



















Mr Erdogan has previously urged women to have three children, and has **lashed out against abortion and birth by Caesarean section**. ... Women cannot do all the work done by men, he added, because it was **against their 'delicate nature.'**

Mr Erdogan also told the Istanbul meeting that justice was the solution to most of the world's issues - including racism, anti-Semitism, and 'women's problems.'. **Earlier this month, he claimed that Muslims had discovered the Americas more than 300 years before Christopher Columbus.** The Turkish leader often courts controversy with his statements.

In his 11 years as prime minister, Mr Erdogan became a crucial player in regional politics. However, his reputation has suffered recently over the crisis in Syria, and accusations of authoritarianism."

"Turkey President Erdogan: "Women are not equal to men" **BBC news Europe, November 24, 2014.**

"[Another article further notes that] **Mr. Erdogan used an international conference in Istanbul on justice and rights for women.** 'You cannot put women and men on an equal footing', he said. 'It is against her nature – because her nature is different, her bodily constitution is different. ... 'Give her a shovel and make her work – this cannot be. It would primarily be against her delicate nature.' ...

**Women's rights activists stormed social media networks with furious responses** to the address. ... A Turkish human rights activist and advocate for gender equality said 'What he misses though is that the women's rights movement in Turkey is a very strong one, and his provocative statements are making us ever stronger.' ...

**Turkey ranked 125<sup>th</sup> of 142 countries in an assessment of gender equality in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report for 2014.**

Sebnem Arsu, "Turkish president says women should not be considered equal to men:", **nytimes, November 26, 2014.**

**"The year 2014 has been one of the worst on record for the world's children, the United Nations said on Monday** in a report that chronicled a litany of war, violence, atrocities and disease, mostly in the Middle East and Africa.

**Up to 15 million children are directly entangled in violent conflicts** in the Central African Republic, Iraq, the Palestinian territories, South Sudan, Syria and Ukraine, said the report by the United Nations Children's Fund, or Unicef. ...

"Children have been **killed while studying in the classroom and while sleeping in their beds,**" said Anthony Lake, the executive director of Unicef. "They have been **orphaned, kidnapped, tortured, recruited, raped and even sold as slaves.**"

'Never in recent memory have so many children been subjected to such unspeakable brutality,' Mr. Lake said. ... [Many crises] ... meant that they had garnered little lasting attention or had been completely overlooked.

'Protracted crises in countries like Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen,' it said, 'continued to claim even more young lives and futures.'

**In Gaza, the report said, the 50-day conflict this summer between Israelis and Palestinians left 538 children dead, 3,370 wounded and 54,000 homeless.**

Rick Gladstone, "Unicef calls 2014 one of worst years on record for world's children", **nytimes.com, December 8, 2014.**