

DISCRIMINATION  
IN AMERICA:

EXPERIENCES  
AND VIEWS OF  
AMERICAN WOMEN

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**HARVARD**  
**T.H. CHAN**  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Survey Background

This report is part of a series titled “Discrimination in America.” The series is based on a survey conducted for National Public Radio, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. The survey was conducted January 26 – April 9, 2017, among a nationally representative, probability-based telephone (cell and landline) sample of 3,453 adults age 18 or older. The survey included nationally representative samples of African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, Native Americans, as well as white Americans; men and women, and LGBTQ adults. This report presents the results specifically for a nationally representative probability sample of 1,596 adult American women. Other reports will analyze each other group, and the final report will discuss major highlights from the series.

Discrimination is a prominent and critically important matter in American life and throughout American history. While many surveys have explored Americans’ beliefs about discrimination, this survey asks people about their own personal experiences with discrimination.

## Summary: Personal Experiences of Discrimination

In the context of institutional discrimination, women – across racial and ethnic identities – most frequently report being discriminated against because they are women when applying for jobs and when it comes to being paid equally or considered for promotions. Roughly one in ten women report that they or a female family member have been treated unfairly by the police or by the courts because they are women.

When it comes to individual forms of discrimination, nearly four in ten (37%) women report that they or a female family member have been sexually harassed because they are women.<sup>1</sup> Some groups of women are significantly more likely than others to report this experience, including LGBTQ women (65%), younger women (60% of ages 18-29), and women with a college degree (50%). Additionally, 24% of all women say they have experienced insensitive or offensive comments about their gender and 18% have experienced slurs about their gender.

Demographically, there are significant differences in personal experience by age, education, and LGBTQ identity. Younger women, LGBTQ women, and women with a college degree are significantly more likely than their respective counterparts to report multiple forms of both institutional and individual discrimination. These differences emerge most prominently in the context of individual forms of discrimination. Additionally, the responses of women from each racial or ethnic group are presented separately to feature the unique experiences of each group, without comparing unique experiences of discrimination.

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<sup>1</sup> This survey was conducted January 26 – April 9, 2017, prior to the country’s widespread discussions in the fall of 2017 regarding sexual assault and harassment. These national conversations may have affected how people viewed or responded to their own experiences, or their willingness to disclose these experiences in a survey.

### Summary: Perceptions of Local Community

When evaluating their local communities, women report beliefs consistent with their personal experiences: the top areas where women most frequently report that discrimination “often” happens to other women in their neighborhood are when being paid equally or considered for promotions, and when applying for jobs. Black women and Native women are more likely than white women to perceive frequent discrimination happening to other women in their area.

A majority (56%) of all women believe that, where they live, women are paid less than men for equal work, but a majority also believes that women have similar employment (60%) and educational (75%) opportunities as men. Lower income women (35%) are more than twice as likely as higher income women (14%) to say young women in their area do not have the same educational opportunities as young men.

Nearly three-quarters (70%) of all women say their local government represents the views of people like them somewhat or very well. Women in lower income areas, as well as Black and Latina women, are much less likely to express this view.

When asked whether elements of their neighborhood are better, worse, or about the same as other places to live, women most frequently rate availability of public transportation options (37%) and local employment opportunities (26%) as “worse.” Women in lower income areas are far more likely than those in higher income areas to negatively evaluate many elements of their neighborhood, including quality of schools, employment opportunities, and available doctors.

### Summary: National Beliefs & Political Contact

Overall, 68% of women believe that there is discrimination against women in America today. Among those who believe such discrimination exists, about half (52%) say that discrimination based on the prejudice of individual people is the larger problem, while 28% say the larger problem is discrimination based in laws and government policies. Another 17% say both are equally problematic.

Finally, 62% of women say that in the past year, they have been personally contacted by representatives of a political party, candidate, community organization or ballot issue encouraging them to vote or support their cause during an election. White women and high-income women (those making \$75,000 or more per year) are significantly more likely to report being contacted than any other racial or ethnic group or income earners, respectively. Being personally contacted in this way may lead to increased likelihood of voting or other forms of civic or political participation, particularly among racial and ethnic minority communities.

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Overall, these findings illustrate the significant experiences of sexism and discrimination faced across multiple areas of life by American women today.

## Notes on Report Language

In this report (and in all reports in this series), any references to gender are based on respondents' self-identified gender. This means that "women" includes cisgender women, transgender women, and any respondent who identified as a woman. The word "cisgender" refers to people who do not identify as transgender, but rather identify as the sex they were assigned or believed to be at birth.

This report distinguishes between institutional and individual forms of discrimination, though discrimination comes in many forms.<sup>2</sup> In this report, the term "institutional discrimination" refers to forms of discrimination based on laws, policies, institutions, and the related behavior of individuals who work in or control those laws, policies, or institutions. The term "individual discrimination" refers to forms of discrimination based in individual people's prejudicial beliefs, words, and behavior. These are not necessarily mutually exclusive; the distinction is used for organizing purposes.

In this survey, people were asked whether they had ever personally experienced discrimination related to racism, sexism, and – for LGBTQ people – homophobia and transphobia. Questions about these experiences were worded in the same way, differing only in the perceived motivation for the discrimination (i.e., racism, sexism, homophobia). For example, respondents were asked, "Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination when applying for jobs because you are *[respondent's racial or ethnic identity]*?" and "Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination when applying for jobs because you are *a woman*?" Therefore, to mirror the question wording used in the survey, this report uses phrases such as "because of their gender" or "because they are women." These phrases describe respondents' impressions of the motivating prejudice behind their experiences, and they do not imply blaming respondents for others' discriminatory actions.

Additionally, these questions did not ask about the identity of the perceived discriminator. Respondents' answers could therefore refer to experiences of discrimination committed by individuals of any gender (or any other identity category).

As with other forms of self-reported data, these findings rely on respondents' perceptions. While these experiences could be related to other factors, the fact that respondents believe they are due to discrimination is significant.

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<sup>2</sup> See for example, Fred Pincus (1996), "Discrimination Comes in Many Forms," *American Behavioral Scientist* 40(2):186-194, for distinctions between structural, institutional, and individual forms of discrimination.

# INTRODUCTION

This report is part of a series titled “Discrimination in America.” The series is based on a survey conducted for National Public Radio, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Discrimination is a prominent and critically important matter in American life and throughout American history. While many surveys have explored Americans’ beliefs about discrimination, this survey asks people about their own personal experiences with discrimination.

This report presents American women’s personal experiences of sexism and discrimination, as well as their perceptions of discrimination in their local area and in the nation.

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Any references to gender are based on respondents’ self-identified gender. All reported differences are statistically significant.

This survey was conducted January 26 – April 9, 2017, among a nationally representative, probability-based telephone (cell and landline) sample that included 1596 American adult women. The margin of error at the 95% confidence interval for the total female sample is  $\pm 4.6$  percentage points. Further methodological information is provided at the end of this report.

## I. Personal Experiences of Discrimination

In this survey, American women were asked about their personal experiences with racism, sexism, and discrimination, across a range of areas of life. Below, the results are first presented for all women, followed by demographic differences. To avoid minimizing the personal experiences of any racial or ethnic group, this report does not directly compare these experiences to one another. Rather, the specific experiences of Black women, Latina women, white women, Native American women, and Asian American women are presented in Tables 3-7.

### **Personal Experiences of Institutional Discrimination**

People were asked whether they believe they have ever personally experienced discrimination because they are women, across a variety of situations. In the context of institutional discrimination, these situations were: when applying to jobs; when it comes to being paid equally or considered for promotions; when interacting with police; when trying to vote or participate in politics; when going to a doctor or health clinic; when applying to college or while at college; or when trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house. People were only asked about situations in which they had personally participated. For example, people were only asked if they had been discriminated against when applying to college if they had ever applied to college.

Among all women, 93% have ever applied for a job; 95% have ever been employed for pay; 63% have ever applied to or attended college for any amount of time; and 76% have ever tried to rent a room or apartment or to apply for a mortgage or buy a home. For the remaining situations, screening questions were not used, but people could volunteer that they had never had these experiences.<sup>3</sup>

*Women most frequently report being discriminated against when applying for jobs and being paid or promoted equally*

Figure 1 shows the overall reporting of perceived experiences of discrimination in each area.

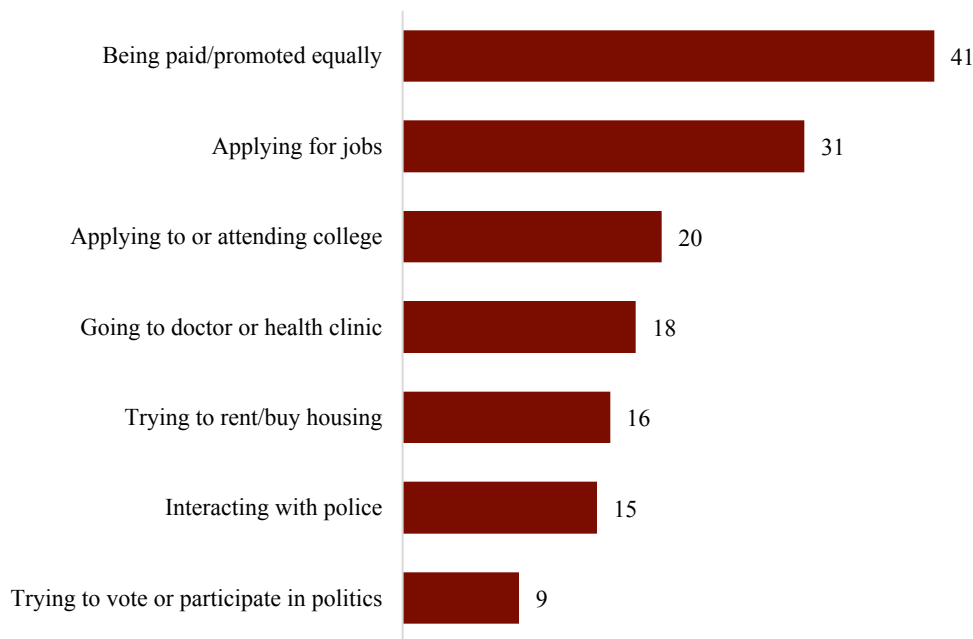
More than four in ten women report having personally experienced discrimination because they are women when it comes to being paid equally or considered for promotion (41%), and roughly a third (31%) of women say they have been discriminated against because they are women when applying for jobs (Figure 1).

Among women who have ever applied to or attended college, 20% say they have been personally discriminated against because of their gender while applying to or attending college (Figure 1).

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<sup>3</sup> Screening questions were not used for interacting with police given the potential sensitivity of the question; for going to the doctor, given that 83% of adults have seen a doctor in the last year alone (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2015), "Summary Health Statistics Tables for U.S. Adults: National Health Interview Survey, Table A-18," <https://goo.gl/AVfJPq>) and this question covers a lifetime span; or for trying to vote or participate in politics, as the question was worded intentionally broadly to capture a wide range of what might constitute political participation to the respondent.

Figure 1:  
Percent of American Women Saying They Have Ever Been Personally  
Discriminated Against In Each Situation Because They Are A Woman



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. S5/Q27, S6/Q29, Q31, Q33, Q35, S7/Q37, S8/Q39. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

Roughly one in six American women report personal experiences of discrimination when going to a doctor or health clinic (18%), when trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house (16%), and when interacting with police (15%). Just under one in ten (9%) women report being personally discriminated against because they are a woman when trying to vote or participate in politics (Figure 1).

*Roughly one in ten women say they or a female family member have been treated unfairly by courts or police because they are women*

In a separate question, people were asked whether they believe they or a female family member had experienced unfair treatment by the police or by the court system because they are women.<sup>4</sup> This question referred to unfair treatment rather than discrimination to capture potential differences in perception of individuals' experiences (i.e., people who might perceive an experience as unfair but would not call it discriminatory).

<sup>4</sup> These questions asked whether "you or a family member" had experienced these forms of violence or discrimination. Respondents may be less willing to answer questions about their personal experiences in sensitive contexts, so family members' experiences are included in the question to provide respondents an opportunity to indirectly disclose their own experiences, while also potentially capturing experiences of violence and discrimination in respondents' immediate family. See Roger Tourangeau and Ting Yan (2007), "Sensitive Questions in Surveys," *Psychological Bulletin* 133(5): 859-883, DOI: 10.1037/0033-2909.133.5.859.

Overall, 12% of women say they or a female family member have been unfairly stopped or treated by the police because they are women, while 8% say they or a family member have been unfairly treated by the courts because of their gender.

