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19th Feb 2020

Dear DR. Day,

I would like if the Assembly could
the discuss the following:

Theme 1 Gender Norms and Stereotypes:

Many years ago: All the Gardai were male, all the
army were male, all prison officers were male,
all of the above professions did 30 years service
to get a full pension. At the same time all
nurses were female but they had to do 40
years service to get a full pension (as well
as raising children) who made those laws
and how they been rectified I wonder?

Theme 2: WORK

Women have always got less pay because they
are female (roughly 14% as an least Swindon)

Theme 3 Care paid and unpaid

Because women gave up their life to care
for the old and infirm in the family they
are penalised double. They lost their
independence and suffer financially forever.

II

Forty four years ago I gave up my job to look after family members (there was no carers allowance) but little did I know that it would still effect my finances when I am now a pensioner!! I have more than the magic 520 contributions to be entitled to a contributory pension but because I started work in 1969 and finished in 2011 I now get £52 less each and EVERY week because my service was broken due to family commitments. This is HUGE for me. This is just another anomaly which only effecting women as they did most of the caring. One more thing about sidelined we are - if the Government say they are giving an increase of £1 across the board - I still only get £3.60! Shame!!

No wonder women are unable to get into public life as the demands of social care take over women's lives.

Yours Sincerely,

