

sumption where highly qualified women in different professions are active in political and public life even though the percentage being elected to decision-making positions of the state, government, party, and public organizations is still very low; and world trends promoting women to economic and political decision-making positions and increase their influence and role in the society.

LEOS projects and activities include an information fund related to women problems which was conceptualized to facilitate its overall program. On this regard, a study is being conducted:

- ★ to identify a pool of talented professional women;
- ★ to popularize these women through radio, television and press; and
- ★ to arrange work for indirectly influencing persons in decision-making positions of the state, government, party, and public organizations.

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And now for the bad news...

Dutch Party to Exclude Women

The Dutch right-wing protestant party SGP, have decided to ban women from party membership. This decision was based on their interpretation of the bible that women should not be politically active. The conspicuous vote came from the men, though women have a total two-thirds voting membership.

The motion was met with aversion by most other political parties and the women's movement. Upon the request of the women's groups, the Dutch Prosecution Office will start an investigation on the legitimacy of the SGP decision.

The motion also contradicts the policies of the state as the Dutch government favors the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

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