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Subject: In the Fight for Global Gender Equality, Women and Girls of all Ages and Abilities Must be Counted

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In the Fight for Global Gender Equality, Women and Girls of all Ages and Abilities Must be Counted

By Kathy Greenlee, Assistant Secretary for Aging and Administrator of ACL

The importance of rigorous data collection to inform international development programs aimed at empowering women and girls can hardly be overstated. For these efforts to be successful, however, all women and girls, regardless of age or ability, must be included.

This week, reporting by the Thompson Reuters Foundation brought attention to the troubling absence of older women in much of the research that informs global health and development priorities.

The result is that women who are older remain invisible in policies and programs addressing global gender issues. The same is often true for women and girls with disabilities of all ages. [Read more here.](#)

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