIAS

Over the past several decades, countries around the world have made significant progress in advancing women's social, economic, and political rights. Gender equality is fundamental for both social and economic growth for a number of reasons. One of The United Nations 'Sustainable Development Goals' for the next decade is Gender Equality stating: 'Gender equality is not only a fundamental human right, but a necessary foundation for a peaceful, prosperous and sustainable world'. There are many benefits to gender equality on both the economy, education levels and society.

Life Satisfaction

Audette et al's (2019) study focusing on four of the most well-regarded measures of a country's gender equality: the Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM), the Gender Development Index (GDI), the Gender Inequality Index (GII), and the Gender Gap Index (GGI) found that there was a clear correlation between 'Life Satisfaction' and 'Gender Equality.' The figure below shows a 'clear and convincing result: residents of countries with greater gender equality are, on average, more satisfied with their lives than are residents of societies with less gender equality' (Audette et al, 2019). The study showed that providing equal opportunities for women including positions of power (government ect) does not hinder male's ability to succeed and find happiness, proving that everyone benefits from working towards gender equality.



Source: Audette et al (2019)

The Economy

Improvements in gender equality would lead to an additional 10.5 million jobs in 2050, which would benefit both women and men (EIGE, 2017). Newer jobs occupied by women are particularly important 'as they can help to reduce poverty, one of the key priorities of the EU 2020 strategy'. "Women are generally affected by poverty more often than men because of lower employment and salary prospects. Hence, being in employment lowers the risk for poverty of women" (EIGE, 2017).

Children and Education

UNICEF (2020) states that 'many girls receive less support than boys at school to pursue the studies they choose', which can be for a number of reasons including discriminatory teaching practices, as well as 'education materials also produce gender gaps in learning and skills development'. UN Women reported that in Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) member countries, "half of the economic growth over the past 50 years is attributed to girls having better access to education." Gender equality in education increases the chance that girls will have better access to greater economic opportunities which provides empowerment and enables them to grow into women that will have better control over their further education, career and life.

There are still many steps to take to overcome global gender inequality, but the goal is to promote the benefits of what gender equality has on society and replace systemic discrimination outdated systems. Read more about the FENCE's project modules to help fight gender bias [here](#).