

ADOPTED

Continued

**No. 9132**

**(Sense-of-the-Assembly Resolution)**

**RESOLUTION CONCERNING GENDER EQUITY IN HEALTH RESEARCH**

**ADOPTED by the General Assembly**

WHEREAS, a preponderance of clinical research projects on health problems which affect both women and men has employed only male subjects, resulting in the application of data to the treatment of both men and women that may not be valid for women; and

WHEREAS, women have routinely been omitted from heart studies, resulting in physicians knowing less about the course of heart disease in women, what prevents it and how to treat it, although it has recently been established that heart disease is the leading cause of death in women as well as in men (source #7); and

WHEREAS, less than 14% of the \$7.6 billion research budget of the National Institutes of Health in 1990 went to women's health issues, even though women make up more than half of the population (source #9); and

WHEREAS, only \$17 million is spent annually by the National Cancer Institute to investigate the underlying causes of breast cancer, although breast cancer is projected to afflict one in nine American women this year, an increase from one in 20 in 1960, and although breast cancer mortality is five times as high in North America and Northern Europe as it is in Asia and Africa (sources #3, #8); and

WHEREAS, there is a dearth of money currently being

#9132

Concluded

Sources of Facts used in Resolution on Gender Equity

1. "Our Bodies, Their Selves," NEWSWEEK: December 17, 1990, p. 60
2. "When Medical Research is for Men Only," BUSINESS WEEK: July, 16, 1990, p. 33
3. "The Politics of Breast Cancer," NEWSWEEK: December 10, 1990, pp. 62-65.
4. "Women with AIDS Die Faster than Men," COMMUNITY HEALTH FUNDING REPORT (Silver Spring, MD: CD Publications, January 10, 1991.)
5. "U.S. Contraceptive Research Moves Slowly, Limits Choice, TULSA WORLD: Feb. 11, 1990, Sect. B, p. 8.
6. Policy RU 486, United Church Board for Homeland Ministries, United Church of Christ, Fall, 1990.
7. "A Woman's Heart," IN HEALTH: March/April 1991, pp. 53-58.
8. "Turning Disease Into Political Cause; First Aids and Now Breast Cancer," The NEW YORK TIMES NATIONAL: Monday, January 7, 1991.
9. "Witness Allege Sexual Bias in Medical Research" OWN Newsletter, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

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The General Board recommends that the General Assembly ADOPT business item No. 9132. (Debate time 12 minutes)

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