Countries with discriminatory nationality laws: 53

- Africa: 20
- Middle East/North Africa: 16
- Asia Pacific: 11
- Americas: 6

27% of countries have sexist nationality laws

Too many governments have simply decided that a woman should have fewer rights than a man to pass on her citizenship to her children or her foreign spouse, or to acquire, change, or keep her nationality.

Laws Affecting Spouses

- **48 countries:** Married woman cannot pass to foreign spouse on an equal basis with married man

- **4 countries:** Woman automatically loses nationality of origin upon marrying foreign spouse

- **2 countries:** Woman who has lost her nationality of origin through marriage cannot regain it on the termination of marriage

- **4 countries:** Foreign woman who takes spouse's nationality automatically loses it upon termination of marriage

- **2 countries:** Married man cannot pass to foreign spouse on an equal basis

- **1 country:** Foreign woman automatically acquires her husband's nationality upon marriage or when he obtains citizenship

Laws Affecting Children

- **21 countries:** Unmarried mother cannot pass to child born outside country on an equal basis

- **18 countries:** Married mother cannot pass to child born in country on an equal basis

- **16 countries:** Unmarried mother cannot pass to child born in country on an equal basis

- **26 countries:** Married mother cannot pass to child born outside country on an equal basis with married father

- **9 countries:** If a father's nationality changes, his children may cease to be citizens without consideration of the mother's nationality

- **5 countries:** Woman cannot pass nationality to adopted child on an equal basis

- **3 countries:** Unmarried father of child born abroad cannot pass to child without additional requirements beyond proof of paternity

- **2 countries:** Unmarried father of child born abroad cannot pass to child born in country on an equal basis

- **2 countries:** Unmarried father of child born abroad cannot pass to child at all

From Equality Now's forthcoming report: "The State We're In: Ending Sexism in Nationality Laws"