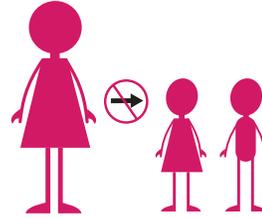
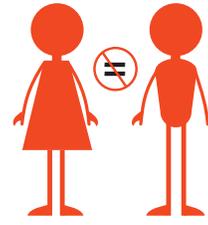
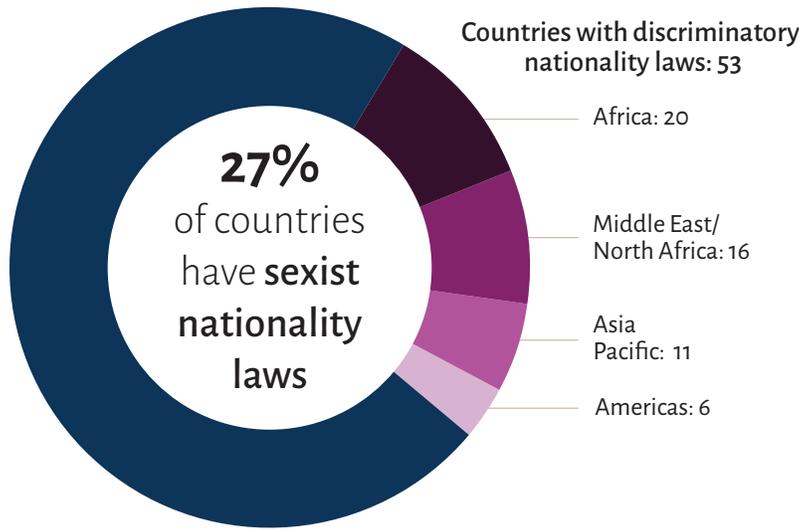


# Sex Discriminatory Nationality Laws



Too many governments have simply decided that a woman should have fewer rights than a man to pass on her citizenship to her children or her foreign spouse, or to acquire, change, or keep her nationality.

## Laws Affecting Spouses

**48 countries:**  
Married woman cannot pass to foreign spouse on an equal basis with married man

**4 countries:**  
Woman automatically loses nationality of origin upon marrying foreign spouse

**2 countries:**  
Woman who has lost her nationality of origin through marriage cannot regain it on the termination of marriage

**4 countries:**  
Foreign woman who takes spouse's nationality automatically loses it upon termination of marriage

**2 countries:**  
Married man cannot pass to foreign spouse on an equal basis

**1 country:**  
Foreign woman automatically acquires her husband's nationality upon marriage or when he obtains citizenship

## Laws Affecting Children

**26 countries:**  
Married mother cannot pass to child born outside country on an equal basis with married father

**21 countries:**  
Unmarried mother cannot pass to child born outside country on an equal basis

**18 countries:**  
Married mother cannot pass to child born in country on an equal basis

**16 countries:**  
Unmarried mother cannot pass to child born in country on an equal basis

**9 countries:**  
If a father's nationality changes, his children may cease to be citizens without consideration of the mother's nationality

**5 countries:**  
Woman cannot pass nationality to adopted child on an equal basis

**3 countries:**  
Unmarried father of child born abroad cannot pass to child without additional requirements beyond proof of paternity

**2 countries:**  
Unmarried father cannot pass to child born in country on an equal basis

**2 countries:**  
Unmarried father of child born abroad cannot pass to child at all

**1 country:**  
Naturalised mother cannot pass to children on an equal basis

**1 country:**  
Foreign mother who was born in country cannot pass to child born in country on an equal basis



From Equality Now's forthcoming report:  
"The State We're In: Ending Sexism in Nationality Laws"