Women and Education

Women who taught


Grimshaw, P. & Strahan, L eds The half-open door: sixteen modern Australian women look at professional life and achievement, Sydney: Hale & Iremonger.


Education unlocks a woman’s potential, and is accompanied by improvements in health, nutrition, and well-being of women and their families. Despite widespread agreement that all people have the fundamental human right to education, 100 million children, at least 60% of them girls, do not have access to primary education. Women and girls continue to face discrimination at all levels of education, a fact which poses tremendous obstacles to their advancement. The Human Rights at Issue. Education of Women Sources [1]

Women’s Roles. The dearth of formal educational opportunities for women in the eighteenth century did not mean that women lacked education; they had an extensive and complex education that centered around managing a household and raising children. Female education is a catch-all term of a complex set of issues and debates surrounding education (primary education, secondary education, tertiary education, and health education in particular) for girls and women. It includes areas of gender equality and access to education, and its connection to the alleviation of poverty. Also involved are the issues of single-sex education and religious education, in that the division of education along gender lines as well as religious teachings on education