“SECTION 10. Political Activity Prohibited
The Bank and its officers shall not interfere in the political affairs of any member; nor shall they be influenced in their decisions by the political character of the member or members concerned. Only economic considerations shall be relevant to their decisions …”
Women’s Rights Improve Economic Outcomes

- Ability to build human capital
- Improves children’s welfare
- Shapes children’s behavior

Human Rights support Property Rights which support Investment

Study in Warsaw and Moscow found that confidence in the police was the most important determinant of property rights and of shopkeepers’ investment decisions.

Nobel laureate Douglass North and others emphasized the importance of property rights for long run economic growth.

Secure property rights

Confidence in police and institutions of justice

Clean up and address corruption and human rights abuses

World Development Report 2011: example of Haiti’s efforts to transform the police from among the least trusted (due to corruption and human rights abuses) to the most trusted.

Cumulative Effects of Discrimination are Large

Cumulative impacts:
Discrimination in Housing facilitates discrimination in Mortgage lending and Employment.

Feedback: Discrimination at later stages (employment) reduces the returns to human capital development, and reduces incentive to study.

Back of the envelope calculation: 40% difference in ability escape the poorest quintile

Access to Information Leads to Better Services

Study in India: Access to Information Law helped poor people obtain services, and reduced the need for bribery.

Study in Uganda: A newspaper campaign to give information about school budgets led to lower corruption, higher enrolment, and better learning outcomes.
