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CEDAW:

The Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

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Challenges facing women in the US today



National Numbers

1 in 4 college women will be sexually assaulted.

5.3 million incidents of intimate partner violence occur each year among women 18 and older.

1 in 4 women have been victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner.

Every 9 seconds, a woman in the US is assaulted or beaten.

Women constitute 65% of the victims of murder-suicides in the US.

1 in 7 women have been stalked by an intimate partner during their lifetime.

1 in 10 women have been raped by an intimate partner.

Minnesota Numbers

684,000 Minnesota women will be raped, stalked, or experience violence by an intimate partner in their lifetimes.

In 2020, nearly **70,000** victims received services from domestic violence agencies in Minnesota.

There were **22,760** active protective orders between 2006 and 2015.

Law enforcement conducted **401** sex trafficking investigations in 2017. **20%** were in southern Minnesota.



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2,678 Rice County residents reported being in an abusive relationship in 2019.

Hope Center had **161** sexual violence cases in 2018 and **442** between 2016 and 2018. **86%** of those victims were female.

At least **74 people** were sexually assaulted at Carleton College and St. Olaf College in 2019.

Women's Numbers – Elected Office

Women in the US Senate EVER, since 1789: **58. 2.9%.**

Today: **24; 24%.**

Women in the US House EVER: **345. 2.8%.**

Today: **118; 27%.**

Women in state legislatures, total today: **31%.**

Women in the Minnesota Legislature today: **36%.**



CEDAW's Core Principles



1. Substantive Equality

2. Non-Discrimination

What is CEDAW?

6 Parts, 30 Articles.

1 – *Overview*: equality in political, social, economic, and cultural spheres.

2 – *Equality in political and public spheres.*

Right to vote; participate in government; acquire, change, or retain nationality.



3 – *Equality in education, employment, health.*

4 – *Equality in civil matters – contracts, rights of residence, right to enter or dissolve marriage and to freely choose a spouse.*

