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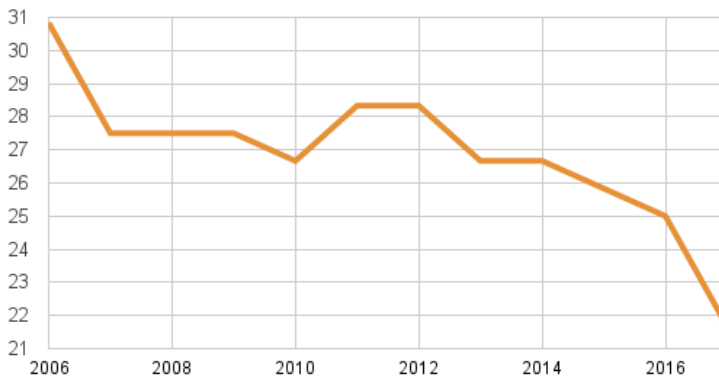
January 26, 2017

Think progress is inevitable?
The numbers say it ain't so.



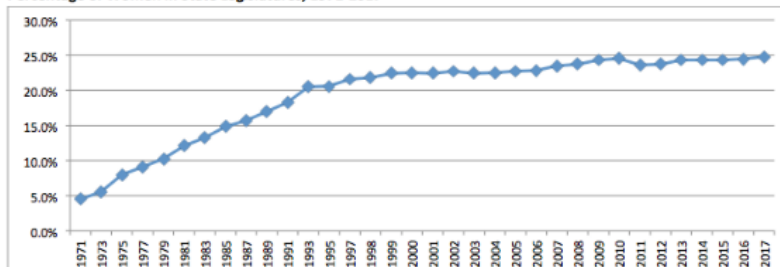
The Woman's March in Oakland

Percent of Members in the CA Legislature who are Women



The number of women in the CA Legislature has been declining for a decade. While across the nation women have been slowly increasing their share of state legislative seats, CA hasn't kept up. We ranked 20th only two years ago. Today we rank 32nd. Read more from CAWP [here](#) and [here](#).

Percentage of Women in State Legislatures, 1971-2017



Source: Center for American Women and Politics, Rutgers University

Why We March

A new feature that highlights evidence of the inequality and prejudice that inspired the marches of January 21.



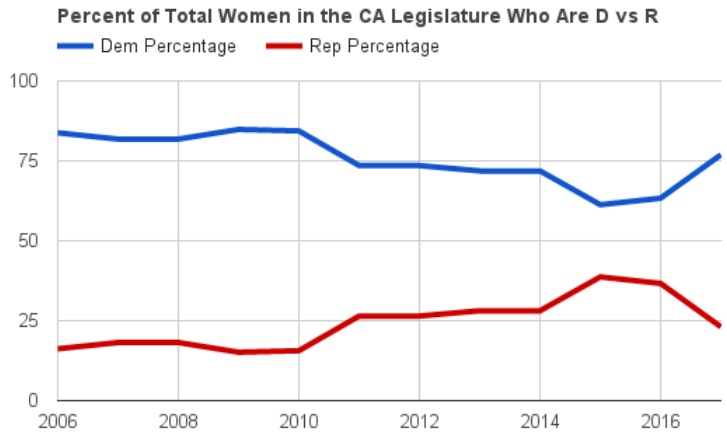
Three U.S. Senators take a selfie, not two and a woman.

Senator Amy Klobuchar, the senior senator from Minnesota, was identified as "A woman" in a photo caption by SFGate describing her taking a selfie with Senators McCain and Sanders on inauguration day. Really?! [Here](#).

close the gap CA is doing something about it. We vetted **450** prospective candidates for the '14 and '16 elections. For 2016, we worked with:

- **83** women to explore whether they were a good match for their districts
- **21** women ran in **17** target districts
- **15** advanced to the November general election
- **7** were elected

With your help, we stopped the slide of progressive women in the CA Legislature.



Together, we can do more:



Pease join us for:

Literature, Leadership and Lunch 2017

Friday, February 10th, 11:30am-1:30pm
 Mitchell Park Community Center
 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303

Authors read from their work and discuss barrier-breakers.

With authors Elizabeth McKenzie, Marianne Cooper and Barbara Babcock, with moderator Irma Herrera.

Click [here](#) for event details and tickets

Women still make up a disproportionately small share of electeds in state legislatures. Vermont, in 1st place, has 40% women in its legislature. And last place? Wyoming, with just 11% women. More [here](#).

In a recent survey: **"Eighty-two percent of women said sexism was a problem in society today...Men underestimated the sexism felt by the women in their lives, the survey found. And while most respondents agreed it's a better time to be a man than a woman in our society, only Republican men thought it was a better time to be a woman than a man...Over all, only 37 percent of respondents thought it was a good time to be a woman in the United States. Fewer thought it was a good time to be a minority woman; 24 percent said it was a good time to be a Latina, and 11 percent a Muslim woman."** More [here](#).

close the gap
 TALENTED WOMEN WANTED **CA**

LITERATURE, LEADERSHIP AND LUNCH

AUTHORS READ FROM THEIR WORK & DISCUSS BARRIER BREAKERS

Elizabeth McKenzie: *The Portable Veblen*
Marianne Cooper: *Cut-Adrift: Families in Insecure Times*
Barbara Babcock: *Fish Raincoats: A Woman Lawyer's Life*
 and special guest moderator **Irma Herrera**, playwright and solo performer, *Tell Me Your Name*

Please join us for lunch to support close the gap CA, a campaign to recruit progressive women to run for the CA Legislature. A decade ago California ranked 6th in the nation for the number of women in our legislature; in 2016, we ranked 21st. CTCGA is doing something about that.

You can too!
www.closesthegapca.org

FRI FEBRUARY 10
 11:30AM - 1:30PM
 MITCHELL PARK LIBRARY
 3700 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD
 PALO ALTO, CA 94303

Patrons \$5,000 Hosts \$1,250
 Sponsors \$2,500 Tickets \$125

Register here: <http://tinyurl.com/Literature>

We Recruit.



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ABOUT CLOSE THE GAP CA

Close the gap CA is a campaign to increase the number of progressive women serving in the California Legislature by recruiting viable, progressive women to run for open seats in targeted, winnable districts. The campaign recruits accomplished women who are pro-choice, pro-public school funding and support paths out of poverty. By partnering with CA progressive organizations, close the gap CA aims to achieve gender parity in the CA legislature in 2028.

*Federal tax law requires us to publicly report cumulative contributions of \$200 or more. We may not deposit your contribution without your name, occupation, and employer, and may not accept contributions of \$100 or more made in cash. Contributions to close the gap CA are not tax deductible. close the gap CA is a registered 527 organization.

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