### Personal Experiences of Individual Discrimination

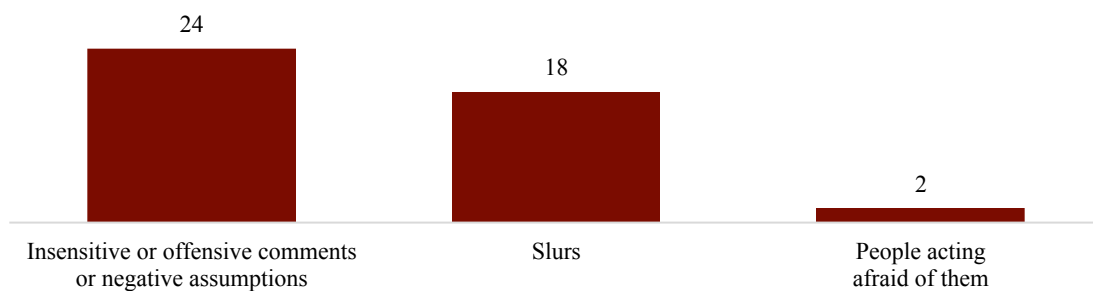
People were asked experiences of individual or interpersonal forms of discrimination, such as slurs, insensitive or offensive comments or negative assumptions, sexual harassment, threats or non-sexual harassment, and violence.

*Nearly a quarter of women report experiencing insensitive or offensive comments about their gender; nearly one in five report people using gendered slurs toward them*

Recall that in this report, phrases such as “because of their gender” or “because they are women” are used to mirror the question wording and to describe individuals’ impressions of the prejudice behind these experiences, and are not intended to place blame on those who have been discriminated against.

Figure 2 shows that 24% of all women report that someone has made insensitive or offensive comments or negative assumptions about their gender, while 18% say someone has used slurs or other negative words about their gender.<sup>5</sup>

Figure 2:  
Percent of Women Saying They Have Personally Experienced Various  
Forms of Individual Discrimination Because of Their Gender



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q63a/Q64a, Q63b/Q64b, Q63c/Q64c. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

<sup>5</sup> Multiple responses were allowed; respondents could answer that these occurrences were based on their race or ethnicity, their gender, their sexual orientation or gender identity, and/or some other reason. The category of “Some other reason” includes volunteered responses such as religion, personal appearance (e.g., weight), political affiliation, disability, and not knowing the basis of the slur, negative comment, or expression of fear.

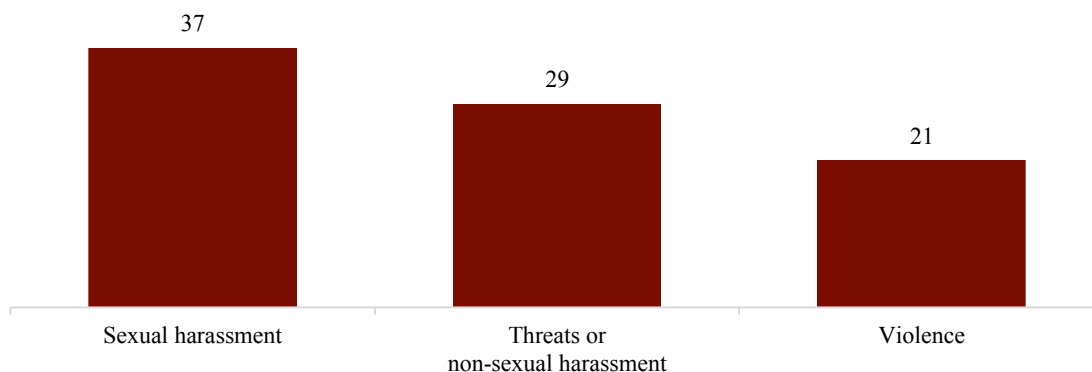


Additionally, 2% of women say someone has acted afraid of them because of their gender (Figure 2).

*Nearly 4 in 10 American women report sexual harassment,  
and 3 in 10 report threats or non-sexual harassment*

Figure 3 shows that 37% of all women say that they or a female family member have been sexually harassed because they are women.<sup>6,7</sup>

Figure 3:  
Percent of Women Saying They or a Female Family Member  
Have Experienced Various Forms of Individual Discrimination  
Because They Are Women



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q92. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

Another 29% say they or a female family member have been threatened or non-sexually harassed, and 21% say they have experienced violence because they are women (Figure 3).<sup>8</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Respondents could also specify they had been sexually harassed because of their race or ethnicity or because they are part of the LGBTQ community. Combining these reasons, the total number of women saying they have been sexually harassed for any reason is 38%.

<sup>7</sup> This survey was conducted January 26 – April 9, 2017, prior to the country’s widespread discussions in the fall of 2017 regarding sexual assault and harassment. These national conversations may have affected how people viewed or responded to their own experiences, or their willingness to disclose these experiences in a survey.

<sup>8</sup> These questions asked whether “you or a family member” had experienced these forms of violence or discrimination. Respondents may be less willing to answer sensitive questions about their personal experiences in these contexts (e.g., sexual harassment), so family members’ experiences are included in the question to provide respondents an opportunity to indirectly disclose their own experiences, while also potentially capturing experiences of violence and discrimination in respondents’ immediate family. See Roger Tourangeau and Ting Yan (2007), “Sensitive Questions in Surveys,” *Psychological Bulletin* 133(5): 859-883, DOI: 10.1037/0033-2909.133.5.859.

## Avoidance of Discrimination

People were asked whether they ever avoid engaging in certain behaviors, such as seeking medical care or calling the police when in need, to avoid potential gender-based discrimination.

*Roughly one in ten women have avoided medical care  
or calling police when in need due to concern of discrimination*

Overall, 9% of women say they have avoided going to a doctor or seeking health care for themselves or others in their family out of concern that they would be discriminated against or treated poorly because they are women. Similarly, 9% also say they have avoided calling the police or other authority figures, even when in need, out of concern that they or others in their family would be discriminated against because they are women.

*Roughly one in six women say they have considered moving because of discrimination*

Furthermore, 14% of women say they have thought about moving or relocating because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live.

*7% of women avoid normal tasks such as using a car or seeking medical care  
to avoid possibly interacting with police or government authority figures*

People were also asked, “Have you ever avoided doing things that you might normally do, such as using a car or public transportation, seeking medical care, or participating in political or social events, because you wanted to avoid possibly interacting with the police or government authority figures?” Seven percent (7%) of women say they have avoided these normal day-to-day tasks to avoid possibly interacting with the police or authority figures.

*A majority of women have avoided going to a doctor due to concern for the cost*

In a separate question not related to discrimination, nearly six in ten (58%) women say they have avoided seeking medical care for themselves or members of their family out of concern for cost.

## Differences by Age, Education, and LGBTQ Identity

There are significant differences in women's personal experiences of discrimination – particularly individual forms of discrimination – by age, education, and LGBTQ identity.

*Younger women significantly more likely to report discrimination*

As Table 1 illustrates, younger women (especially 18-29) are significantly more likely than older women (especially 65+) to report various experiences of discrimination, particularly individual forms of discrimination. One notable exception is that roughly half of women ages 30-49 (47%) and 50-64 (52%) report discrimination in equal pay or promotion, compared to roughly a quarter of the youngest women (28% of 18-29).

**Table 1:**  
**Percent of Women, By Age Group, Who Report Various Experiences of Discrimination**

<u>Personal Experiences of Discrimination</u>	<u>18-29</u>	<u>30-49</u>	<u>50-64</u>	<u>65+</u>
<b>Institutional Discrimination</b>				
<i>Percent of women who say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when...</i>				
...Applying for jobs	35	32	40	13
...Being paid equally or considered for promotions	28	47	52	25
...Interacting with police	16	18	19	2
<b>Individual Discrimination</b>				
<i>Percent of women who say...</i>				
...Someone referred to them or a group they belong to using slurs or other negative words about their gender	41	18	14	6
...Someone made insensitive or offensive comments or negative assumptions about their gender	40	30	17	10
<i>Percent of women who say, because they are women, they or a female family member have personally...</i>				
...Been sexually harassed	60	42	36	17
...Been threatened or non-sexually harassed	41	30	32	14
...Experienced violence	25	20	28	10
<b>Avoidance of Discrimination</b>				
<i>Percent of women who say they...</i>				
...Have thought about moving or relocating to another area because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live	23	14	12	8
...Have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as going to doctor, using a car or public transportation, or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures	18	10	3	1

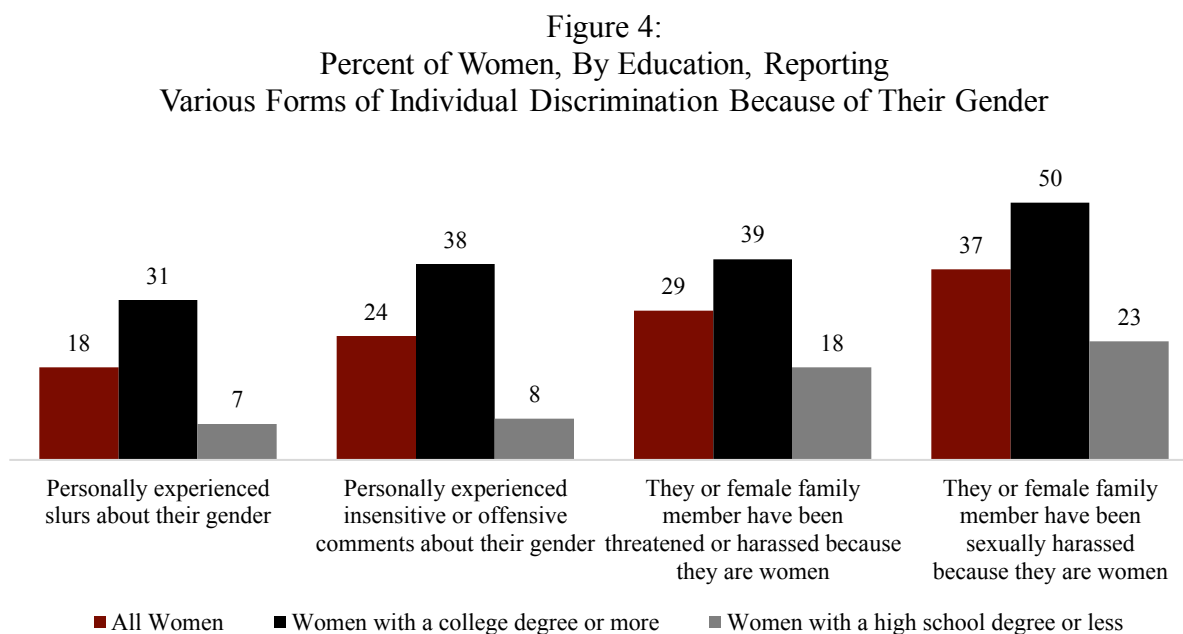
NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. S5/Q27, S6/Q29, Q31, Q63a/b/c, Q64a/b/c, Q84, Q89, Q92. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

More than four in ten women ages 18-29 report personal experiences of individual forms of discrimination, including hearing slurs about their gender (40%), people making negative assumptions or insensitive or offensive comments about their gender (41%), and that they or a female family member have been threatened or non-sexually harassed (41%) because of their gender (Table 1).

Notably, 60% of women ages 18-29 say that or a female family member have been sexually harassed, and 25% say they have experienced violence because they are women (Table 1).

### *College-educated women more likely to report individual discrimination*

Figure 4 shows that women with a college degree are more likely than those with a high school degree or less to report various forms of individual discrimination.



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q63a/Q64a, Q63b/Q64b, Q92. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

Women with a college degree are more than four times as likely as women with a high school degree or less to report that they personally have experienced insensitive or offensive comments (38% vs. 8%) or slurs about their gender (31% vs. 7%). Women with a college degree are also more than twice as likely as women with a high school degree or less to report that they or a female family member have been sexually harassed (50% vs. 23%) or threatened or non-sexually harassed (39% vs. 18%) (Figure 4).

### *LGBTQ women more likely to report discrimination and avoidance*

Table 2 illustrates persistent differences in experiences of gender-related discrimination between LGBTQ-identified women and non-LGBTQ women (i.e., heterosexual and cisgender women).

LGBTQ women are more likely than non-LGBTQ women to say they have been discriminated against when being paid equally or considered for promotions, and they are nearly twice as likely to say they have been unfairly stopped or treated by police because they are women.

