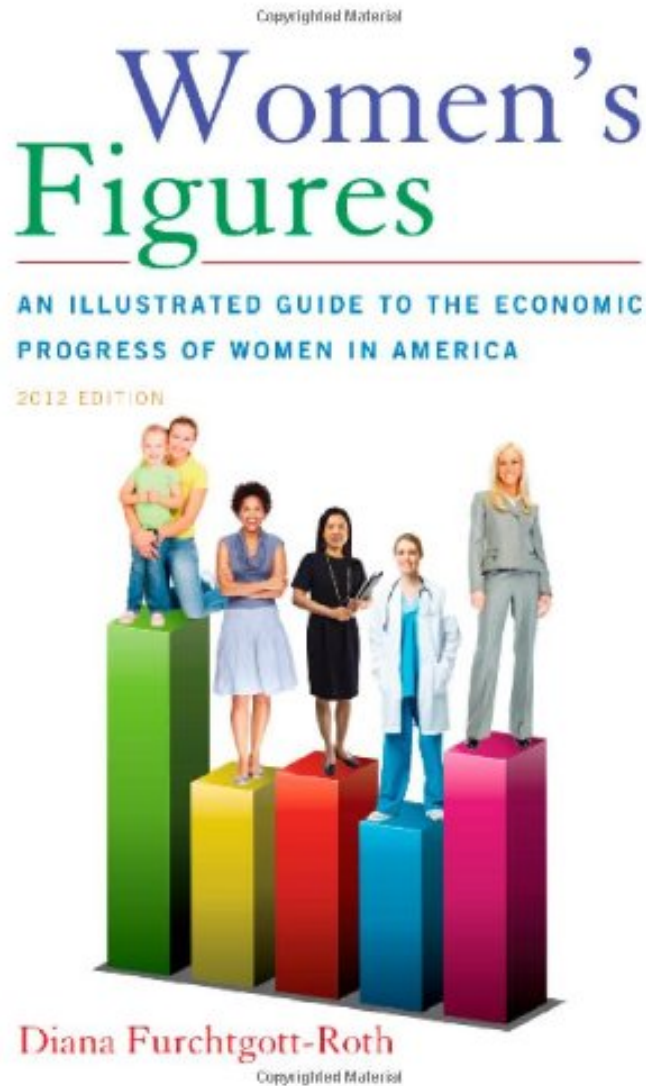


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Women's Figures: An Illustrated Guide to the Economic Progress of Women In America

Diana Furchtgott-Roth

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Diana Furchtgott-Roth : Women's Figures: An Illustrated Guide to the Economic Progress of Women In America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women's Figures: An Illustrated Guide to the Economic Progress of Women In America:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A positive message for women in the workplaceBy

ConservativeMom This clear and insightful book is a must read for people who are trying to understand how women are faring in the workplace and whether federal programs are needed to help women succeed. Diana Furchtgott-Roth presents the facts and figures on women's employment and achievement in visual fashion that is easily understood. She shows us where women are achieving, and where their future growth is likely to come from. This book hits on global changes in women's work, and even takes a critical look at feminist organizations and whether or not their goals really help women. One of the author's basic points is that when women work the same jobs as men for the same amount of time, they earn basically the same salary. The wage gap is very limited. But feminists and many politicians view women as perpetual victims even in the face of mounting evidence to the contrary. Women don't need federal intervention, rather they need the government to get out of the way and let them succeed on their own terms and in their own time.

The myth that women make 78 cents on a mans dollar is a standard refrain in popular media and serves as a rationale for affirmative action for women. Unstated is that for women and men with the same job and work experience, the wage gap practically disappears. In *Womens Figures*, Manhattan Senior Fellow Diana Furchtgott-Roth shatters the myth of the wage gap. Women are continuing to gain ground relative to men, and in some cases, they have even reversed the gender gap. Rather than helping women, preferential policies undermine Americas idea of meritocracy, and call into question the value of womens hard-earned achievements.

From its insouciant title to its incisive reasoning, this volume is a devastating riposte to the feminist faction of the Great American Grievance Industry which, Diana Furchtgott-Roths book demonstrates, has been battered by a storm of good news. (George Will, winner of the Pulitzer Prize) *Womens Figures* is a Herculean synthesis of the economic literature on womans place in American society, circa 2012. That place is, for the most part, an enviable one, determined by freedom and personal choice. Unfortunately, the feminist lobby spends millions of dollars each year propping up myths and half-truths about women's alleged continuing second-class status. Diana Furchtgott-Roth politely, methodically, and persuasively knocks it all down and supplies up-to-date charts, statistics, and interpretation on the wage gap, the glass ceiling, the feminization of poverty, and much else. The new, reality-based feminism starts here. (Christina Hoff Sommers, author of *Who Stole Feminism?* and *The War Against Boys*) Diana Furchtgott-Roth has authored an important and accessible study which delves into the issue of gender equity and fairness in the workplace. Her encouraging conclusion that women don't need special treatment to get ahead is plainly common sense now and yet provocative as it challenges some pervasive media assumptions and political agendas. This volume should be required reading for anyone concerned about fair wages and a competitive American workforce in the 21st century economy. (Hon. Elaine L. Chao, U.S. Secretary of Labor 2001-2009) Gender Studies teachers who fail to include this classic in the syllabus fail their students, male and female. (Amity Shlaes, author) Furchtgott-Roth (Manhattan Institute for Policy Research) has fully updated the first edition of this book, originally published in 1999. She is well versed in the interpretation of labor market, education, and demographic statistics from economic policy stints under the Reagan and both Bush administrations. The statistics presented can be interpreted either as clear evidence of women's increased ability to make career and family choices freely, or as evidence of continuing discrimination against women operating in an era of constrained choice. Depending on one's point of view, this book can be seen either as a valuable counterweight to a feminist-dominated gender policy agenda, or as another conservative sally in the ongoing US class conflict. Furchtgott-Roth argues that various gender-oriented policies, including affirmative action, actually undermine women's successes. She also attacks the Obama health care initiative for undermining marriage, as its proposed health insurance subsidies will be greater per capita for single people than for married people with similar per capita incomes. A closing chapter documents the internal finances of a number of feminist organizations, albeit with no comparison figures for other lobbying or nonprofit groups. This book would be valuable in a course on critical thinking that provides counterweight from other sources. Summing Up: Recommended. Undergraduate students and general readers. (CHOICE) About the Author Diana Furchtgott-Roth is a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research. She is the author of *How Obamas Gender Policies Undermine America* and editor of *Overcoming Barriers to Entrepreneurship in the United States*. Together with Christine Stolba, she authored the first edition of *Women's Figures: An Illustrated Guide to the Economic Progress of Women in America*, and *The Feminist Dilemma: When Success Is Not Enough*.