

# Equal Rights Amendment Task Force

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DPCA MEETING

MAY 2019

# Equal Rights Amendment Text

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***"EQUALITY OF RIGHTS UNDER THE LAW  
SHALL NOT BE DENIED OR ABRIDGED  
BY THE UNITED STATES OR BY ANY STATE  
ON ACCOUNT OF SEX."***



# ERA DYK (did you know)

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- Women do NOT have equal rights in the U.S. Constitution
- 85% of all countries have equal rights in their constitution
- Over 90% of Americans think the US should have equal rights in our constitution
- The 14<sup>th</sup> amendment does not cover women - per conservative Justice Scalia and our favorite Justice RBG
- We need 38 states to ratify the amendment – we need just 1 more
- **YOU can make a difference**

# Year in Brief

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- Passed Equal Rights Amendment Resolution unanimously at the May 2018 DPCA meeting
- Submitted our ERA resolution to DNC – combined with another state – passed unanimously
- Setup section on DA website – [www.democratsabroad.org/era](http://www.democratsabroad.org/era)
- Recruited team of ERA advocates for the unratified states
- Worked in conjunction with the Global Women’s Caucus Steering Team
- Included ERA as a key part of the 2019 Women’s March
- Created multiple ERA campaigns that can be executed by all members and country committees
- Joined forces with several ERA groups in the US – at both state and national level
- Tracked ERA activities – at both state and national level



# ERA Team



Shari Temple  
ERA Project Coordinator  
AL Coordinator (acting)  
SC Coordinator (acting)  
VA Coordinator (acting)



George Anne Clark  
AR Coordinator



MacKenzie Horn  
AZ Coordinator



Carol Moore  
FL Coordinator



Katie Solon  
GA Coordinator



Mary De Fraites  
LA Coordinator



Chesney McKinley Severance  
MS Coordinator



Jillian Mertsch  
MO Coordinator



Dawn Heuff  
NC Coordinator



Sharon Smillie  
OK Coordinator



Merrill Oates  
UT Coordinator



# Top Reasons for ERA

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- **Basic Human Rights** – US Constitutional rights need to specifically include women
- **Current Equity Laws** – laws can change with legislature changes while the constitution cannot be easily changed
- **Pay Equity** – equal pay for equal work needs to have a constitutional basis
- **Gender-Based-Violence** – women need a constitutional basis cases after being victimized
- **Sexual Discrimination and Sexual Harassment** – without the constitution including ‘sex’ as a class, these cases are given “intermediate scrutiny” rather than “strict scrutiny”
- **Citizenship** – currently unmarried men cannot always pass on their US citizenship to their children
- **World Leadership** – passing the ERA would show that the US is not just talking to other countries about sex equality



# Top 3 Concerns about ERA

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Concerns	Reality
It would legalize more abortions.	The Supreme Court has already declared abortion legal based on <b>privacy rights</b> in the Constitution.
Women would be drafted and required to serve in combat.	We do not have a draft today. If we did, women being drafted would be assigned roles based on ability. In some cases, they could best serve our country in combat.
Women/girls would have to share bathrooms with men/boys.	ERA is about rights. If men have the right to private bathrooms, then women have the right to private bathrooms. It does not mean sharing.

# ERA Education

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- Most people do not **know** that women do not have constitutional equal rights – 80% think they do
- Educate yourself, your DA committee, your family and your friends
- Watch the free 30 minute Legalize Equality video – RSVP on DA home page (first event on list)
- Review material on [www.democratsabroad.org/era](http://www.democratsabroad.org/era)
  - History
  - Current Status and Statistics
  - Ways to Help – see ERA Campaigns



# ERA Campaigns

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HOME

ERA HISTORY

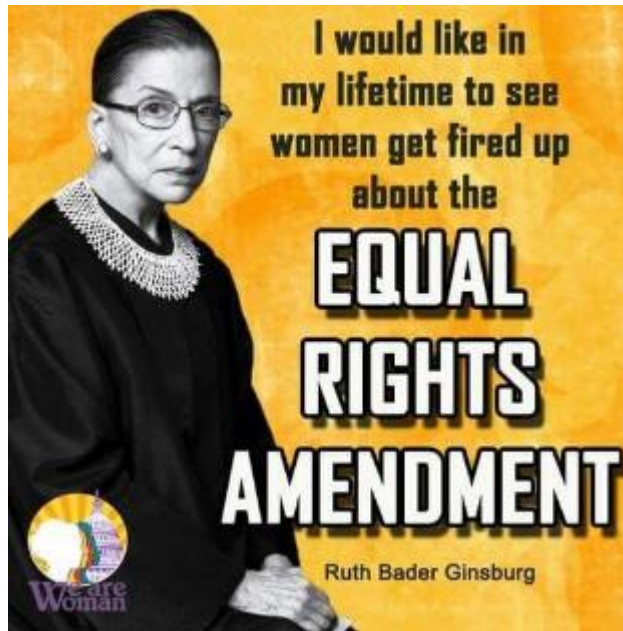
ERA COORDINATORS

ERA CAMPAIGNS

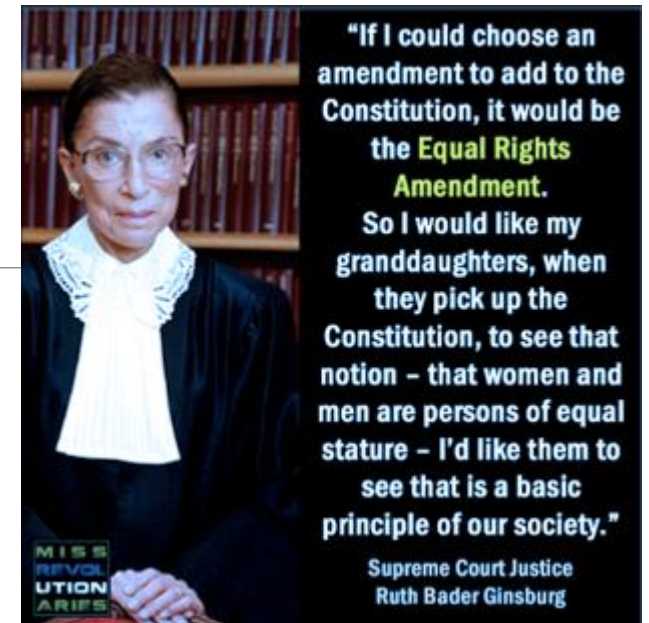
ERA RESOURCES

ERA STATE STATUS

- [Watch Party](#) - Host a watch party to see Legalize Equality
- [Photos](#) - Take a photo of yourself showing you support ERA
- [Videos](#) - Create a short video showing you support ERA
- [Petition](#) - Collect signatures from overseas Americans for ERA
- [Postcards](#) - Send postcards to state legislature members
- [Letters](#) - Send letters to state legislature members
- [Emails](#) - Send emails to state legislature members
- [Letter to the Editor/Op-Ed](#) - Write a letter to the editor encouraging ratification of ERA
- [Local Resolutions](#) - Contact local city council members to pass ERA resolutions
- [Contact U.S. Senators](#) - Contact your two U.S. Senators to support eliminating the ERA deadline
- [Contact U.S. Representatives](#) - Contact your U.S. Representative to support eliminating the ERA deadline



## Do it for Ruth



“Just like freedom of speech (and) freedom of press, a fundamental tenet of our society should be the equal citizenship stature of men and women, and that’s what the **Equal Rights Amendment** would do.”

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

# Equal Rights Amendment

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**Let's make it happen!!**

