

Olympics and gender discrimination

What about London 2012?



Annie Sugier

President of the League of Women's International Right

Universality of the Olympic Charter

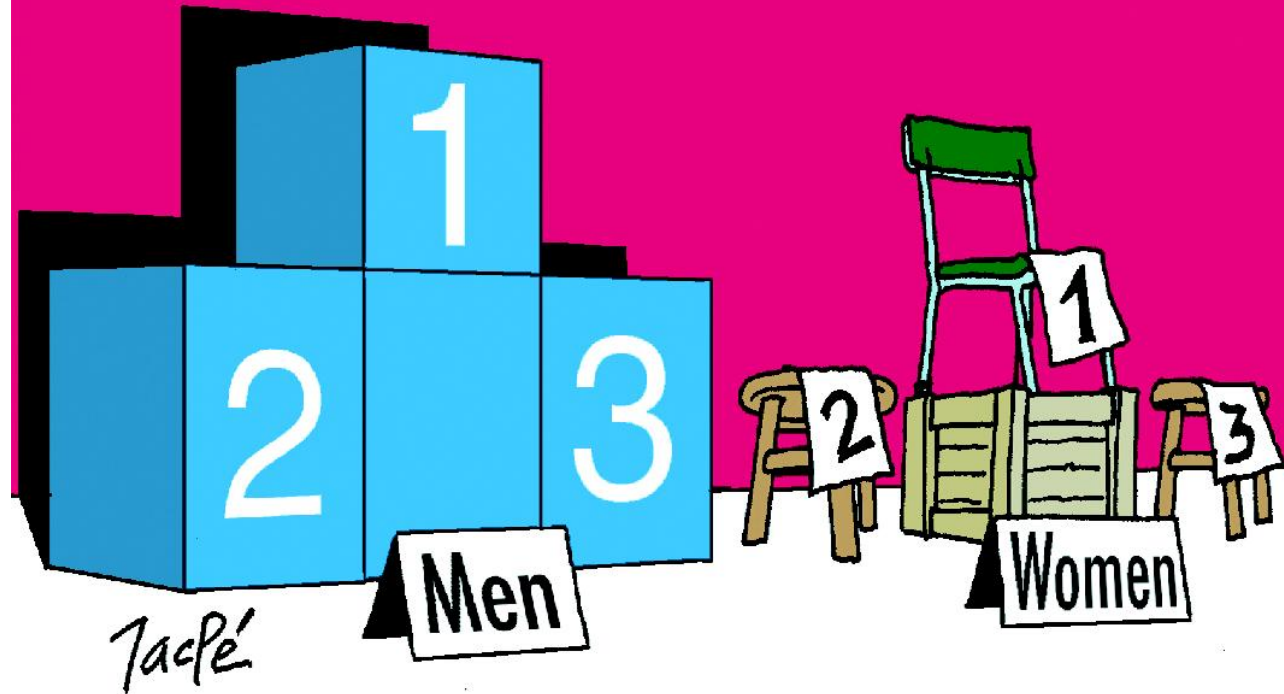
The Olympic Games will open in London on
27 July 2012

*'The Olympic Movement has always
been about more than just a sporting
competition'* (IOC President)

The Olympic Charter

- **A goal:** “Contribute to building a better world »
- **A principle :** « Any form of discrimination (including gender) is incompatible with belonging to the Olympic Movement»
- ***A rule of Neutrality :*** “ *No kind of demonstration or political, religious or racial propaganda is permitted on any Olympic sites, venues or other*
- ***A commitment to Equality:*** “*implementing of equality of men and women*”

Implement the Olympic Charter!



Sport should challenge

- Gender stereotypes and taboos
- Cultural/ religious sexist constraints



Sarah Ourahmoune, world boxing champion

At the London Games:

28 sports for Men&Women including boxing

1

Ensure effective parity between men and women within Olympic disciplines and events

Still some age-old disparities...

E.g. at the Games in Beijing in 2008:

- There were 1704 more male athletes than female athletes
- 165 medals were given to male athletes compared to 127 to female athletes **because of a lower number of disciplines opened to women**

...still hidden in the ‘details’

Examples of disparity: in boxing, canoeing and wrestling there are fewer events for women, e.g. canoeing has three events for men and only one for women

2

Apply the minima determined by the IOC and increase the number of women participating in decision-making bodies

Women are still a small minority in the governing bodies of the Olympic Movement, such as the IOC, NOC, OCOG, International and National Federations



3

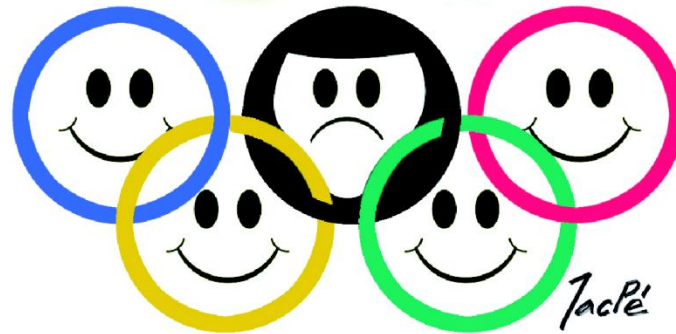
Pay homage to women pioneers in sport: the Marathon Gold Medal should be given to both the male and female marathon winners by the IOC President



The Marathon is still at the heart of the Games: before the closing ceremony the only Gold Medal personally given by the IOC President is to the (male) Marathon winner.

4

Ban countries that exclude women from their delegation



The number of delegations that do not include women has shrunk from 35 in Barcelona in 1992 to 3 in Beijing in 2008, thanks to pressure from the Atlanta + Committee.



