



Cuba is currently updating their entire legal structure of Family Law in the Families Code: families plural because it establishes rights not recognized until now in the legal system, including the protection of the right of all people of any gender to form a family without discrimination, updating the legal definition of family institutions with inclusive rather than strictly heteronormative models. Yes, it will recognize same sex marriage. "Marriage is the voluntary union of two people on the basis of affection, love, and mutual respect." This proposed set of laws protects not only updates the legal definitions with inclusive models, it also establishes the right to a family life free from violence, centers values of love, affection, solidarity and responsibility, gives an economic value to caregiving and household work. Some parts of these reforms are controversial for conservative elements in Cuba, but the right to abortion is not under attack and when the Families Code goes to referendum it is expected to pass by a large majority. Cuba is advancing the rights not only of women but of all people.

CEDAW is an international treaty adopted in 1979 by the United Nations General Assembly; an international bill of human rights for women, including the right to sexual and reproductive health. It has been signed and ratified by 189 countries, - Cuba was the first to sign and the second country to ratify - but the US has never ratified CEDAW. There are only five other countries and the Vatican that have not acceded to this agreement. Failure to ratify CEDAW, failure to pass the ERA, no legal support for parental leave, and a Supreme Court that eliminates the fundamental human right of body autonomy leads us to the clear conclusion that those who rule the United States are hostile to women's rights, and the rights of all people. In other words, hostile to human rights.

In 1965, Cuba legalized abortion, becoming the first country in the Western Hemisphere to allow women autonomy over their own bodies. Women (and men) have the right to 6 week's maternity/parental leave before giving birth and 3 months afterward at full salary, with another 9 months available at 60% salary and with the right to return automatically to one's job at the end of the year. Equal pay for equal work is the law. Cuba's parliament (Asamblea Nacional de Poder Popular) has slightly over 53% woman delegates. Women represent about 67% of educational professionals, more than 70% of judges and district attorney equivalents, 62% of doctors, more than half of all scientists.



@AmarisAylaQba