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# The BroadAgenda: News Brief

This week's radar ...

March Week 1

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Happy International Women's Day – an auspicious occasion, as today marks the birth of BroadAgenda - our bold new blog, for broads, blokes, brawn and brain!

This week we sit down with Vice Chancellor, Deep Sani, to dissect gender equality and his own experience of 'bias'. In Nepal we examine how gender quotas are causing seismic cultural shifts. We dissect the merits of the Women's March in the US; the gender politics behind TV taunts; the dynastic nature of female leadership in the Philippines; the economic empowerment of poor women in Fiji; and ask some hard questions about academic life in Australia and why women are side-lined. And that's just for starters!

In the mainstream media this week the talk is all about pay gaps, feminism and TV politics: as old Aunty ABC tosses her nephews aside for IWD! Sunday's #AllAboutWomen event, with headline act Geena Davis, highlighted just how far we have to go before gender parity on screen, in media ... and across numerous sectors (did she really say 730 years!). And just in case we need reminding, the latest gender pay gap report from the WGEA brought more bad news. Happy IWD2017!

In the news ...

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## Australia

### [International Women's Day: Patronising ABC boots male presenters off air](#)

07/03/2017, *The Daily Telegraph*

- The ABC has copped a backlash after it announced an all-female line-up across its broadcasting platforms in honour of International Women's Day
- Sky News Political reporter Laura Jayes suggested the move was mere tokenism
- *"The ABC should do something more permanent if they really believe in it, it shouldn't be a token one-day event."*

### [The best-paid jobs have the biggest pay gaps](#)

02/03/2017, *Sydney Morning Herald*

- the latest [WGEA Report](#) on Australia's stubbornly persistent, and alarmingly large, gender pay gap found high paying industries such as mining, technology and construction have the biggest pay gap
- In low paying industries such as education and teaching, the gender pay gap is significantly lower
- The worst sectors are the lowest rungs of the financial and health services, where the pay is low but the gap is large

### [How Geena Davis became a champion for women on screen](#)

06/03/2017, *The Guardian*

- During her appearance in the opening session of #AllAboutWomen Davis spoke about achieving gender parity within the media
- *“Media can be the cure for the problem it has created,”* she said.

### [Q&A: All-women panel discusses rape and forgiveness ahead of International Women's Day](#)

07/03/2017, *ABC News*

- Monday nights edition of ABC TV program Q&A hosted an all-female panel, where rape and forgiveness were the forefront of conversation
- Panellist Thordis Elva, an Icelandic author and activist, discussed her rape and the subsequent process of forgiveness with her rapist
- Elva urged communities to offer greater support to rape survivors; victims of what she said is the “most underreported crime in the world”

### [The new course getting more women into Australian politics](#)

28/02/2017, *ABC News*

- Melbourne University has launched its Pathway to Politics for Women program
- The aim of the program is to increase female participation in all levels and domains of government
- It is the first program of its type to be run in Australia

### [Childcare workers to strike on Wednesday over low pay](#)

04/03/2017, *Sydney Morning Herald*

- Over 1000 childcare workers are expected to strike on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March (IWD) to draw attention to the pay gap between male and female dominated industries
- Figures from the Workplace Gender Equality Agency show that female majority industries attract lower wages than male majority industries
- Qualified educators in early childhood earn \$20.61 – about half the national average wage

### [World Wide](#)

#### [#WomenWearWhite: “Our Voices Will Not Be Silenced”](#)

01/03/2017, *Affinity*

- The Democratic women of Congress wore white to President Trump’s first congressional address
- The appearance known as #WomenWearWhite was a nod to the suffragettes who wore white when protesting nearly 100 years ago
- *“I’m wearing suffragette white at President Trump’s #JointSession tonight, in honor of the generations of women who marched and fought for our sacred rights,”* wrote one

representative

### [How Countries Around the World Are Celebrating International Women's Day](#)

07/03/2017, *Fortune*

- In the Americas women from the U.S and Argentina will go on strike as part of 'A Day Without Women'
- In Ireland women will also strike, protesting the eighth amendment of the constitution which bans abortion
- In Italy women will have free entry to museums and cultural sites where exhibitions will be "celebrating the feminine world"

### [Sexist Political Criticism Finds a New Target: Kellyanne Conway](#)

05/03/2017, *New York Times*

- The constant sexism experienced by Hillary Clinton in the media has now found a new target in Kellyanne Conway
- Tweets directed at Conway have distinct parallels to those Clinton received during her campaign

## Dispatches from ...

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### [Women's charities welcome UK's first ambassador for gender equality](#)

28/02/2017, *Daily Mail*

- Britain has appointed the country's first gender equality ambassador
- The announcement came as part of a large international push to advance the education of females on a global scale
- The ambassador will ensure foreign policy maintains a focus on equality outcomes for females

### [Meet NYC's First-Ever Gender Equity Coordinator for Public Schools](#)

27/02/2017, *DNA Info*

- New York's Department of Education has hired a gender equity co-ordinator to help reduce gender inequality through the education system
- The role aims to find better ways to support and empower females and transgender students

## Footnote fodder ...

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### [By the numbers: The gender gap in the Australian music industry](#)

07/03/2017, *ABC Triple J Hack*

- In an annual report by ABC Triple J's Hack released ahead of IWD, the number of females in the music industry is slowly increasing

- One of the largest improvements from 2015 is the number of female public board members on peak music bodies in Australia, with a 4% increase in females

[Female traffic light signals to go up at pedestrian crossing as Committee for Melbourne tackles 'unconscious bias'](#)

07/03/2017, ABC News

- 12 pedestrian traffic lights with female symbols will be installed in Melbourne's CBD
- Chief executive for the Committee for Melbourne Martine Letts said having only male silhouettes discriminated against females
- *"The idea is to install traffic lights with female representation, as well as male representation, to help reduce unconscious bias."*

### Up close and personal ...

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[Instead Of Retiring At 70, Gina Glantz Launched A Website Dedicated To Fighting For Gender Equality](#)

27/02/2017, Girl Talk HQ

- Gina Glantz is a former American political strategist for the democratic party who launched GenderAvenger in 2014
- Gina Glantz explains why she is passionate for the cause, and why age is no barrier for change.