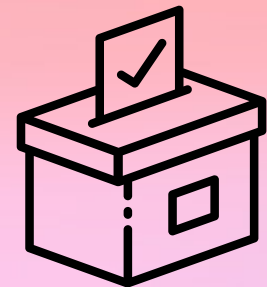


GE15 MANIFESTOS




**IS GENDER
EQUALITY ON THE
AGENDA?**



Women make up 50% of the electorate, but only **13.5% of those nominated for a seat in Parliament in GE15.**

What are parties promising?

Let's put a gender lens on the manifestos and note key issues the parties have pledged to address.

-  Issue is not on the agenda or has no gender focus
 -  Issue is mentioned, but lacks clarity in gender focus
 -  Issue is mentioned and has a gender focus
-

ON ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

ISSUE	SEXUAL HARASSMENT	STALKING	CHILD MARRIAGE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention of the Anti-Sexual Harassment Bill 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention of enacting the Anti-Stalking Legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mention of the National Strategic Plan in Handling Causes of Child Marriage 2025, but no plan to explicitly end child marriage.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to establish the Anti Sexual Harassment Tribunal, as per the Anti-Sexual Harassment Bill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Does not mention the Anti-Stalking Legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to enforce and ensure speedy implementation of Anti-Sexual Harassment Bill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to enforce and ensure the speedy implementation of Anti-Stalking Legislation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to improve laws related to women's protection, but no mention of sexual harassment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to improve women's protection, but no mention of stalking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention

ON GENDER EQUALITY

ISSUE	GENDER EQUALITY	EQUAL CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS	WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bills to have elements of gender inclusivity. <p>Centralise data on women and girls through cross-agency data collection system</p> <p>More equitable Syariah Court outcomes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PH does not mention any plans to increase women's representation in leadership and decision making. <p>19% of those nominated for GE15 by PH are women.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manifesto promises a needs assessment to establish a Gender Equality Tribunal. <p>In their speech, BN stated they are concerned with the gender pay gap.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Establish Women's Leadership Academy to develop women leaders. <p>12.4% of those nominated in GE15 by BN are women.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises strategic plan to achieve gender equality by 2030. <p>More equitable Syariah Court outcomes, especially regarding divorce and <i>nafkah</i> (alimony).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ensure 30% representation of women in decision-making roles in public and private sectors by 2025. <p>10.7% of those nominated in GE15 by PN are women.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to draft the Anti-Discrimination Act 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No specific mention about gender equality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Appoint more women to important positions in Sarawak Government agencies and as community leaders, village chiefs and local councillors
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No specific mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No specific mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to have more women as policymakers.

ON ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND SECURITY

ISSUE	UPSKILLING & RESKILLING	PARTICIPATION IN STEM	WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Empowering support programmes with minimum quota of 40% for women and PWDs for skill training, grants for small businesses, and home industries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● While PH has stated a desire to increase involvement in STEM fields, they do not specifically address women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Micro credit schemes and funding support schemes, training, administrative and regulatory consultancy support with minimum quota of 40% for women and persons with disabilities.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention of upskilling and reskilling specifically targetted towards women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention about women in STEM. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to establish a national Women's Economic Development Corporation.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase opportunities for upskilling women in new skill areas and professional development for supervisory roles in private sectors and as entrepreneurs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PN aims to increase women's involvement in tech sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DanaNita - RM20,000 interest free loan for new female entrepreneurs. <p><i>Note: DanaNita loans have typically been specifically for bumiputera women.</i></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mentions increasing jobs in STEM fields, but no specific focus on drawing more women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mentions skills training programmes, but nothing specific for women. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mentions increasing STEM opportunities, but no gender focus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Produce more female entrepreneurs in various business fields.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No mention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promises to continue to empower women in the field of entrepreneurship.

ON ADDRESSING CARE NEEDS

ISSUE	CHILDCARE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Childcare subsidies will be given to working women from the B40 and M40 categories. <p>HARAPAN will establish after school spaces for children to learn and socialise.</p> <p>Early childhood education system to be restructured.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provision of free national early education and care system for all children aged six (6) years and below. <p>Provide tax exemptions for 5 full years to women who return to the workforce after a career break.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promise of increased paternity leave to 14 days. <p>Introduce Care Economy agenda to standardise the care systems and introduce a scheme to professionalise childcare.</p> <p>Establish a support system for working women and women who wish to return to work, including provisions for parents and childcare facilities in offices.</p>
 <p>PARTI SOSIALIS MALAYSIA SOCIALIST PARTY OF MALAYSIA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase the amount of carers for pre-school children. <p>Increase the amount of social workers.</p>
 <p>GABUNGAN PARTI SARAWAK (GPS)</p>  <p>GABUNGAN RAKYAT SABAH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop friendly facilities for the elderly, persons with disability and children. <p>Develop leisure places and centres for the elderly, persons with disability and children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No specific mention.

OTHER PROMISES PLEDGED

ISSUE

P A K A T A N
H A R A P A N



PERIKATAN
NASIONAL



PARTI SOSIALIS MALAYSIA
SOCIALIST PARTY OF MALAYSIA



GABUNGAN PARTI SARAWAK
(GPS)



GABUNGAN
RAKYAT SABAH

ENSURING WOMEN THRIVE WITH DIGNITY

- Provision of **free sanitary pads and tampons** at all primary and secondary schools throughout Malaysia and free sanitary pads and tampons for B40 women.

Expediting **1,500 new child protection officers** under the Department of Social Welfare to promptly reach the ideal ratio of 1 officer to 30 children.

- **RM500 one-off cash assistance to new mothers** receiving *Bantuan Keluarga Malaysia*.

Tax deduction for employers who introduce flexible work for mothers.

Establish the **Women's Economic Development Bank** and a hospital for women's health issues.

- Introduce **Kad Kasih Ibu** at a national level to ensure women are able to buy essentials.

Increase the Housewives Social Security Scheme coverage to RM800.

Starter kits for mothers and children for the first child.

- **Extend PERKESO scheme to all informal workers**, including housewives, with 100% contribution by the government.

- **Empower women's involvement** in the development of Sarawak.

Uphold women's rights in various areas of Sarawak's socioeconomic development.

- **Preserve the welfare of single mothers and widows**, as well as provide **continuous assistance to single mothers**.

BUT HOW DO THESE STACK UP AGAINST WAO'S MANIFESTO?

Here are some points in the WAO Manifesto. Were they mentioned in the party manifestos?

ISSUES	PH	BN	PN	PSM	GPS	GRS
Implement a comprehensive nation-wide prevention strategy to reduce Sexual and Gender Based Violence	●	●	●	●	●	●
Enact the Gender Equality Act	●	●	●	●	●	●
Improved childcare access	●	●	●	●	●	●
50% political representation and participation	●	●	●	●	●	●
Ensure Gender-Responsive Budgeting (GRB)	●	●	●	●	●	●
Invest in targeted support for women entrepreneurs and business owners in the B40 group	●	●	●	●	●	●
Commit to a safe environment for women in media	●	●	●	●	●	●

Exercise your right.

GO OUT AND VOTE!

We hope this post helps you better understand the political priorities in building a gender equal Malaysia, to make an informed decision as a voter, and hold your elected representatives to their manifesto promises.

Share if you found it helpful!