**Table 2:**  
**Percent of Women, By LGBTQ Identity, Who Report Various Experiences of Discrimination**

<u>Personal Experiences of Discrimination</u>	<b>LGBTQ women</b>	<b>Non-LGBTQ women</b>
<b>Institutional Discrimination</b>		
<i>Percent of women who say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when...</i>		
...Being paid equally or considered for promotions	61	40
<i>Percent of women who say, because they are women, they have been...</i>		
...Unfairly stopped or treated by the police	23	12
<b>Individual Discrimination</b>		
<i>Percent of women who say...</i>		
...Someone referred to them or a group they belong to using slurs or other negative words about their gender	32	18
<i>Percent of women who say, because they are women, they or a female family member have personally...</i>		
...Been sexually harassed	65	36
...Been threatened or non-sexually harassed	48	28
...Experienced violence	42	20
<b>Avoidance of Discrimination</b>		
<i>Percent of women who say they...</i>		
...Have thought about moving or relocating to another area because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live	32	12
...Have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as going to doctor, using a car or public transportation, or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures	21	6
... Have avoided going to doctor or seeking health care out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	20	9

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. S5/Q27, Q62b, Q63a/Q64a, Q84, Q89, Q92. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

Additionally, LGBTQ women are significantly more likely than non-LGBTQ women to report multiple forms of individual discrimination, as well as behaviors to avoid discrimination. Notably, nearly two-thirds of LGBTQ women (65%) say they or a female family member have been sexually harassed, compared to one-third of non-LGBTQ women (36%) (Table 2).

## Differences By Racial & Ethnic Identity

Women's personal experiences of discrimination vary widely by racial or ethnic identity (Tables 3-7). To avoid minimizing the personal experiences of any particular racial or ethnic group, this report does not directly compare these experiences to one another. Their experiences are presented in each of the following tables.

### *Black Women's Experiences of Discrimination*

Table 3 presents Black women's personal experiences of gender-related discrimination.<sup>9</sup>

In the context of institutional forms of discrimination, the top two situations in which Black women – as well as women across racial or ethnic identities – most frequently report being personally discriminated against because they are women are when being paid equally or considered for promotions (50%) and when applying for jobs (40%). Roughly a quarter of Black women also say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when seeking housing (27%), applying to or while attending college (24%), and when interacting with police (24%) (Table 3).

Additionally, about one in five Black women say they have been unfairly stopped or treated by the police (19%) or by the courts (18%) because they are women (Table 3).

Regarding individual forms of discrimination, 25% of Black women say someone has made insensitive or offensive comments about their gender, and another 15% say someone has used slurs toward them related to their gender. Furthermore, 35% of Black women say they or a female family member have been sexually harassed because they are women; 31% say they have been threatened or non-sexually harassed, and 29% say they have experienced violence because they are women (Table 3).

Table 3 also shows that Black women report engaging in thoughts or patterns of avoidance of discrimination. Nearly a quarter (24%) of Black women say they have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as using a car or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures. One in five (20%) say they have thought about moving because they have experienced discrimination where they live. Finally, 12% of Black women say they have avoided both calling the doctor and the police, even when in need, out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women.

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<sup>9</sup> This survey included 428 Black women. See the methodology at the end of this report for further demographic information. See the earlier report in this series, "Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of African Americans," for discussion of Black Americans' reported experiences of racial discrimination.

**Table 3:**  
**Percent of Black Women Who Report Various Experiences of Discrimination**

<u>Personal Experiences of Discrimination</u>	<u>Black Women</u>
<b>Institutional Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Black women who say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when...</i>	
...Being paid equally or considered for promotions	50
...Applying for jobs	40
...Trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house	27
...Applying to or while attending college	24
...Interacting with police	24
...Going to a doctor or health clinic	22
...Trying to vote or participate in politics	12
 <i>Percent of Black women who say, because they are women, they have been...</i>	
...Unfairly stopped or treated by the police	19
...Unfairly treated by the courts	18
 <b>Individual Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Black women who say...</i>	
...Someone made insensitive or offensive comments or negative assumptions about their gender	25
...Someone referred to them or a group they belong to using slurs or other negative words about their gender	15
...People have acted afraid of them because of their gender	4
 <i>Percent of Black women who say, because they are women, they or a female family member have personally...</i>	
...Been sexually harassed	35
...Been threatened or non-sexually harassed	31
...Experienced violence	29
 <b>Avoidance of Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Black women who say they...</i>	
...Have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as going to doctor, using a car or public transportation, or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures	24
...Have thought about moving or relocating to another area because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live	20
...Have avoided calling the police or other authority figures, even when in need, out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	12
...Have avoided going to doctor or seeking health care out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	12

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. S5/Q27, S6/Q29, Q31, Q33, S7/Q35, S8/Q37, Q62b, Q63a/b/c, Q64a/b/c, Q84, Q88b, Q89, Q92. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

### *Latina Women's Experiences of Discrimination*

Table 4 presents Latina women's personal experiences of gender-related discrimination.<sup>10</sup>

In the context of institutional forms of discrimination, the top two situations in which Latina women – as well as women across racial or ethnic identities – most frequently report being personally discriminated against because they are women are when being paid equally or considered for promotions (37%) and when applying for jobs (29%). Roughly a quarter of Latina women also say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when seeking housing (24%) and applying to or while attending college (23%) (Table 4).

Additionally, about one in ten Latina women say they have been unfairly stopped or treated by the police (11%) or by the courts (9%) because they are women (Table 4).

Regarding individual forms of discrimination, 16% of Latina women say someone has made insensitive or offensive comments about their gender, and another 10% say someone has used slurs toward them related to their gender. One-quarter (25%) of Latina women say they or a female family member have been sexually harassed because they are women; 23% say they have been threatened or non-sexually harassed, and 16% say they have experienced violence because they are women (Table 4).

Latina women also report engaging in thoughts or patterns of avoidance of discrimination, as shown in Table 4. Nearly one in five (19%) Latina women say they have avoided going to the doctor out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women, and 14% say they have considered moving because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live. Ten percent or fewer Latina women say they have avoided calling the police (10%) due to concern they would be discriminated against because they are women, or that they have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as using a car or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures (8%).

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<sup>10</sup> This survey included 390 Latina women. See the methodology at the end of this report for further demographic information. See the earlier report in this series, "Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of Latinos," for discussion of Latinos' reported experiences of racial or ethnic discrimination.



**Table 4:**  
**Percent of Latina Women Who Report Various Experiences of Discrimination**

<u>Personal Experiences of Discrimination</u>	<u>Latina Women</u>
<b>Institutional Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Latina women who say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when...</i>	
...Being paid equally or considered for promotions	37
...Applying for jobs	29
...Trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house	24
...Applying to or while attending college	23
...Going to a doctor or health clinic	20
...Interacting with police	17
...Trying to vote or participate in politics	12
 <i>Percent of Latina women who say, because they are women, they have been...</i>	
...Unfairly stopped or treated by the police	11
...Unfairly treated by the courts	9
 <b>Individual Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Latina women who say...</i>	
...Someone made insensitive or offensive comments or negative assumptions about their gender	16
...Someone referred to them or a group they belong to using slurs or other negative words about their gender	10
...People have acted afraid of them because of their gender	1
 <i>Percent of Latina women who say, because they are women, they or a female family member have personally...</i>	
...Been sexually harassed	25
...Been threatened or non-sexually harassed	23
...Experienced violence	16
 <b>Avoidance of Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Latina women who say they...</i>	
...Have avoided going to doctor or seeking health care out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	19
...Have thought about moving or relocating to another area because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live	14
...Have avoided calling the police or other authority figures, even when in need, out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	10
...Have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as going to doctor, using a car or public transportation, or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures	8

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. S5/Q27, S6/Q29, Q31, Q33, S7/Q35, S8/Q37, Q62b, Q63a/b/c, Q64a/b/c, Q84, Q88b, Q89, Q92. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

### *White Women's Experiences of Discrimination*

Table 5 presents white women's personal experiences of gender-related discrimination.<sup>11</sup>

Regarding institutional forms of discrimination, the top two situations in which white women – as well as women across racial or ethnic identities – most frequently report being personally discriminated against because they are women are when being paid equally or considered for promotions (41%) and when applying for jobs (30%). Roughly one in five white women also say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when applying to or while attending college (19%) and when going to a doctor or health clinic (17%). Additionally, about one in ten white women say they have been unfairly stopped or treated by the police (11%) because they are women (Table 5).

In the context of individual forms of discrimination, 26% of white women say someone has made insensitive or offensive comments about their gender, and another 21% say someone has used slurs toward them related to their gender (Table 5).

More than four in ten (42%) white women say they or a female family member have been sexually harassed because they are women; 31% say they have been threatened or non-sexually harassed, and 21% say they have experienced violence because they are women (Table 5).

Table 5 shows that white women also report some engagement in thoughts or patterns of avoidance of discrimination. Roughly one in eight (12%) white women say they have thought about moving or relocating because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live. Fewer than ten percent of white women say they have avoided calling the police (8%) or going to the doctor (7%) due to concern they would be discriminated against because they are women, or that they have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as using a car or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures (3%).

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<sup>11</sup> This survey included 405 white (non-Hispanic) women. See the methodology at the end of this report for further demographic information. See the earlier report in this series, "Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of White Americans," for discussion of whites' reported experiences of racial discrimination.

**Table 5:**  
**Percent of White Women Who Report Various Personal Experiences of Discrimination**

<u>Personal Experiences of Discrimination</u>	<u>White Women</u>
<b>Institutional Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of white women who say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when...</i>	
...Being paid equally or considered for promotions	41
...Applying for jobs	30
...Applying to or while attending college	19
...Going to a doctor or health clinic	17
...Trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house	14
...Interacting with police	12
...Trying to vote or participate in politics	7
 <i>Percent of white women who say, because they are women, they have been...</i>	
...Unfairly stopped or treated by the police	11
...Unfairly treated by the courts	6
 <b>Individual Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of white women who say...</i>	
...Someone made insensitive or offensive comments or negative assumptions about their gender	26
...Someone referred to them or a group they belong to using slurs or other negative words about their gender	21
...People have acted afraid of them because of their gender	2
 <i>Percent of white women who say, because they are women, they or a female family member have personally...</i>	
...Been sexually harassed	42
...Been threatened or non-sexually harassed	31
...Experienced violence	21
 <b>Avoidance of Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of white women who say they...</i>	
...Have thought about moving or relocating to another area because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live	12
...Have avoided calling the police or other authority figures, even when in need, out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	8
...Have avoided going to doctor or seeking health care out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	7
...Have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as going to doctor, using a car or public transportation, or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures	3

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. S5/Q27, S6/Q29, Q31, Q33, S7/Q35, S8/Q37, Q62b, Q63a/b/c, Q64a/b/c, Q84, Q88b, Q89, Q92. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

### *Native Women's Experiences of Discrimination*

Table 6 presents Native women's personal experiences of gender-related discrimination.<sup>12</sup>

In the context of institutional forms of discrimination, the top two situations in which Native American women – as well as women across racial or ethnic identities – most frequently report being personally discriminated against because they are women are when being paid equally or considered for promotions (57%) and when applying for jobs (49%). Nearly three in ten Native women also say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when going to a doctor or health clinic (29%) or interacting with police (28%) (Table 6).

Additionally, roughly a third of Native women say they have been unfairly stopped or treated by the police (35%) or unfairly treated by the courts (29%) because they are women (Table 6).

Regarding individual forms of discrimination, Table 6 shows that a majority of Native women say that they or a female family member have been sexually harassed (61%), threatened or non-sexually harassed (58%), or experienced violence (58%) because they are women.

A quarter (26%) of Native women also say someone has made insensitive or offensive comments about their gender, and another 17% say someone has used slurs toward them related to their gender (Table 6).

Native women also report engaging in thoughts or patterns of avoidance of discrimination. A quarter or more of Native women say they have avoided going to the doctor (27%) or calling the police (25%) even when in need out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women. A quarter (25%) of Native women further say they have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as using a car or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures. One in five (20%) Native women say they have thought about moving or relocating because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live (Table 6).

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<sup>12</sup> This survey included 153 Native American women. See the methodology at the end of this report for further demographic information. See the earlier report in this series, "Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of Native Americans," for discussion of Native Americans' reported experiences of racial or ethnic discrimination.

**Table 6:**  
**Percent of Native Women Who Report Various Personal Experiences of Discrimination**

<u>Personal Experiences of Discrimination</u>	<u>Native Women</u>
<b>Institutional Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Native women who say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when...</i>	
...Being paid equally or considered for promotions	57
...Applying for jobs	49
...Going to a doctor or health clinic	29
...Interacting with police	28
...Trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house	25
...Applying to or while attending college	20
...Trying to vote or participate in politics	11
 <i>Percent of Native women who say, because they are women, they have been...</i>	
...Unfairly stopped or treated by the police	35
...Unfairly treated by the courts	29
 <b>Individual Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Native women who say...</i>	
...Someone made insensitive or offensive comments or negative assumptions about their gender	26
...Someone referred to them or a group they belong to using slurs or other negative words about their gender	17
...People have acted afraid of them because of their gender	<0.5
 <i>Percent of Native women who say, because they are women, they or a female family member have personally...</i>	
...Been sexually harassed	61
...Been threatened or non-sexually harassed	58
...Experienced violence	58
 <b>Avoidance of Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Native women who say they...</i>	
...Have avoided going to doctor or seeking health care out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	27
...Have avoided calling the police or other authority figures, even when in need, out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	25
...Have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as going to doctor, using a car or public transportation, or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures	25
...Have thought about moving or relocating to another area because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live	20

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. S5/Q27, S6/Q29, Q31, Q33, S7/Q35, S8/Q37, Q62b, Q63a/b/c, Q64a/b/c, Q84, Q88b, Q89, Q92. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

### *Asian Women's Experiences of Discrimination*

Table 7 presents Asian women's personal experiences of gender-related discrimination.<sup>13</sup>

In the context of institutional forms of discrimination, the top two situations in which Asian American women – as well as women across racial or ethnic identities – most frequently report being personally discriminated against because they are women are when being paid equally or considered for promotions (34%) and when applying for jobs (26%). One in five Asian women also say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when applying to or while attending college (20%). Fewer than five percent of Asian women say they have been unfairly treated by the courts (4%) or unfairly stopped or treated by the police (2%) because they are women (Table 7).