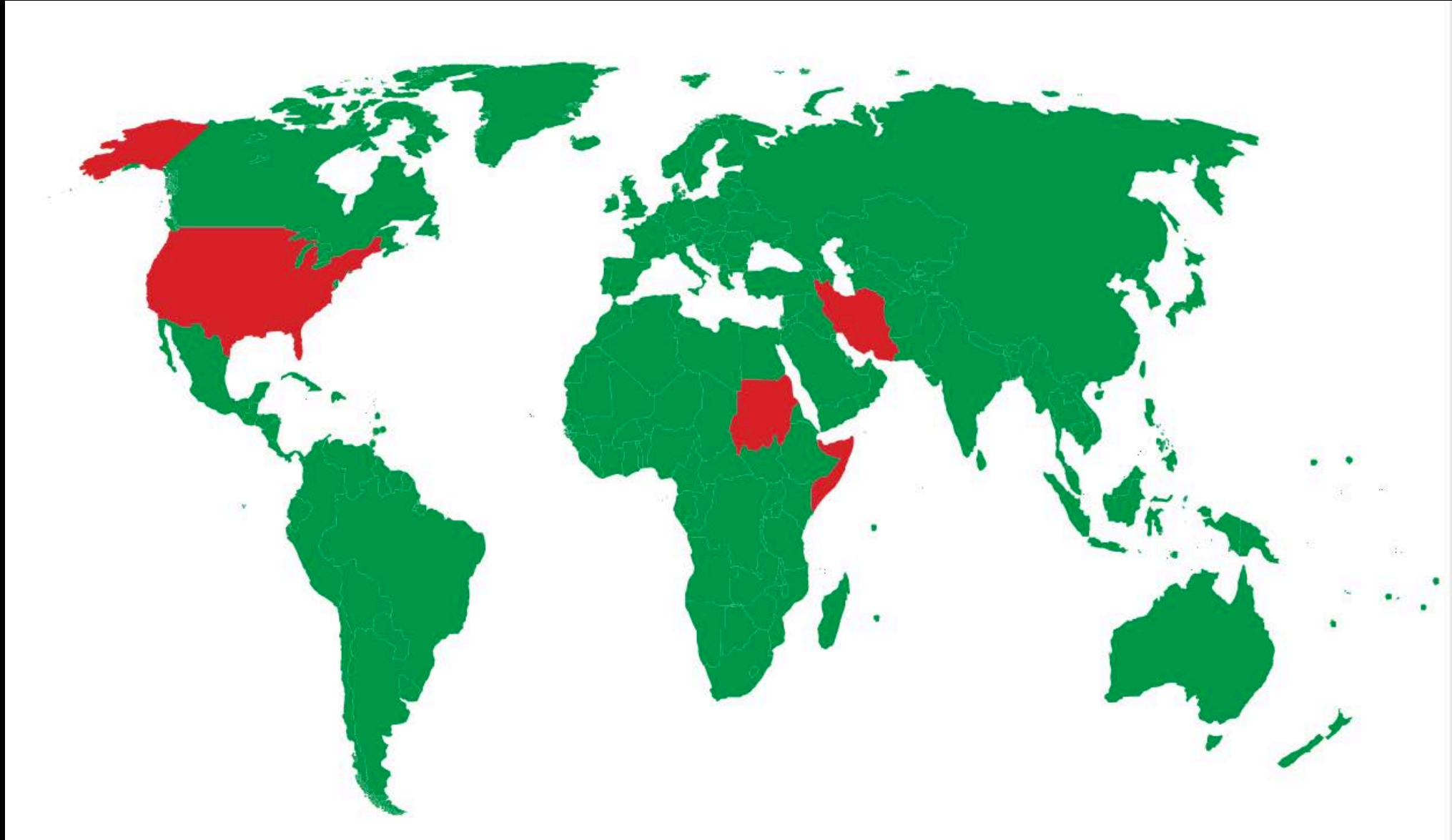


5 – *UN review committee; 4-year reports.*

6 – *UN ratification process.*



Nations that have NOT ratified CEDAW



The Ratification Process

Senate Foreign Relations Committee



The Ratification Process

67 YES votes in the Senate



CEDAW's History in the US

1980

- President Jimmy Carter signed CEDAW

1994

- Approved by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with bipartisan support

2002

- Again approved by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with bipartisan support

2010

- Senator Durbin held a hearing on CEDAW in a Senate Judiciary Subcommittee

2011

- Senators Boxer and Casey held a hearing on Women and Arab Spring which highlighted CEDAW

But CEDAW has still not been adopted nationally.

Why the US should ratify CEDAW

Demonstrate global commitment to women's rights.

Be part of the international community.

Address local discrimination and violence.

World Without Genocide Action for CEDAW

Minnesota support

- Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, Edina, Red Wing, Richfield
- Minnesota State Bar Association – 17,500
- Minnesota Nurses Association – 21,000

Nationally:

43 CITIES FOR CEDAW and more than 200 organizations

In 2021: Support CEDAW in Northfield.

Join Minneapolis

St. Paul

Red Wing

Duluth

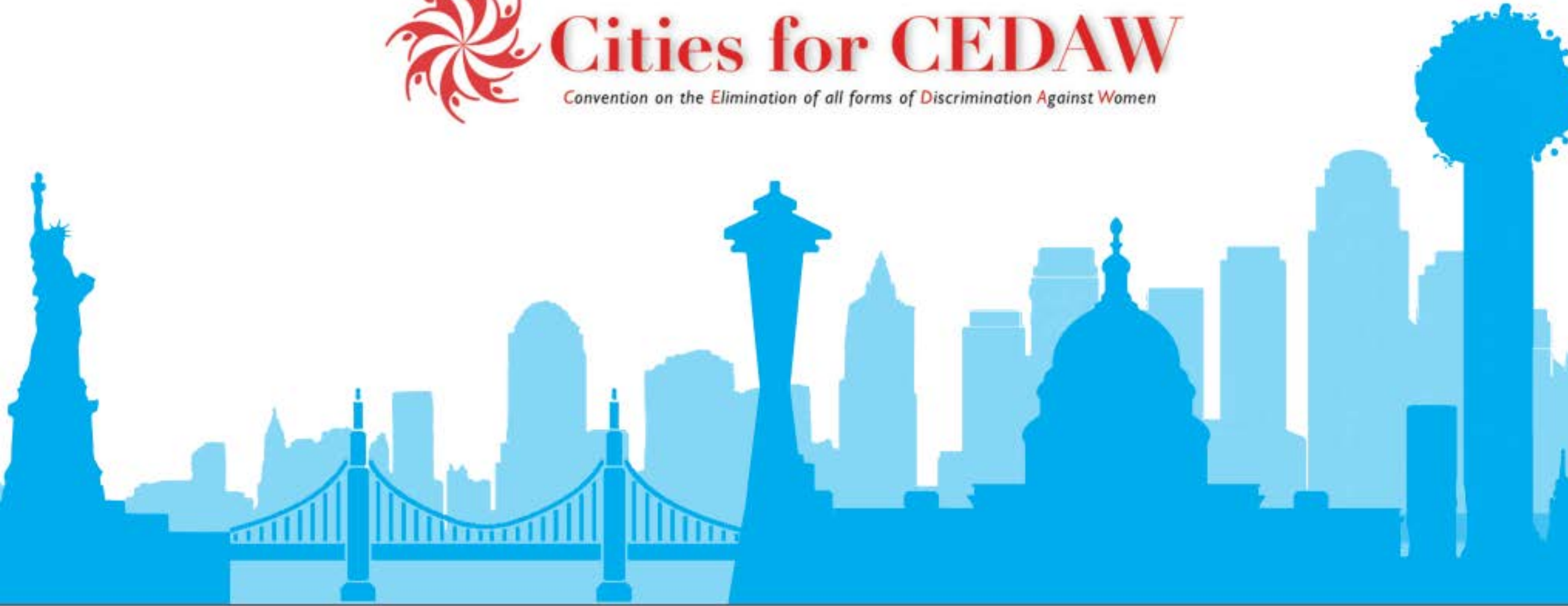
Edina

Richfield



Cities for CEDAW

Convention on the *E*limination of all forms of *D*iscrimination *A*gainst *W*omen





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