Politics is stalling. WE are the start-up.

**WE First Party Conference**Manchester 25–27 November 2016

*Form for Motions*

Thanks for submitting your motion to the Women’s Equality Party’s first ever Party Conference. Please use this form and ensure you include all the information requested. Submissions that don't adhere to these rules will be rejected automatically.

Motions and emergency motions for debate and amendments to those motions may be proposed by a local branch (or branches) or not less than 20 members working together. The Party Leader and the Steering Committee can also put forward motions.

Motions need to be sent by email to [info@womensequality.org.uk](mailto:info@womensequality.org.uk) with the subject ‘Party Conference Motion’ at the latest by 30 September 2016. Emergency Motions should be sent in at the latest by 17 November 2016. There will be a chance for submission of emergency motions at Conference itself, but such motions will only be accepted if they concern matters that have arisen between 17 November 2016 and the end of Conference.

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| Title:  [A brief title that sums up the intent of the motion] |
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| Proposed by:  [Please provide a full name and email address registered with the Party for all signatories to the motion and/or your Branch name and contact details, as appropriate. Motions proposed by a Branch (or branches) must be submitted by a branch email address. Please also state name and contact details for the proposer of the motion, who will be contacted if the motion is accepted for debate at Conference.] |
| Type of motion:  [Business motion, Policy motion, Emergency motion\*] |
| Motion text:  [Maximum 300 words explaining what the motion is calling for. The wording should be precise and the desired outcome should be stated in the motion. Any cited material should be brought by the Proposer to Conference, if the motion is accepted for debate. If the Motion is approved by Party Conference, this text will be published as WE’s official stand on the issue.] |
| Motion rationale:  [Maximum 500 words explaining the rationale behind the motion, the issue it is addressing, the solutions it proposes and links to WE’s existing policies. Please include references for any statistics, research or quotes you refer to.] |

**\*Glossary**

A motion is a proposal for discussion and possible adoption as a resolution.

A Policy Motion is a proposal to reaffirm the policy of the Party or adopt a new policy.

A Business Motion is a proposal about the internal work of the Party.

An Emergency Motion is a proposal put forward after the deadline for standard motions is past to address an issue that has come up in the meantime.

**Sample Motion**

Here is a sample motion that you can check out when you are writing your motion!

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| **Title:** Media sexism and female olympic athletes |
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| **Proposed by:** The Timbuktu Branch  Proposer of the motion will be Anna Timbuktu  Email addresses: WEtimbuktu@email.uk and anna.timbuktu@email.uk |
| **Type of motion:** Policy motion |
| **Motion text:**  The Women’s Equality Party’s first Party Conference notes with dismay the continued disinclination of the national media to report on female Olympic medallists without concentrating on their appearance and other irrelevant characteristics, rather than on their sporting achievements. This has resulted in those achievements being under-rated. Female athletes deserve to be acknowledged and respected for their sporting achievements and should not have to put up with this endless media sexism.  We call upon the Government to redress this inequitable situation by:  1) improving the enforcement rates of media regulatory bodies in eradicating sexism,  2) holding an inquiry into media sexism conducted by the House of Commons Culture, Media and Sport committee and drawing upon the extensive knowledge of think tanks and NGOs working in the field, and  3) as a last resort, considering passing legislation on training for journalists and editors on sexism and how not to convey victim blaming attitudes.  This conference further calls upon the Independent Press Standards Organisation to conduct an internal inquiry on ways to improve press standards so that female athletes enjoy equal representation in the media and are not subjected to objectification and sexism by journalists. |
| Motion rationale:  This motion is put forward to respond to the prevalent media sexism in press coverage on female athletes. Currently, half of the first results on Google on female olympic athletes are not on their sporting achievements but on their looks (e.g. ‘the hottest female olympic athletes’). While the British press is not alone to blame for this, it plays a significant role in setting the standards for coverage of female athletes in the English-speaking world. A recent analysis undertaken by Sarah Grieves, the Language Research Project Manager at Cambridge University Press, found that sports commentators are much more likely to use infantalising language when discussing women. This includes using terms like ‘girl’ or ‘girls’ to discuss adult women, much more than the terms ‘boy’ or ‘boys’ to discuss adult men.[[1]](#footnote-0)  Furthermore… |

1. See <http://www.independent.co.uk/sport/olympics/rio-2016-the-charts-which-show-how-sexism-affects-how-we-talk-about-female-and-female-athletes-a7197516.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-0)