Regarding individual forms of discrimination, Table 7 shows that 17% of Asian American women say they have experienced someone making insensitive or offensive comments about their gender, while 10% say someone has used slurs toward them related to their gender.

Additionally, 23% of Asian American women say that they or a female family member have been sexually harassed because they are women; 15% of Asian American women say they have been threatened or non-sexually harassed, and 9% say they have experienced violence because they are women (Table 7).

Table 7 shows that fewer than 10% of Asian women report some engagement in thoughts or patterns of avoidance of discrimination. Eight percent (8%) of Asian American women say they have thought about moving or relocating because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live. Roughly one in twenty say they have avoided going to the doctor (6%) or calling the police (5%) even when in need out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women. Similarly, only 6% of Asian American women say they have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as using a car or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures.

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<sup>13</sup> This survey included 178 Asian American women. See the methodology at the end of this report for further demographic information. See the earlier report in this series, "Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of Asian Americans," for discussion of Asian Americans' reported experiences of racial or ethnic discrimination.

**Table 7:**  
**Percent of Asian Women Who Report Various Personal Experiences of Discrimination**

<u>Personal Experiences of Discrimination</u>	<u>Asian Women</u>
<b>Institutional Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Asian women who say they have been personally discriminated against because they are women when...</i>	
...Being paid equally or considered for promotions	34
...Applying for jobs	26
...Applying to or while attending college	20
...Trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house	17
...Going to a doctor or health clinic	12
...Interacting with police	10
...Trying to vote or participate in politics	8
 <i>Percent of Asian women who say, because they are women, they have been...</i>	
...Unfairly treated by the courts	4
...Unfairly stopped or treated by the police	2
 <b>Individual Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Asian women who say...</i>	
...Someone made insensitive or offensive comments or negative assumptions about their gender	17
...Someone referred to them or a group they belong to using slurs or other negative words about their gender	10
...People have acted afraid of them because of their gender	1
 <i>Percent of Asian women who say, because they are women, they or a female family member have personally...</i>	
...Been sexually harassed	23
...Been threatened or non-sexually harassed	15
...Experienced violence	9
 <b>Avoidance of Discrimination</b>	
<i>Percent of Asian women who say they...</i>	
...Have thought about moving or relocating to another area because they have experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where they live	8
...Have avoided going to doctor or seeking health care out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	6
...Have avoided doing normal life tasks, such as going to doctor, using a car or public transportation, or participating in social events, to avoid potentially interacting with police or government authority figures	6
...Have avoided calling the police or other authority figures, even when in need, out of concern they would be discriminated against because they are women	5

NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. S5/Q27, S6/Q29, Q31, Q33, S7/Q35, S8/Q37, Q62b, Q63a/b/c, Q64a/b/c, Q84, Q88b, Q89, Q92. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

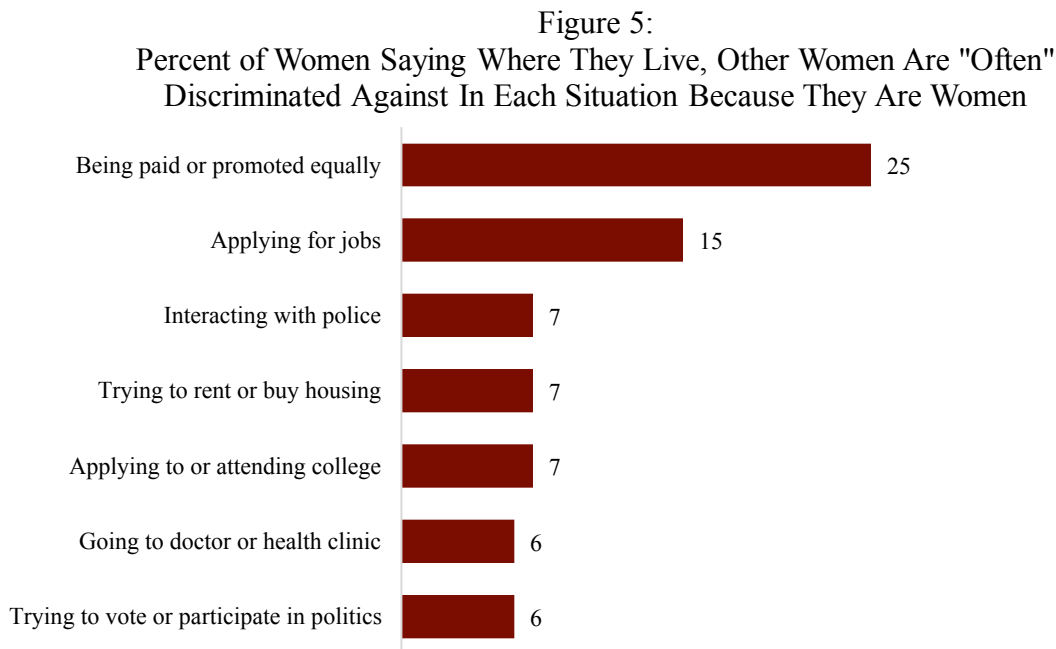
## II. Perceptions of Local Community

People were asked to evaluate aspects of life where they live, including how often discrimination happens to other women there, local employment and educational opportunities, and how their neighborhood compares to other places to live.

### Perceptions of Local Discrimination

In addition to their personal experiences of discrimination, people were asked about discrimination that occurs where they live, across a variety of situations.<sup>14</sup> Women were asked how often, if ever, they believe such discrimination occurs to other women, using a scale of never, rarely, sometimes, or often.

As Figure 5 shows, 25% of women say that where they live, other women “often” experience discrimination specifically because they are women when it comes to being paid equally or considered for promotions. Another 15% say women are often discriminated against when applying for jobs.



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q26, Q28, Q30, Q32, Q34, Q36, Q38. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

Fewer than 10% of women say other women in their area are often discriminated against in each remaining situation (Figure 5).

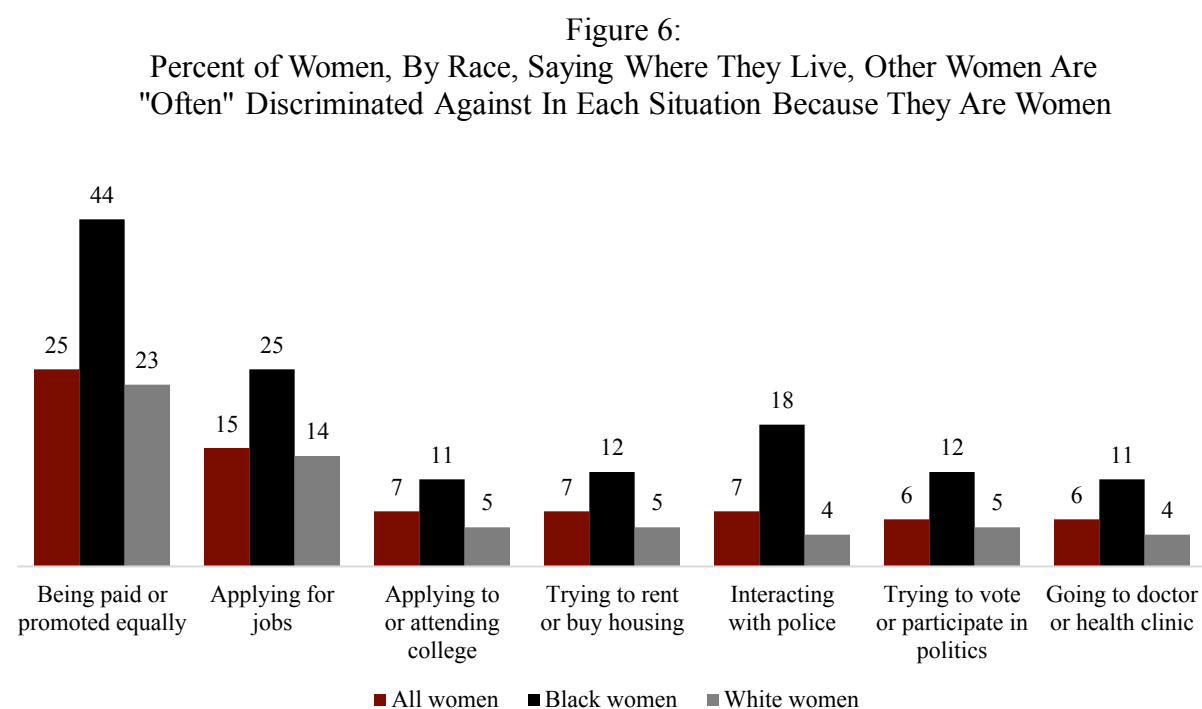
<sup>14</sup> These were the same situations discussed in personal experiences of discrimination: applying to jobs; being paid equally or considered for promotions; interacting with police; trying to vote or participate in politics; going to a doctor or health clinic; applying to college or while at college; trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house.



College-educated women are twice as likely (30%) as women with a high school degree or less (15%) to say that other women where they live are often discriminated against when it comes to being paid equally or considered for promotions.

*Black, Native women more likely than white women to perceive discrimination often happening to other women in their neighborhood*

Additionally, as Figure 6 shows, Black women are significantly more likely than white women to perceive discrimination often happening to other women in their neighborhood, in every situation.<sup>15</sup>



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q26, Q28, Q30, Q32, Q34, Q36, Q38. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

For example, 44% of Black women say that, where they live, other women (regardless of race) are often discriminated against because they are women when being paid equally or considered for promotions; 23% of white women share this view (Figure 6).

Native women are also more likely than white women to believe other women in their area are often discriminated against because they are women when applying for jobs (26% Native, 14% white), when interacting with police (23% Native, 4% white), and when going to a doctor or health clinic (19% Native, 4% white).

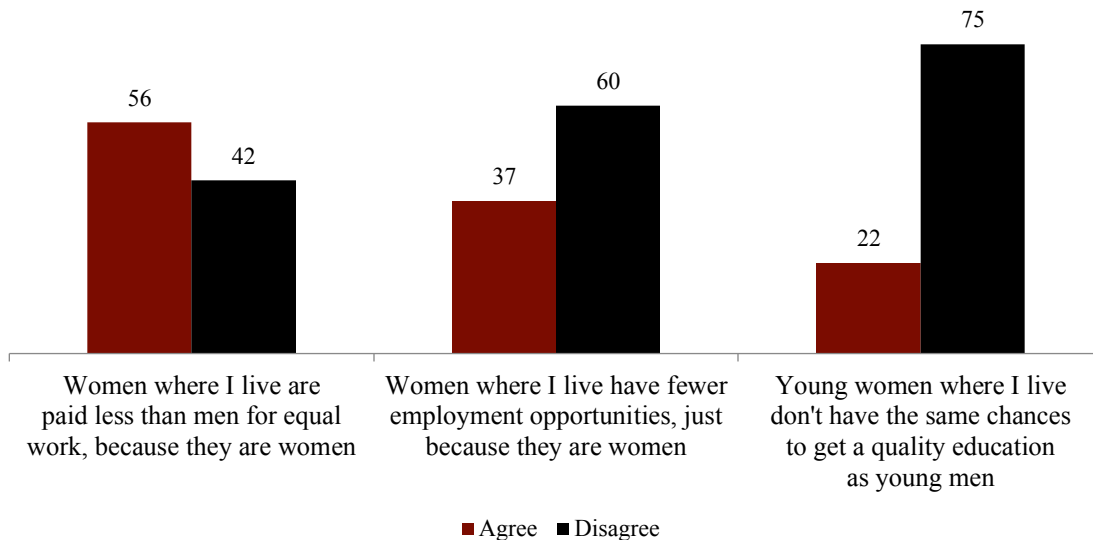
<sup>15</sup> This figure's "All women" column includes women of all racial and ethnic identities, including Black, Native, and white women. Only Black women's, Native women's, and white women's answers are reported separately because the differences between their responses are statistically significant.

