U.S. Launch of the 2021 State of the World Population Report

Mr. Klaus Simoni Pedersen,
Director a.i., Division of Communications and Strategic Partnerships
The power to make decisions about sexuality and reproduction is fundamental to women’s empowerment overall.
International treaties and declarations provide foundations for the right to bodily autonomy and integrity
ONLY 55% of women are able to make their own decisions in all three dimensions of bodily autonomy.

LAWS THAT SUPPORT OR CONSTRAIN DECISION MAKING

- **80%** have laws supporting sexual health and well-being.
- **75%** have laws to ensure full, equal access to contraception.
- **56%** have laws supporting comprehensive sexuality education.
Women around the world are denied the fundamental right to make decisions over their bodies and futures. They are controlled by men. **This must change.**

- Simply put, most women do not own their own bodies, and their lives are governed by others.

- Nearly half of women are denied the right to say no to sex or yes to receiving health care or choosing the right moment to have a child.
GUARANTEE ACCESS

Help us guarantee unbiased access to sexual and reproductive health care for all with zero tolerance for discrimination and violence.

- Empower girls and boys to claim their rights to make healthy decisions and engage in healthy and safe behaviors.

- Enforce laws and policies that protect women from violations of their rights including ending child marriage and stopping gender-based violence.
EMPOWER WOMEN AND GIRLS

At UNFPA, we know that communities and countries can flourish only when all **women are empowered to make their own informed decisions about their bodies and lives.**

- **We empower women to govern their own bodies by providing a full range of reproductive health services, and by supporting education about their bodies and their rights.**

- **We help men become champions of gender equality, take equal responsibility for parenting, and learn to communicate about sexual and reproductive health.**
THANK YOU!