***International project | Report***

***Introduction***

***Health is an umbrella term for a wide array jobs, it is not just the doctor where you go to if you have a rash, there are nurses, surgeons, anaesthesiologists and many more. All these jobs exist to make sure people have their best shot at a normal fit life. However even in a field this important there is still a glass ceiling for woman. You would think that people who understand science and biology so well know how menial the differences are between men and women. Sadly, we are still battling with the issues that women are only good as nurses and are not smart and capable enough to perform a surgery or develop a drug.***

***Why are the gender inequalities an issue in the Netherlands?***

Gender inequalities concerning healthcare are an issue. We have listed a few things down here:

* When taking a first look into the percentage of women in the healthcare, you can see that more than 70 percent of the healthcare workers, are women. Despite the big difference in percentage between male and female, at the managerial level only 25% are female. Not only can we see a minority of women in managerial level, but we can also see an inequality between income. Male tend to make more than women do. Women earn on average 86 cents for every euro a man makes in Europe.
* Another part of the healthcare between male and female is how women are treated when they come in for an appointment at the doctor. A lot of times, their complaints are listed as hormonal causes or that it’s “all in their heads”. These diagnoses can be far more severe. Studies even show that these can wrongful diagnoses can cause that women end up in the hospital after all or that these diagnoses can even be fatal.

To sum up everything that’s been stated so far, we can see that there is actually inequality between male and female concerning healthcare.

***Are the Netherlands doing anything to improve this situation?***

We can see that the Netherlands is making an effort to improve the situation. They’re trying to study the body of the female. With these results, they are more likely to understand the body more and know how to handle these complaints better. Also, doctors are taking these complaints more serious. The difference in income is also being challenged. This is not only in the Netherlands, but in other countries in Europe

***Is there a famous person in healthcare in the Netherlands who has been discriminated/who has been victim of gender inequalities?***

Angela Maas is the first professor of cardiology for women in the Netherlands. She is an expert in cardiovascular disease in women and the role of female hormones on the vascular system. She is also pioneer in researching the differences between men's and women's hearts. She calls herself a "cardiofeminist". She argues for more awareness of the other symptoms of heart complaints in women, among women themselves and among cardiologists and general practitioners. In 2003 she started a cardiology consultation especially for women. In 2014 she founded the research fund 'Heart for Women'. In 2019 she wrote 'Heart for women', in which she highlights specific heart complaints of women; in much literature and research, the standard is still the man in 2019.

***To what extent have the social media focussed on this issue?***

The social media don’t focus on the issue at all, last year just before international woman day there was one article about it on nu.nl, but furthermore there’s nothing to be found.

***Have demonstrations, petitions, campaigns, flash mobs been organised to support the reduction of gender inequalities in the healthcare?***

Recently there have not been many feminist demonstrations about the health sector, but there are articles where women talk about the pay gap. 58-year-old Anne Vrieze worked on a health project; she was the manager of it. She found out that all the men who worked for her were paid more. They did less and had lower positions but still earned more. In an interview with the chairman of our parliament was revealed that this age gap was actually growing to a 175 euro's. And still little people demonstrate against it in this sector.

***Sources:***

* <https://www.oneworld.nl/lezen/seks-gender/feminisme/waarom-dokters-v-van-nu-minder-verdienen-dan-dokters-m-van-toen/>
* <https://www.nu.nl/gezondheid/6030079/ongelijkheid-in-zorg-vrouwelijke-kwalen-nog-steeds-als-atypisch-gezien.html#:~:text=70%20procent%20van%20de%20zorgmedewerkers,vrouwen%20minder%20dan%20mannelijke%20collega's>.
* <file:///C:/Users/EmmaHekstra/Downloads/aanbiedingsbrief-kamervragen-van-het-lid-van-weyenberg-d66.pdf>
* <https://www.volkskrant.nl/werken/de-loonkloof-deze-vrouwen-kregen-aanmerkelijk-minder-salaris-dan-hun-mannelijke-collega~b9bfa6bd/>