## Perceptions of Local Opportunity

People were asked to agree or disagree with statements about local employment and educational opportunities, as well as whether they were encouraged while growing up to apply for college.

As Figure 7 shows, American women have different evaluations of local employment and educational opportunities for women. A majority (56%) of women agree that women are paid less than men for equal work, but a larger majority (60%) *disagree* that women have fewer employment opportunities. Only 22% of women agree that, where they live, young women do not have the same chances as young men to get a quality education.

Figure 7:  
Women's Perceptions of Unequal Pay,  
Employment, & Educational Opportunities in Their Neighborhood



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q66, Q70, Q74. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

A minority of women agree that women have fewer employment opportunities (37%) because they are women, and that young women do not have the same chances to get a quality education as do young men (22%) (Figure 7).

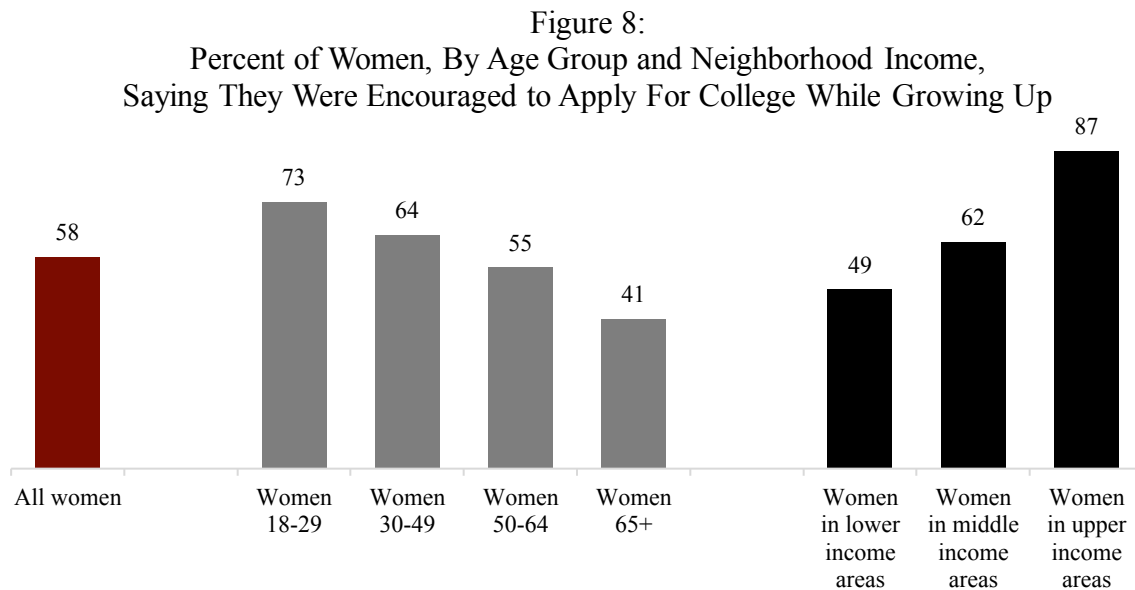
Demographically, lower income women (those making less than \$25,000 per year) are more than twice as likely as high income women (those making \$75,000 or more per year) to agree that, where they live, young women do not have the same chances to get a quality education as young men (35% of low income women vs. 14% of high income women).

*Nearly 6 in 10 women were encouraged to apply to college while growing up*

In a separate question related to educational opportunity, people were asked if, while growing up, they were encouraged to apply for college, discouraged from applying, or whether this was never discussed.

Overall, 58% of women say they were encouraged to apply to college while growing up. Another 35% say that applying to college was never discussed, while 6% say they were discouraged from applying.

Figure 8 shows that younger women are much more likely than older women to report being encouraged to apply for college while growing up. Figure 8 also shows that women living in self-described upper income areas are nearly twice as likely (87%) as those living in lower income areas (49%) to say they were encouraged to apply for college while growing up.<sup>16</sup>



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q76. Question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

However, women living in predominantly lower income areas are more likely to say that applying for college was simply never discussed (41%), rather than that they were actively discouraged from applying (10%) (not shown).

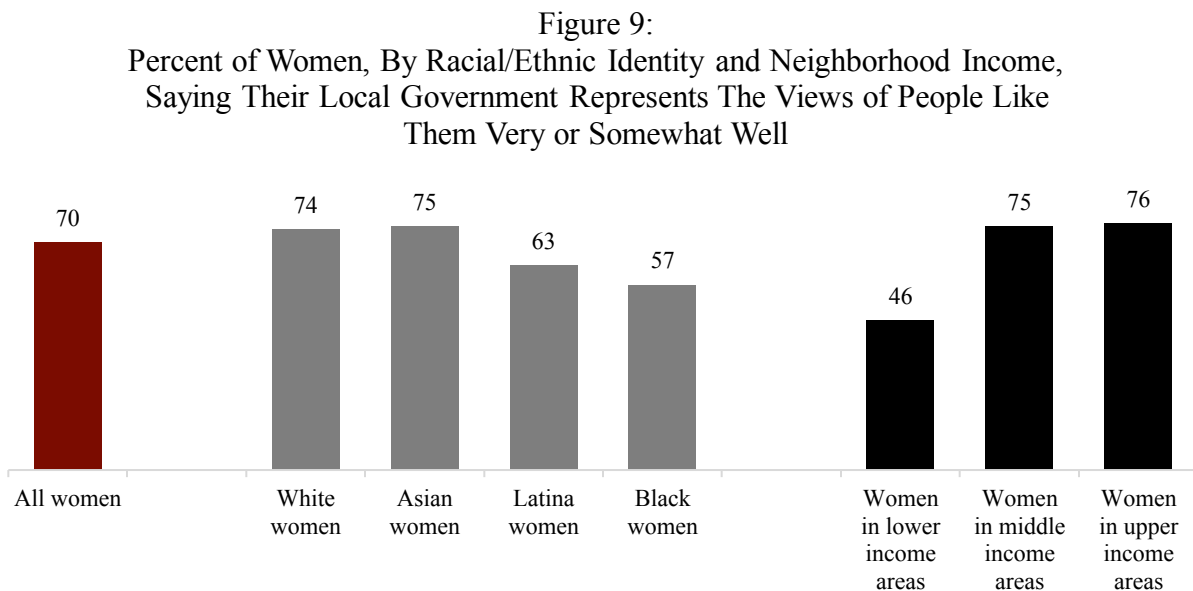
<sup>16</sup> Neighborhood income level is self-reported, based on this question: “If you were describing the place where you live, would you say that it is mostly upper income, mostly middle income, or mostly lower income, or is this something you don’t have enough information about to say?” Overall, 10% of women say they live in an upper income area, 54% say they live in a middle income area, 16% say lower income area, and 19% report that they do not have enough information to say.

## Perceptions of Local Government

*70% of women believe local government represents their views very or somewhat well, and 60% believe that they can affect what local government does some or a great deal*

When asked, “How well do you feel that your local government represents the views of people like you,” 70% of women say their local government represents these views somewhat or very well. One-quarter (25%) say not too well or not well at all.

Figure 9 shows racial differences in these perceptions: 74% of white women and 75% of Asian women believe their local government represents the views of people like them very or somewhat well, while 63% of Latina women and 57% of Black women share this belief.<sup>17</sup>



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q10. Question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

Additionally, when asked, “How much can people like you affect what your local government does,” 60% of women say some or a great deal, while 36% say only a little or not at all. There are no significant racial or ethnic differences in these responses.

<sup>17</sup> Native women are omitted from this figure as their responses were not statistically distinguishable from any other racial group’s responses (i.e., the differences are not statistically significant).

## Perceptions & Evaluations of Community Environment

People were asked to describe and evaluate aspects of the area where they live, including the general economic and health status of the neighborhood.

When describing the general economic status of the area in which they live, 10% of women say they live in a mostly upper income area, while 54% say they live in a mostly middle income area. Another 16% say they live in a mainly lower income area, and 20% say they do not have enough information to say.

Similarly, women were asked to describe the overall health and well-being of the place they live. Over half (54%) say their neighborhood is in excellent or good health, 16% say only fair or poor health, and 30% say they do not have enough information to say.

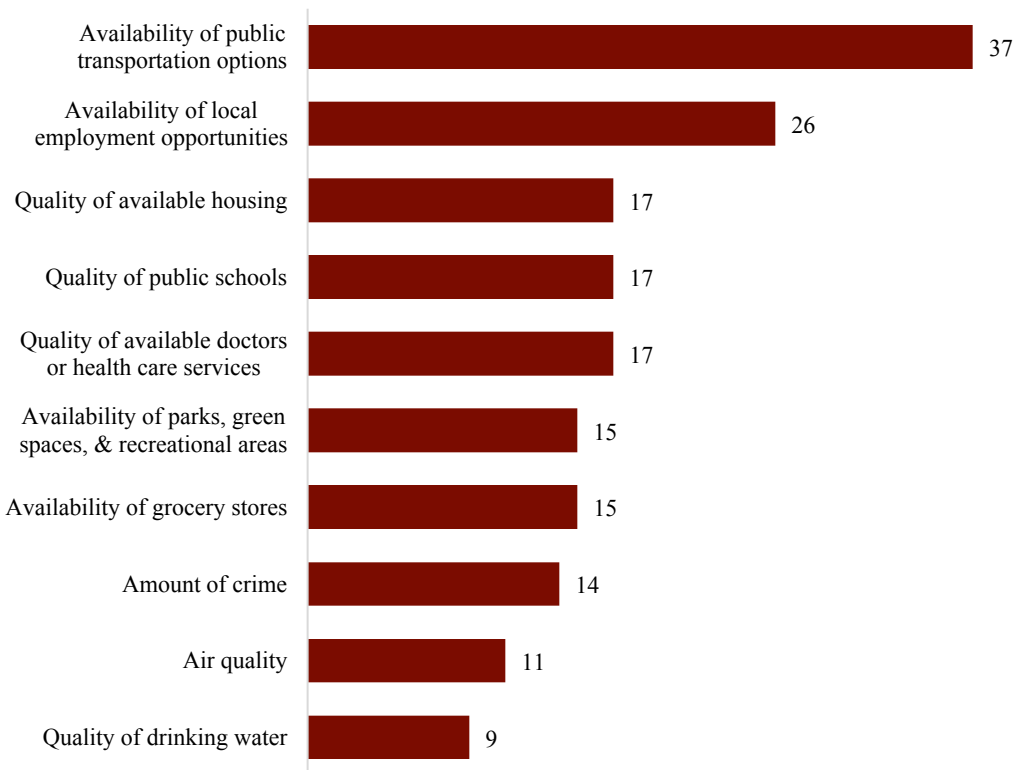
*Women most frequently rate availability of public transportation and local employment opportunities as worse in their neighborhood than in other places to live*

Women were asked to describe and evaluate environmental aspects of the area in which they live. Specifically, they were asked to consider ten elements that affect quality of life, and to compare these elements to other places to live: “Compared to other places to live, do you think the (element) where you live is better, worse, or about the same as other places to live?”

These elements include: availability of grocery stores; air quality; quality of drinking water; quality of available housing; quality of available doctors or health care services; quality of public schools; availability of local employment opportunities; amount of crime; availability of parks, green spaces, and recreational areas; and, availability of public transportation options.

In most cases, either a majority or plurality of women say that these aspects of their neighborhood are about the same as other places to live. However, as Figure 10 shows, the top aspects of community environment that women most frequently rate as worse in their neighborhood than in other places to live are availability of public transportation options (37%), followed by the availability of local employment opportunities (26%).

Figure 10:  
Percent of Women Saying Each Element of Their  
Community Environment Is **Worse** Than In Other Places to Live



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q85a/b/c/d/e/f/g/h/i/j. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

Roughly one in six women rank the quality of available housing (17%), quality of public schools (17%), quality of available doctors (17%), the availability of parks, green spaces, and recreational areas (15%), the availability of grocery stores (15%), and the amount of crime (14%) in their area as worse than in other places to live (Figure 10).

