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Climate change is small changes in the average temperature of the world that develop and lead to large and potentially dangerous shifts in the climate and weather. These temperature changes cause extreme weather events to occur that leave dramatic complications around the world. Climate change can indirectly lead to population displacement by setting off these violent weather events.

From 2006-2011, 26.4 million people were displaced out of their countries because of extreme weather conditions caused by climate change. These people are considered to be climate refugees. Climate refugees are people who have been forced out of their homes and communities because of gradual alterations in the natural environment. Many become internally displaced, others cross any and all borders in order to survive. Syria has experienced a drought that lasted for five years, which caused a mass migration of their people. After fleeing war-torn Syria, most Syrians migrated to Turkey, Lebanon, Jordan, Europe, Canada and in small measure to the United States. 1,500 Syrian refugees entered the United States since 2011, living in Brooklyn, New York. President Obama had promised to accept 10,000 Syrian refugees, but the country's governors are opposing resettlement in their states, others are supporting these refugees.

Gender Equality is a human right, that states men and women should receive equal treatment and should not be discriminated against based on their gender. Our world faces a persistent

gap in access to opportunities and decision making power for women and men. All around the world women face unequal treatment, with fewer opportunities for economic contribution than men. Women experience less access to basic and higher education, and less political representation. The request for women equality is deeply radicalized when it directs discrimination that women experience based on class, race, and sexuality.

About two thirds of countries in the developing regions have achieved gender parity in primary education. The United States was recently ranked 19th in the world on its gender gap index. Elected members of Congress only consist of less than one fifth of women. Political empowerment is the greatest gender equity issue for the United States. Although there are more women than men that attend college in the United States, women's earning power still remains 20% lower than men's.

### **NJ Creates Energy Bank**

The article states how the climate change related increases in sea level have doubled today's annual probability of a Sandy level flood recurrence. More than Two-million households lost power during Hurricane Sandy, and most of them without power for a long period of time. Our centralized grids are insufficient for dealing with storms such as these. In response to this NJ decides to create the nation's first Energy Resilience Bank. Providing energy solutions for water and wastewater treatment plants will be most important. In previous storm Sandy millions of gallons of sewage was dumped into the state's waterways. The ERB will allow facilities such as hospitals, and universities to remain open and running while the electrical grid is down. I think it is a very brilliant idea, considering I live in Staten Island and experienced not only power out-

ages for over a week, but universities also remained closed for several weeks as well. Creating this Energy Bank will solve solutions for us when faced with extreme weather storms, especially due to our current climate changes.