

## Let's Shatter Some Glass

**Now that the statewide View on Women poll has revealed the truth about what people really think of women in the workplace and as leaders, it's time to do something about it.**

By Jennifer Gish Updated 6:28 pm, Friday, April 14, 2017

When Eve Waltermaurer, director of research at the Benjamin Center for Public Policy Initiatives at SUNY New Paltz, wanted to find out why more progress hadn't been made on important issues overwhelmingly impacting women, from sexual assault to the pay gap, we wanted to be part of it.

She proposed that knowing more about what people really think of women would help us understand why women make up 51 percent of the population but only 20 percent of Congress and ran only 4.2 percent of companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 Index as of December 2015. The Women@Work View on Women (VOW) poll, a look at attitudes among every demographic across New York state, has given us those answers.

About a fifth of men believe that it's not important to increase the number of women in Congress. And 56 percent of everyone polled agreed the business community is dominated by men who do not have sufficient confidence in women.

Now what are we going to do about it? Let's start with changing people's minds.

On June 7, we'll gather for a summit, "New York State of Women: How does it work for you?" The daylong event will include speakers, panels and a chance to look at some of the data in the VOW poll and use it to shape our own ideas about how to change things. We'll end the day with an agenda: A roadmap for ways we can begin shifting attitudes that stand in the way of women's progress.

And to get that process started, we're sharing some key data from the poll, allowing you to begin working on your own ideas about how we can create a new women's movement, one that crushes stereotypes and myths.

So take notes and join us – and New York's lieutenant governor Kathy Hochul – on

June 7 at the Times Union's Hearst Media Center. Find more details at [tuwomenatwork.com](http://tuwomenatwork.com).

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