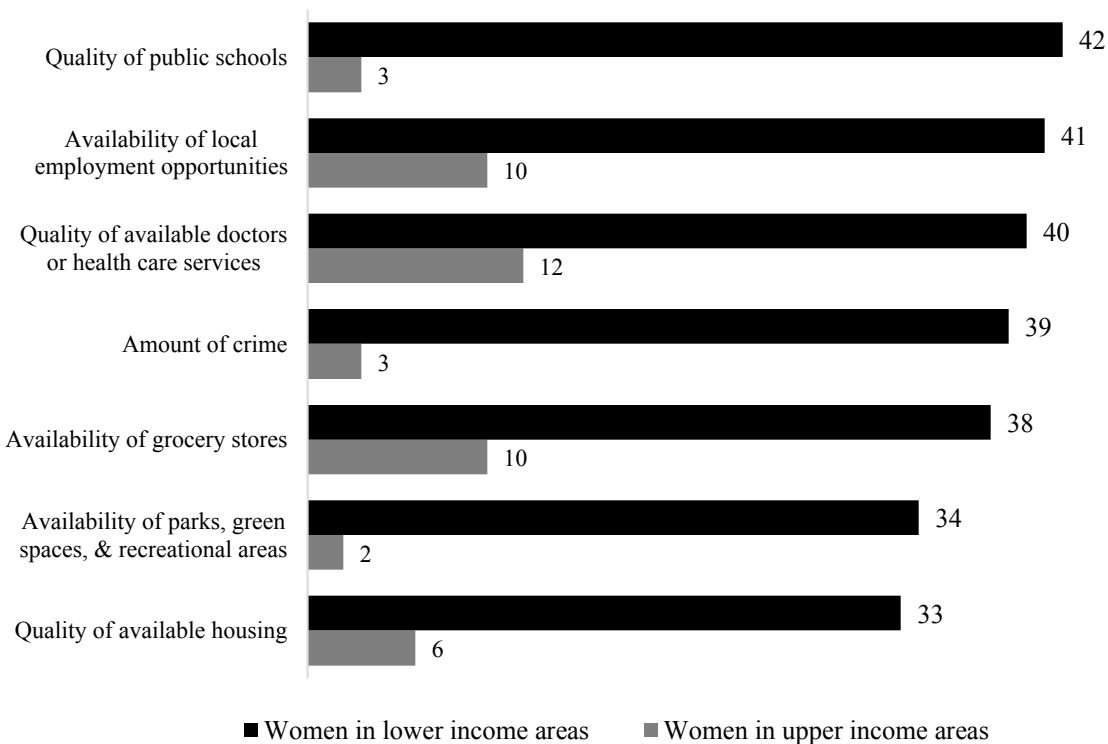
Roughly one in ten women rank the air quality (11%) and the quality of drinking water (9%) as worse in their neighborhood than in other places to live (Figure 10).

*Women in low income areas evaluate their neighborhoods  
far more negatively than women in upper income areas*

Women living in self-described lower income areas have significantly different – and more negative – beliefs about their neighborhoods than women living in upper income areas.

For example, 42% of women in lower income areas say that, where they live, the quality of public schools is worse than in other places to live. In contrast, only 3% of women living in upper income areas express this view (Figure 11).

Figure 11:  
Percent of Women, By Perceived Neighborhood Income,  
Saying Each Element of Their Community Environment  
Is **Worse** Than In Other Places to Live



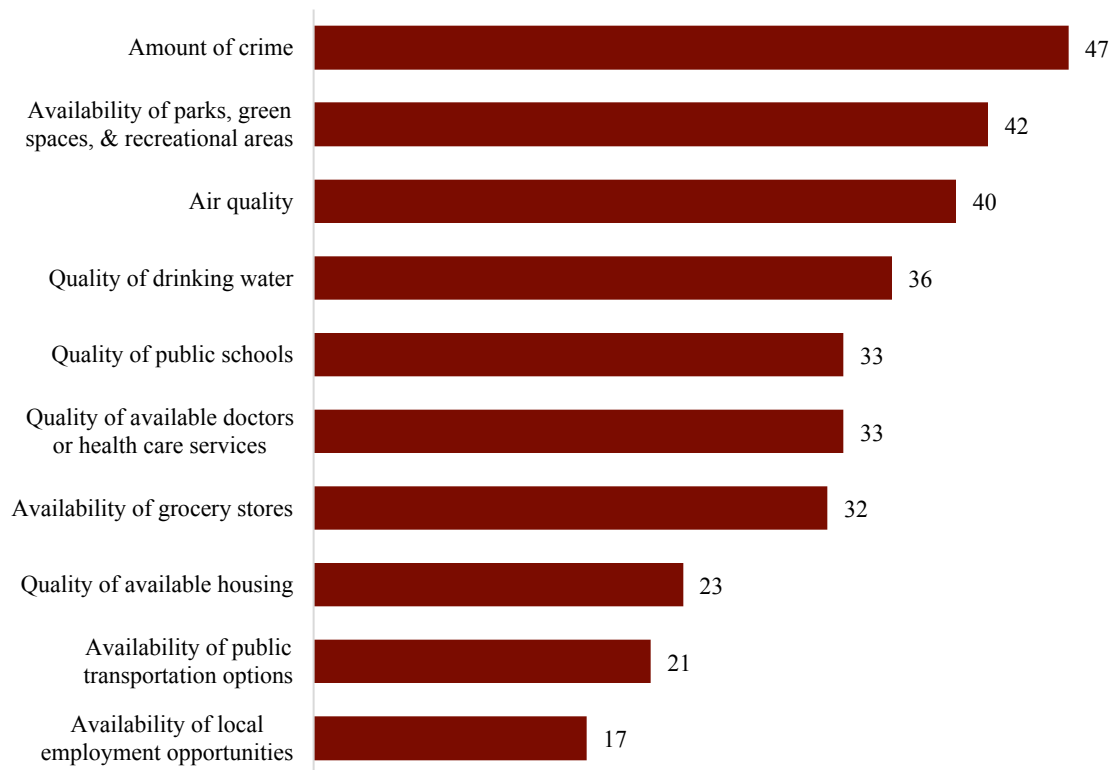
NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q85a/b/c/d/e/f/g/h/i/j. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

As Figure 11 shows, at least 40% of women in lower income areas say the quality of public schools (42%), the availability of local employment opportunities (41%), and the quality of available doctors or health care services (40%) is worse in their neighborhood compared to other places to live. In each case, 12% or fewer of women in upper income areas describe these aspects as worse in their area than in other places to live.

*Women most frequently rate amount of crime and availability of parks and green spaces as better in their neighborhood than in other places to live*

Figure 12 shows the elements of their neighborhoods that women rate as “better” than in other places to live.

Figure 12:  
Percent of Women Saying Each Element of Their  
Community Environment Is **Better** Than In Other Places to Live



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q85a/b/c/d/e/f/g/h/i/j. Each question asked of half-sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

The top three elements that women most frequently say are better in their neighborhoods than in other places to live are the amount of crime (47%), the availability of parks, green spaces, and recreational areas (42%), and the air quality (40%) (Figure 12).



### III. Women's National Beliefs & Political Contact

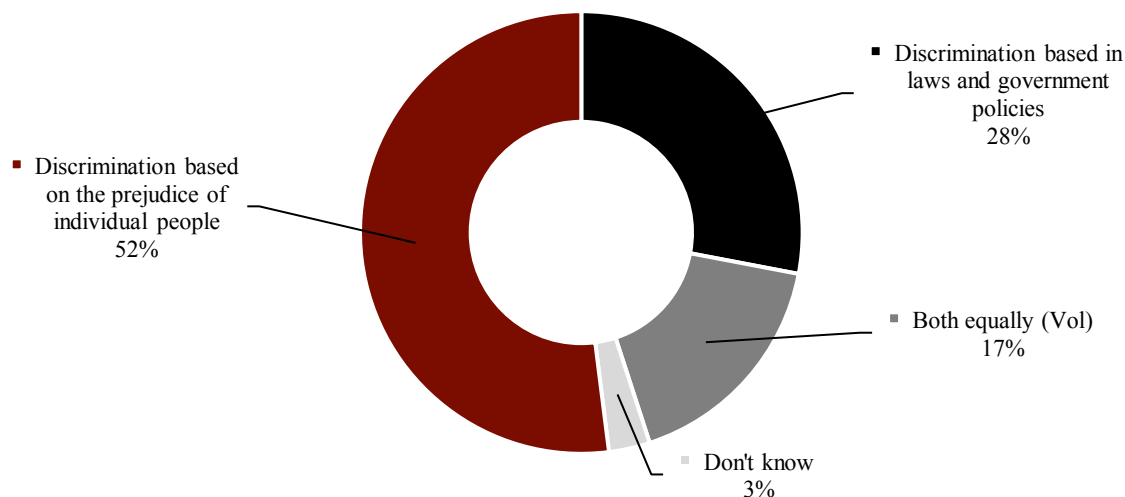
Overall, 68% of women believe that there is discrimination against women in America today. LGBTQ-identified women are significantly more likely (84%) than non-LGBTQ women (68%) to believe discrimination against women exists today.

#### **Institutional vs. Individual Discrimination**

Those who believe discrimination exists today were also asked: “When it comes to discrimination against women in America today, which do you think is the bigger problem? Discrimination that is based in laws and government policies, or discrimination that is based on the prejudice of individual people?”

Over half of women (52%) say discrimination based on individuals' prejudice is a bigger problem, while 28% say the bigger problem is discrimination based in laws and government policies. Another 17% say that both forms of discrimination are equally a problem (Figure 13).

Figure 13:  
Women's Perceptions of Which is the Larger Problem for Discrimination  
Against Women: Discrimination Based on Individuals' Prejudice, or  
Discrimination Based in Laws and Government Policies



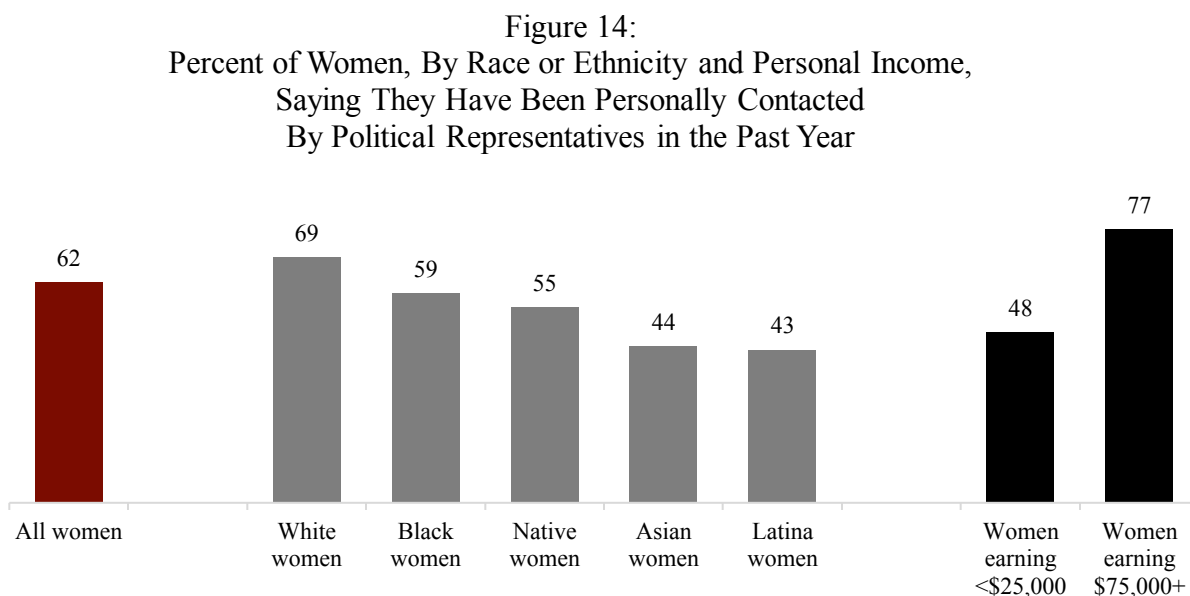
NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q6. Question asked of those who believe there is discrimination among total sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

LGBTQ women are more likely to identify discrimination based in laws and government policies as the larger problem (41%), compared to non-LGBTQ women (27%).

## Political Contact

Overall, 62% of women say that in the past year, they have been personally contacted by representatives of a political party, candidate, community organization or ballot issue encouraging them to vote or support their cause during an election (Figure 14). Being personally contacted in this way may lead to increased likelihood of voting or other forms of civic or political participation, particularly among racial and ethnic minority communities.<sup>18</sup>

Figure 14 further shows that white women and higher-earning women are significantly more likely to report being personally contacted: 69% of white women and 77% of high income women (those earning \$75,000 or more per year) report being contacted in the last year.



NPR/Robert Wood Johnson Foundation/Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women, January 26 – April 9, 2017. Q96. Question asked of total sample. Total N=1596 U.S. adult women.

In contrast, slightly more than half of Black (59%) and Native (55%) women, and a minority of Asian (44%) and Latina (43%) report being contacted. Fewer than half (48%) of low income women say they were contacted in the last year by political representatives (Figure 14).

With regard to party affiliation, 37% of all women describe themselves as Democrat, while 30% identify as Independent, 23% as Republican, and 5% as other. Black women are significantly more likely (73%) than any other women to identify as Democrats (43% Latina women, 38% Asian women, 37% Native Women, 29% white women). White women are more likely (29%) than any other women to identify as Republicans (16% Asian women, 16% Native women, 12% Latina women, 4% Black women).

