

“Democratic Governance and Women’s Rights”

Antigua and Barbuda, UNDP, International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

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It is important to observe how women’s involvement was engaged in the past and discover what approaches were effective and those that were feeble. This will help us to make a more accurate and substantial projection of what strategies are most potent and needed today.

Understanding the pre-existing platforms through which women participation have been engaged is important in order to know what needs to be different or what depth that has not been touched. As one of the speakers suggested women are often the ones that are directly involved in helping men attain political positions, such as, “licking envelopes and helping with campaigns” I feel that women must have a more enlightened and heightened awareness of their role as political agents in bringing forth their own agenda. As for an inquiry about what innovative approaches exist, I am a strong advocate for the arts and using this on a more communal and grassroots level to educate women about how important their role is in the political process. This approach is used in Ghana and Jamaica. Edutainment is a silent but effective method to educate children and women and men about grave issues of concern in a creative way.