**WHY NO SAUDI ARABIAN WOMEN
AT THE OLYMPICS
O.G. 2004**

Atelier Mosan - Huy

5

Ensure neutrality in sport by banning the wearing of political or religious symbols

- In 1996 an Iranian woman athlete took part in the Atlanta Games *clothed from head to toe*
- In 2008 at the Beijing Games, 14 delegations had veiled women: an athlete from Bahrain took part in the 400 m race *totally covered*, openly demonstrating a political and religious stance
- In 2010 in Singapore Youth Olympics, the female Iranian team of football played *covered(with the exception of the neck and the ears)*
- In 2011 in Amman, at a qualifying round for London 2012, the Iranian team *was wearing a complete hijab!... and was excluded by FIFA*

None has forgotten:

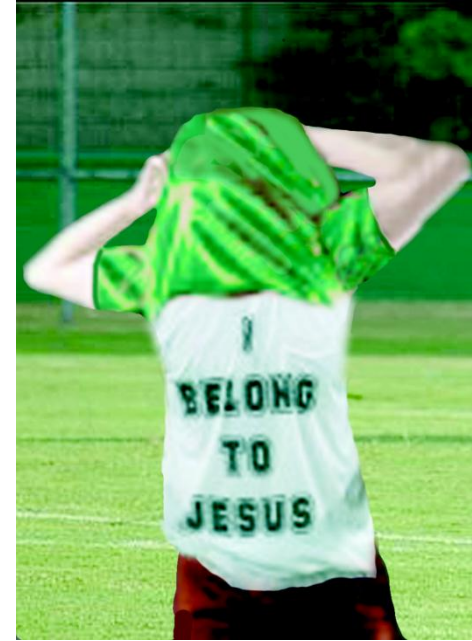
1968 - Mexico
The exclusion of
Tommye Smith
and
John Carlos





They are violating rule 51

Yellow card!
They are punished...



She is also violating it

In fact, the problem is Women's body...

Either hidden (religious requirements)



Or shown in sexy Positions (commercial requirements)

6

Stop supporting separate Games for women

Since 1993 and every four years, Iran has organised **Games** - replicating the Olympic format - **for women from Islamic countries**

There is one major difference: **the total absence of the media or male spectators**

The IOC justifies this by claiming that **it is a step forward as it allows these women to take part in competitions**



Islamic athletes:

« a role model for liberated women »!

This is not a joke but a statement made by the president of the 1993 Tehran Games

***Hassiba Boulmerka
resisted!***

Barcelona 1992

*'my victory for
women!'*

7

In and around the Games: eliminate gender discrimination based on sexual stereotypes

The Olympic Movement has an essential educational role

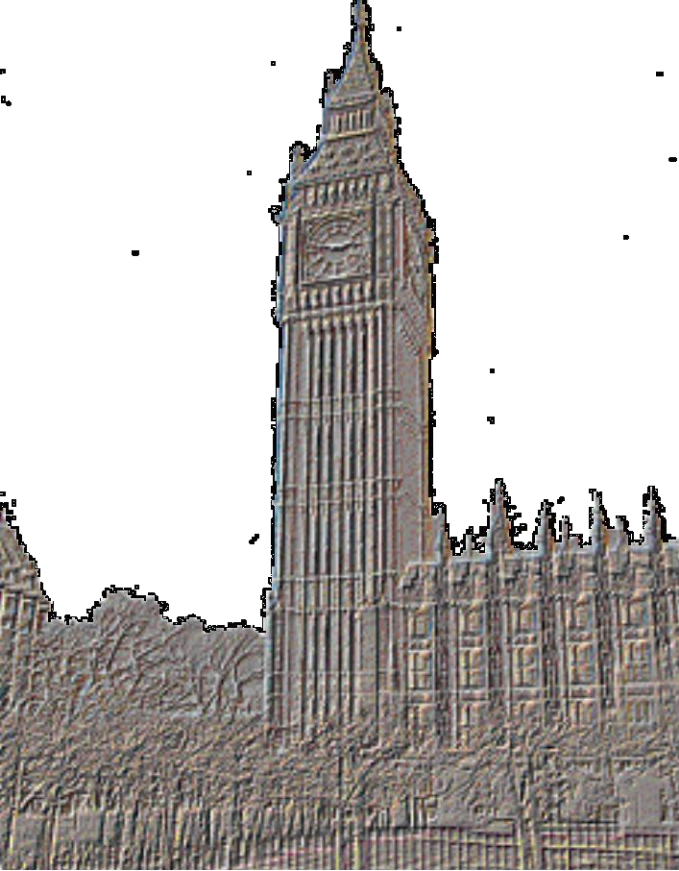
- *Women's sport should not be promoted as a glamour show!*
- *Fight against homophobia*

and transphobia and all gender based violence

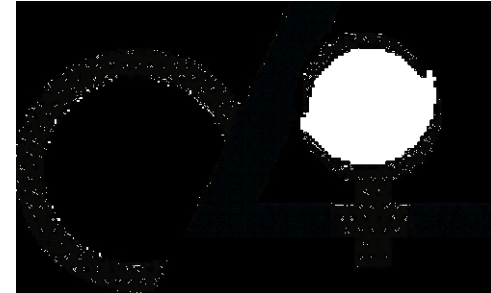
- *Fight against prostitution around the Olympics sites*



*You must now
keep your promises*



femix'
sports



EUROPEAN WOMEN'S
LOBBY
EUROPEEN DES FEMMES