<sup>18</sup> See, for example, Lisa García Bedolla and Melissa R. Michelson's *Mobilizing Inclusion: Transforming the Electorate through Get-Out-the-Vote Campaigns* (2012, Yale University Press), and Donald P. Green and Alan S. Gerber's *Get Out the Vote: How to Increase Voter Turnout* (2008, Brookings Institution Press).

## Conclusion

American women report significant experiences of discrimination, with notable variation among different demographic groups and intersecting identities. In the context of institutional discrimination, women – across racial and ethnic identities – most frequently report being discriminated against because they are women when it comes to being paid equally or considered for promotions (41%), and when applying for jobs (31%).

Regarding individual forms of discrimination, nearly four in ten (37%) women report that they or a female family member have been sexually harassed. Some groups of women are significantly more likely than others to report this experience, including LGBTQ women (65%), younger women (60% of ages 18-29), and women with a college degree (50%). Additionally, 24% of all women say they have experienced insensitive or offensive comments about their gender and 18% have experienced slurs about their gender.

When evaluating their local communities, women report beliefs consistent with their personal experiences: women most frequently report that, where they live, discrimination “often” happens to other women when being paid or promoted equally and when applying for jobs. Additionally, majority of all women agree that, where they live, women are paid less than men for equal work. However, 70% of women say their local government represents the views of people like them somewhat or very well, and 60% of women say they can affect what their local government does some or a great deal.

Overall, 68% of women believe that there is discrimination against women in America today. Among those who believe such discrimination exists, about half (52%) say that discrimination based on the prejudice of individual people is the larger problem, while 28% say the larger problem is discrimination based in laws and government policies. Another 17% say both are equally problematic.

Many striking findings emerge, particularly in personal experiences of discrimination, when examining demographic groups within the broad category of women. For example, younger women (especially ages 18-29) and women with a college degree are significantly more likely to report individual forms of discrimination, including sexual harassment, slurs, and insensitive or offensive comments about their gender.

LGBTQ women are significantly more likely than non-LGBTQ women to report experiencing multiple forms of both institutional and individual discrimination, as well as behaviors to avoid potential discrimination. LGBTQ women are also more likely to perceive discrimination against women and girls in their local area, to believe that discrimination against women exists today, and to label discrimination based in laws and government policies as the larger problem.

Women’s personal experiences of discrimination also vary widely by racial or ethnic identity (Tables 3-7). To avoid minimizing the personal experiences of any particular racial or ethnic group, this report does not directly compare these experiences to one another.

Overall, the findings illustrate women’s diverse experiences of discrimination in America today.

## Methodology

The poll in this study is part of an on-going series of surveys developed by researchers at the Harvard Opinion Research Program (HORP) at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and National Public Radio. The research team consists of the following members at each institution.

**Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health:** Robert J. Blendon, Professor of Health Policy and Political Analysis and Executive Director of HORP; Logan S. Casey, Research Associate in Public Opinion; John M. Benson, Senior Research Scientist and Managing Director of HORP; Justin M. Sayde, Administrative and Research Manager; and Tiffany Chan, Research Fellow.

**Robert Wood Johnson Foundation:** Carolyn Miller, Senior Program Officer, Research and Evaluation; Jordan Reese, Director of Media Relations; and Dwayne Proctor, Director, Achieving Health Equity Portfolio.

**NPR:** Anne Gudenkauf, Senior Supervising Editor, Science Desk; Joe Neel, Deputy Senior Supervising Editor, Science Desk; Keith Woods, Vice President, Diversity in News and Operations; Sara Goo, Acting Managing Editor, Digital News; Vickie Walton-James, Senior Supervising Editor, National Desk; Luis Clemens, Supervising Editor, National Desk; Alison Macadam, Senior Editorial Specialist; Alison Kodjak, Correspondent, Science Desk; and Rae Ellen Bichell, Reporter, Science Desk.

Interviews were conducted by SSRS of Glen Mills (PA) via telephone (including both landline and cell phone) using random-digit dialing, January 26 – April 9, 2017, among a nationally representative probability-based sample of 3,453 adults age 18 or older. The survey included nationally representative samples of Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Native Americans, as well as white Americans;<sup>19</sup> men and women, and LGBTQ adults.

This report presents the results specifically for a nationally representative probability-based telephone (cell and landline) sample of **1596 American women**. The margin of error for total female respondents is  $\pm 4.6$  percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

Possible sources of non-sampling error include non-response bias, as well as question wording and ordering effects. Non-response in telephone surveys produces some known biases in survey-derived estimates because participation tends to vary for different subgroups of the population. To compensate for these known biases and for variations in probability of selection within and across households, sample data are weighted by cell phone/landline use and demographics (sex, age, education, and Census region) to reflect the true population. Other techniques, including random-digit dialing, replicate subsamples, and systematic respondent selection within households, are used to ensure that the sample is representative.

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<sup>19</sup> African American, Asian American, and white American respondents who also identified as Hispanic or Latino were included only in the Latino sample.

**Methodology (continued)**

<b>Group</b>	<b>Number of Interviews (unweighted n)</b>	<b>Weighted %</b>
Total women	1596	100
Half-sample		
A	769	--
B	908	--
Age		
18-29	276	17
30-49	469	31
50-64	462	29
65+	385	22
Education		
High school grad or less	510	42
Some college	427	26
College grad or more	655	32
Household income		
<\$25,000 per year	510	28
\$25,000 to under \$50,000	351	23
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	193	10
\$75,000 or more	379	29
Race/ethnicity		
White	405	65
African American	428	13
Latino	390	15
Asian American	178	6
Native American	153	1
Region		
Northeast	274	17
Midwest	222	18
South	590	40
West	456	21
Metro status		
Urban	364	20
Suburban	874	55
Rural	297	21
LGBTQ		
Yes	221	7
No	1299	89
Income of area where you live		
Upper	180	10
Middle	760	54
Lower	289	16

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## Discrimination in America: Experiences and Views of American Women

The results presented here are from a survey conducted for National Public Radio, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, via telephone (landline and cell phone) by SSRS, an independent research company. Interviews were conducted using random-digit dialing, **January 26 – April 9, 2017**, among a nationally representative probability-based sample of 3,453 adults age 18 or older. The survey included nationally representative samples of Latinos, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Native Americans, as well as white Americans; men and women, and LGBTQ adults.

This document presents the results specifically for a nationally representative probability-based sample of **1,596 American women**. The margin of error for total American female respondents is  $\pm 4.6$  percentage points at the 95% confidence level.

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**Responses shown in the tables that follow are percentages.**

## I. Introduction

(Asked of half-sample A; n= 769)

S5. Have you ever applied for a job?

	Women
Yes, has applied for a job	93
No, has not applied for a job	7
DK/Ref	-

(Asked of half-sample A; n= 769)

S6. Have you ever been employed for pay?

	Women
Yes, has been employed for pay	95
No, has not been employed for pay	5
DK/Ref	*

(Asked of half-sample B; n= 827)

S7. Have you ever applied for college or attended college for any amount of time?

	Women
Yes, has applied for or attended college	63
No, has not applied for or attended college	37
DK/Ref	-

(Asked of half-sample B; n= 827)

S8. Have you ever tried to rent a room or apartment or to apply for a mortgage or buy a home?

	Women
Yes, has tried	76
No, has not tried	24
DK/Ref	*

## II. Discrimination

Q5. Generally speaking, do you believe there is or is not discrimination against women in America today?

	Women
Yes	68
No	29
DK/Ref	3

**(Asked of women who believe discrimination exists against women in America today; n= 1,220)**

Q6. When it comes to discrimination against women in America today, which do you think is the bigger problem?

	Women
Discrimination that is based in laws and government policies	28
Discrimination that is based on the prejudice of individual people	52
Both equally (vol)	17
DK/Ref	3



Now we'd like to ask you some questions more specifically about what goes on in the general area where you live, as well as your personal experiences. When we say "the area where you live," we just mean the general neighborhood, town, or part of town where you live.

Q10. How well do you feel that your local government represents the views of people like you?

	<b>Women</b>
Very well	24
Somewhat well	46
Not too well	14
Not well at all	11
DK/Ref	5

Q11. How much can people like you affect what your local government does? Would you say...?

	<b>Women</b>
A great deal	19
Some	41
Only a little	25
Not at all	11
DK/Ref	4

Now I have some questions about issues that may be facing people where you live. For each of the following, please tell me how frequently you think this happens to people where you live, using the scale OFTEN, SOMETIMES, RARELY, or NEVER. Then I'll ask if you've ever **personally** experienced this, not just where you currently live.

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q26. How often, if ever, do you believe women where you live experience discrimination **when applying for jobs?**

	Women
Often	15
Sometimes	43
Rarely	25
Never	14
DK/Ref	3

**(Asked of women in half-sample A who have ever applied for a job; n=717)**

Q27. What about you? Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination because you are a woman **when applying for jobs?**

	Women
Yes	31
No	68
DK/Ref	1

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q28. How often, if ever, do you believe women where you live experience discrimination **when it comes to being paid equally or considered for promotions?**

	Women
Often	25
Sometimes	42
Rarely	18
Never	13
DK/Ref	2

**(Asked of women in half-sample A who have ever been employed; n=718)**

Q29. What about you? Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination because you are a woman **when it comes to being paid equally or considered for promotions?**

	Women
Yes	41
No	58
DK/Ref	1

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q30. How often, if ever, do you believe women where you live experience discrimination **when interacting with police?**

	Women
Often	7
Sometimes	29
Rarely	31
Never	28
DK/Ref	5

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q31. What about you? Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination because you are a woman **when interacting with police?**

	Women
Yes	15
No	79
Have never interacted with the police (vol)	6
DK/Ref	*

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q32. How often, if ever, do you believe women where you live experience discrimination **when trying to vote or participate in politics?**

	Women
Often	6
Sometimes	17
Rarely	33
Never	41
DK/Ref	3

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q33. What about you? Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination because you are a woman **when trying to vote or participate in politics?**

	Women
Yes	9
No	89
Have never tried to vote or participate in politics (vol)	2
DK/Ref	*

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q34. How often, if ever, do you women where you live experience discrimination **when going to a doctor or health clinic?**

	Women
Often	6
Sometimes	25
Rarely	30
Never	34
DK/Ref	5

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q35. What about you? Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination because you are a woman **when going to a doctor or health clinic?**

	Women
Yes	18
No	82
DK/Ref	*

**(Asked of half-sample; n=827)**

Q36. How often, if ever, do you believe women where you live experience discrimination **when applying to college or while at college?**

	Women
Often	7
Sometimes	22
Rarely	34
Never	30
DK/Ref	7

**(Asked of women in half-sample B who have ever applied to or attended college; n=594)**

Q37. What about you? Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination because you are a woman **when applying to college or while at college?**

	Women
Yes	20
No	77
DK/Ref	3

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q38. How often, if ever, do you believe women where you live experience discrimination **when trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house?**

	Women
Often	7
Sometimes	28
Rarely	37
Never	25
DK/Ref	3

**(Asked of women in half-sample B who have ever tried to rent or buy a place to live; n=632)**

Q39. What about you? Do you believe you have ever personally experienced discrimination because you are a woman **when trying to rent a room or apartment or buy a house?**

	Women
Yes	16
No	83
DK/Ref	1

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q61. Have you ever avoided going to a doctor or seeking health care for you or others in your family out of concern for the cost?

	Women
Yes	58
No	42
DK/Ref	*

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q62b. Have you ever avoided going to a doctor or seeking health care for you or others in your family out of concern that you would be discriminated against or treated poorly because you or they are women?

	Women
Yes	9
No	91
DK/Ref	*

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q63. In your day-to-day life, have any of the following things ever happened to you, or not?

- a. Someone referred to you or a group you belong to using a slur or other negative word

	<b>Women</b>
Yes, has happened	44
No, has not happened	56
DK/Ref	*

- b. Someone made negative assumptions or insensitive or offensive comments about you

	<b>Women</b>
Yes, has happened	55
No, has not happened	44
DK/Ref	1

- c. People acted as if they were afraid of you

	<b>Women</b>
Yes, has happened	15
No, has not happened	84
DK/Ref	1

Q63a. In your day-to-day life, have any of the following things ever happened to you, or not?

Someone referred to you or a group you belong to using a slur or other negative word

**If Yes, ask:**

Q64a. Do you believe this happened to you because of your race or ethnicity, your gender, or was it for some other reason?

**Q63a/Q64a Combo Table**  
Based on total half-sample B; n=827

	<b>Women</b>
Someone has referred to you or a group you belong to using a slur or other negative word (total)	44
...and you believe it happened to you because...	
Race or ethnicity	25
Gender	18
Sexual orientation	3
Gender identity	1
Religion/Religious views (vol)	5
My appearance (weight, height, the way I dressed, hair, etc) (vol)	*
Political reasons/Political affiliation (vol)	1
Mean/angry/rude/being a bully (vol)	*
Envy/Jealousy (vol)	*
Work position/authoritative position/other work reasons (vol)	-
Handicap/disability (vol)	1
Personality (vol)	*
Social Reasons (vol)	*
Some other reason	2
DK/Ref	1
No, has not happened	56
DK/Ref	*



Q63b. In your day-to-day life, have any of the following things ever happened to you, or not?

