

Millions Around The World Join Women's Marches

 teachingkidsnews.com/2017/01/29/millions-around-world-join-womens-marches/

By Monique Conrod

Millions of people around the world joined protest marches on January 21 to show their support for women's rights and other causes.

The marches were inspired by the Women's March, which was held in Washington, D.C., the day after Donald Trump officially became President of the United States. The Women's March was organized to protest Trump's policies. Many people believe his policies are a threat to basic rights and freedoms for women and for people of minority religions and races.

Trump has made many insulting remarks about women. Some of his policies could make it harder for women to get healthcare, childcare, or equal pay for their work.

Trump has also insulted people of different races and religions. He is also working on changes to U.S. laws that could keep many people who were born in certain countries (countries with mostly people of Muslim faith) out of the United States.

About 673 marches took place in 55 countries. Around 3.5 million people joined in. The marches showed that many people around the world are concerned about gender equality, racial equality, religious freedom and protecting the environment.

Twenty marches were held across Canada. The largest was in Vancouver, where about 15,000 people joined in. One of the smallest was in Sandy Cove, Nova Scotia, where 15 of the 65 people who live there turned out to march. Protesters say they do not want "Trump-style" politics to come to Canada.

There were even two protest marches in Antarctica. Ninety-five scientists working at a U.S. research base, and a group of about 30 tourists visiting the continent held marches. Many scientists and environmentalists are worried because Trump says he doesn't believe scientific evidence about climate change and other issues. They say many of his policies will be bad for the environment.

Breaking news: On the weekend (January 28) Trump issued an "Executive Order" (a type of law that a president can pass on his own) that says people from any one of seven specific Muslim countries cannot enter the United States. As a result, many refugees and immigrants who had permission to come to the United States before the executive order were not allowed to enter the country when they arrived after the order was issued. This sparked enormous protests, including a large protest at New York's JFK Airport. Within hours, a judge granted "a stay," which means those people cannot be deported (sent out of the country again). The judge's ruling does not mean they can stay in the United States, however.

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