

The Situation & Status of Women Worldwide

March 3, 2016 (5:30-7:00 p.m.)
Centre Stage, Sorensen Center, Utah Valley University

Speaker

Dr. Valerie Hudson

*Professor and George H.W. Bush Chair, Texas A&M University
Director, WomanStats Project*



Description: What is the situation and status of women in various countries and regions around the world? Why should we care? Dr. Hudson has spent years collecting and compiling data on the condition and security of women around the world. This includes ranking nations according to levels of violence against women in society, equity for women in family law, degree of son preference, educational attainment for women, toleration of trafficking women, maternal mortality, extent to which women are involved in societal decision making, and so forth. With this information, Hudson and her team have explored how the state of women is related to the behaviors and security of countries. She will discuss how the status of women in society is linked to the well-being of communities and nations. Dr. Hudson will conclude by addressing why Utah women and men should care about these matters and be engaged in both Utah and global women's issues.

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Bio: Dr. Valerie Hudson is an expert on international security and foreign policy analysis and received her PhD in political science. In 2009, *Foreign Policy* named her one of the top 100 Most Influential Global Thinkers. Her co-authored book, *Bare Branches: Security Implications of Asia's Surplus Male Population*, and the research it presents, received major attention from the media with coverage in the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *Washington Post*, *BBC*, *CNN*, and numerous other outlets. The book also received two national book awards. Her latest co-authored books include *The Hillary Doctrine: Sex and American Foreign Policy* and *Sex and World Peace*, which was named by Gloria Steinem as one of the top three books on her reading list. Dr. Hudson has developed a nation-by-nation database on women (<http://womanstats.org>) that triggered both academic and policy interest (the latter includes its use by both the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee and various agencies of the United Nations). Using these data, Hudson and her team have published widely. She was recently awarded an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship.

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