Someone made negative assumptions or insensitive or offensive comments about you

**If Yes, ask:**

Q64b. Do you believe this happened to you because of your race or ethnicity, your gender, or was it for some other reason?

**Q63b/Q64b Combo Table**

**Based on total half-sample B; n=827**

	<b>Women</b>
Someone has made negative assumptions or insensitive or offensive comments about you (total)	55
...and you believe it happened to you because...	
Race or ethnicity	21
Gender	24
Sexual orientation	3
Gender identity	1
Religion/Religious views (vol)	2
My appearance (weight, height, the way I dressed, hair, etc) (vol)	4
Political reasons/Political affiliation (vol)	*
Mean/angry/rude/being a bully (vol)	2
Envy/jealousy (vol)	1
Work position/authoritative position/other work reasons (vol)	1
Handicap/disability (vol)	*
Personality (vol)	*
Social reasons (vol)	*
Some other reason	8
DK/Ref	4
No, has not happened	44
DK/Ref	1

Q63c. In your day-to-day life, have any of the following things ever happened to you, or not?

People acted as if they were afraid of you

**If Yes, ask:**

Q64c. Do you believe this happened to you because of your race or ethnicity, your gender, or was it for some other reason?

**Q63c/Q64c Combo Table**  
Based on total half-sample B; n=827

	<b>Women</b>
People have acted as if they were afraid to you (total)	15
...and you believe it happened to you because...	
Race or ethnicity	8
Gender	2
Sexual orientation	1
Gender identity	1
Religion/Religious views (vol)	*
My appearance (weight, height, the way I dressed, hair, etc) (vol)	3
Political reasons/Political affiliation (vol)	*
Mean/angry/rude/being a bully (vol)	2
Envy/Jealousy	*
Work position/authoritative position/other work reasons (vol)	2
Handicap/disability (vol)	*
Personality (vol)	*
Social reasons (vol)	*
Some other reason	1
DK/Ref	*
No, has not happened	84
DK/Ref	1

### III. Employment & Education

Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about employment opportunities and the workplace. For each of the following statements about employment opportunities and the workplace, please tell me if you STRONGLY AGREE, SOMEWHAT AGREE, SOMEWHAT DISAGREE, OR STRONGLY DISAGREE:

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q66. Women where I live have fewer employment opportunities just because they are women. Do you...?

	Women
Strongly agree	8
Somewhat agree	29
Somewhat disagree	30
Strongly disagree	30
DK/Ref	3

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q70. Women where I live are paid less than men for equal work, because they are women. Do you...?

	Women
Strongly agree	24
Somewhat agree	32
Somewhat disagree	21
Strongly disagree	21
DK/Ref	2

Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about education and schooling. For each of the following statements about education and schooling, please tell me if you STRONGLY AGREE, SOMEWHAT AGREE, SOMEWHAT DISAGREE, OR STRONGLY DISAGREE:

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q74. Because of the way the schools operate where I live, young women here don't have the same chances to get a quality education as men. Do you...?

	<b>Women</b>
Strongly agree	6
Somewhat agree	16
Somewhat disagree	26
Strongly disagree	49
DK/Ref	3

Now I have a different type of question, but still about education.

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q76. When you were growing up, were you encouraged to apply to college, discouraged from applying for college, or was this never discussed?

	<b>Women</b>
Encouraged to apply to college	58
Discouraged from applying for college	6
Never discussed	35
DK/Ref	1

#### IV. Community Environment

Q80. If you were describing the place where you live, would you say that it is mostly upper income, mostly middle income, or mostly lower income, or is this something you don't have enough information about to say?

	Women
Upper income	10
Middle income	54
Lower income	16
Don't have enough information	20

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q81. If you were describing the health and well-being of the place where you live, would you say that it is mostly excellent health, good health, only fair health, or poor health, or is this something you don't have enough information about to say?

	Women
Excellent health	10
Good health	44
Only fair health	12
Poor health	4
Don't have enough information	30

Q84. Have you ever thought about moving or relocating to another area because you experienced discrimination or unequal treatment where you were living?

**If Yes, ask:**

Have you thought about moving because of discrimination, but haven't actually moved or have you actually moved or relocated because of discrimination?

	Women
No, I've never thought about it	86
<b>Yes, have thought about moving because of discrimination where I live (NET)</b>	<b>14</b>
I've thought about moving because of discrimination, but haven't actually moved	11
I've actually moved/relocated because of discrimination	3
DK/Ref	*

**(Asked of half-sample B; n=827)**

Q85. Compared to other places to live, do you think the (INSERT ITEM) where you live is BETTER, WORSE, or ABOUT THE SAME as other places to live?

- a. Availability of grocery stores

	Women
Better	32
Worse	15
About the same	52
DK/Ref	1

- b. Air quality

	Women
Better	40
Worse	11
About the same	47
DK/Ref	2

- c. Quality of drinking water

	Women
Better	36
Worse	9
About the same	50
DK/Ref	5

- d. Quality of available housing

	Women
Better	23
Worse	17
About the same	56
DK/Ref	4

- e. Quality of available doctors or health care services

	Women
Better	33
Worse	17
About the same	48
DK/Ref	2

f. Quality of public schools

	Women
Better	33
Worse	17
About the same	43
DK/Ref	7

g. Availability of local employment opportunities

	Women
Better	17
Worse	26
About the same	50
DK/Ref	7

h. Amount of crime

	Women
Better	47
Worse	14
About the same	38
DK/Ref	1

i. Availability of parks, green spaces, and recreational areas

	Women
Better	42
Worse	15
About the same	41
DK/Ref	2

j. Availability of public transportation options

	Women
Better	21
Worse	37
About the same	37
DK/Ref	5

## V. Public Safety

Now I'd like to ask you some questions about public safety. Some of these questions will ask about the police in the area where you live. Many news events over the past few years have highlighted some of the tensions between police and the communities they work in. We want you to think about the place where you live and your own personal experience, rather than events nationwide.

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q88. Have you ever avoided calling the police or other authority figures, even when in need, out of concern that you or others in your family would be discriminated against because you or they are women?

	Women
Yes	9
No	91
DK/Ref	*

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q89. Have you ever avoided doing things that you might normally do, such as using a car or public transportation, seeking medical care, or participating in political or social events, because you wanted to avoid possibly interacting with the police or government authority figures?

**If Yes, ask:**

Q90. How often would you say you avoided doing things you might normally do, to avoid the police or government authority figures?

### Q89/Q90 Combo Table

**Based on total half-sample A; n=769**

	Women
Have ever avoided doing things they might normally do because they wanted to avoid possibly interacting with the police or government authority figures	7
Frequently	1
Sometimes	3
Not often	3
No, have not	93
DK/Ref	*



Now I'm going to ask you a few questions about things that may have ever happened to you. Some of these may be difficult to think or talk about, but please do your best. Your honest answers can really help.

**(Asked of half-sample A; n=769)**

Q92. Do you believe that you or someone in your family who is also a female has (INSERT ITEM) because you or they are female?

**Q92 Summary Table: % saying "Yes"**

	<b>Women</b>
Experienced sexual harassment	37
Been threatened or non-sexually harassed	29
Been unfairly stopped or treated by the police	12
Been unfairly treated by the courts	8
Experienced violence	21

Q96. In the past year, have you been personally contacted by representatives of a political party, candidate, community organization, or ballot issue encouraging you to vote or support their cause during an election? For example, someone knocking on your door or calling you on the phone?

	Women
Yes	62
No	38
DK/Ref	*

Q97. Are you registered to vote at your current address, registered to vote somewhere else, or are you not registered to vote?

	Women
<b>Registered to vote</b>	<b>84</b>
Registered at current address	76
Registered somewhere else	8
Not registered to vote	16
DK/Ref	*

Q97. Are you registered to vote at your current address, registered to vote somewhere else, or are you not registered to vote?

**If registered to vote, ask:**

Q98. Did you vote in the 2016 presidential election when Hillary Clinton ran against Donald Trump, did something prevent you from voting, or did you choose not to vote?

**Q97/Q98 Combo Table**  
**Based on total respondents**

	Women
Registered to vote	84
Yes, voted	72
No, did not vote	12
Not registered to vote	16
DK/Ref	*

## VI. Health Demographics

Q99. In general, how would you describe your own physical health – excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?

	Women
Excellent	17
Very good	31
Good	29
Fair	17
Poor	6
DK/Ref	*

Q100. In general, how would you describe your own mental health – excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?

	Women
Excellent	32
Very good	25
Good	31
Fair	10
Poor	2
DK/Ref	*

Q101. Does any disability keep you from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities?

	Women
Yes	24
No	76
DK/Ref	*

Q102. Has a doctor or other health care professional ever told you that you have a chronic illness, such as heart disease, lung disease, cancer, diabetes, high blood pressure, asthma or a mental health condition, or haven't they?

	Women
Yes	41
No	59
DK/Ref	*

Q103. Do you receive regular care from the Veterans Administration?

	Women
Yes	3
No	97
DK/Ref	*

Q105. Do you have a regular doctor or health care professional that provides most of your health care when you are sick or have a health concern, or do you not?

	Women
Yes	84
No	16
DK/Ref	*

Q106. Where do you usually go when you are sick or when you need advice about your health? Is it a hospital emergency room, a clinic at a hospital, a neighborhood clinic or health center, a private doctor's office, or do you have no usual place of care?

	Women
Hospital emergency room	8
Clinic at a hospital	7
Neighborhood clinic or health center	22
Private doctor's office	55
No usual place of care	7
Urgent care (vol)	*
Veterans Administration/Military care (vol)	1
Other	*
DK/Ref	*

Q107. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan? This would include any private insurance plan through your employer or that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or Medicaid.

	Women
Yes	90
No	10
DK/Ref	-

Q107. Are you, yourself, now covered by any form of health insurance or health plan? This would include any private insurance plan through your employer or that you purchased yourself, as well as a government program like Medicare or Medicaid.

**If covered by health insurance, ask:**

Q108. Which of the following is your **main** source of health insurance coverage? Is it a plan through your employer, a plan through your spouse's employer, a plan you purchased yourself either from an insurance company or a state or federal marketplace, are you covered by Medicare or Medicaid, a plan through your parents, or do you get your health insurance from somewhere else?

**Q107/Q108 Combo Table**  
Based on total respondents

	Women
Yes, covered by health insurance	90
Plan through your employer	26
Plan through your spouse's employer	14
Plan you purchased yourself either through an insurance company or state or federal marketplace	10
Medicare	22
Medicaid	9
Plan through your parents	6
Veterans administrative/Military (vol)	1
Somewhere else	1
DK/Ref	1
No, not covered by health insurance	10
DK/Ref	-

## VII. Demographics

### Age Table

	Women
18 to 29	17
30 to 49	31
50 to 64	29
65 or older	22
Refused	*

D3. What is the last grade or class that you completed in school?

	Women
<b>High school or less (NET)</b>	<b>42</b>
Less than high school (grades 1-11, grade 12, but no diploma)	12
High school graduate or equivalent (e.g. GED)	30
Some college but no degree (incl. 2 year occupational or vocational programs)	26
<b>College or post graduate (NET)</b>	<b>32</b>
College graduate (e.g. BA, AB, BS)	18
Postgraduate (e.g. MA, MS,, Med, MSW, MBA, MD, DDs, PhD, JD, LLB, DVM)	14
DK/Ref	*

D4. Are you currently employed full-time, part-time, or not currently employed?

	Women
Employed full-time	38
Employed part-time	15
Not currently employed	47
DK/Ref	*

### Race Table

	Women
White (non-Hispanic)	65
Black or African American (non-Hispanic)	13
Hispanic or Latino	15
Asian (non-Hispanic)	6
Native American (American Indian/Alaska Native)	1
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	*
Other/No answer	*

### LGBTQ Identity Table

	Women
Straight and cisgender	89
LGBTQ	7
Refused	4

D11. Are you currently married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed or have you never been married?

	Women
Married	46
Living with a partner	7
Divorced	13
Separated	3
Widowed	10
Never been married	21
Refused	1

**D12/D12a/D12b Income Summary Table**

	Women
<\$25,000 per year	28
\$25,000 to under \$50,000	23
\$50,000 to under \$75,000	10
\$75,000 or more	29
Unspecified under \$100,000	3
Don't know	3
Refused	4

D15. In politics today, do you consider yourself a Republican, Democrat, an Independent, or what?

	Women
Republican	23
Democrat	37
Independent	30
Other	5
DK/Ref	5