

WAGE

women are getting even.

March 21, 2007

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to let you know about an exciting opportunity to take action on the critical issue of the wage gap in conjunction with Equal Pay Day, April 24, 2007. According to the 2005 Census Bureau, fulltime, year-round working women earn only 77 cents for every dollar earned by their male counterparts. What you may not have heard is that over a lifetime this wage gap adds up to astonishing financial losses for women. A high school graduate loses \$700,000. A college graduate loses \$1.2 million. A professional school graduate loses \$2 million.

In my book entitled, *Getting Even: Why Women Don't Get Paid Like Men And What To Do About It*, I explore the problem of the wage gap. Through my research, I found that the wage gap won't go away unless women take action to change it. In order to help women tackle this challenge, I launched the **WAGE Project** [www.wageproject.org], an innovative grassroots project designed to help women close the wage gap.

In collaboration with the **National Committee on Pay Equity**, (www.pay-equity.org), the **WAGE Project** and leading national organizations committed to closing the wage gap throughout the country are launching WAGE Clubs to help women obtain the tools, support and momentum they need to get even at work. WAGE Clubs are based on a model developed during my eight years of research on the wage gap. In WAGE Clubs, women have a safe place where they can obtain support from other women as they work to gather information, build allies, then go to the top to create change in their workplaces.

Launching a WAGE Club is easy. Simply set a date, invite women, and your WAGE Club is off and running. Using *Getting Even*, and a group discussion guide developed by the **WAGE Project**, WAGE Club members gather regularly to participate in a series of discussions and strategy sessions to help each other take action to help close the wage gap in their workplaces.

We hope you will join us in this exciting new collaborative grassroots effort. Together we are working to help every woman get paid what she deserves. Please check out the **WAGE Project** website at www.wageproject.org and contact Annie Houle, National Director of WAGE Clubs and Community Initiatives, at 207-846-3930 or ahoule@wageproject.org for more information.

Together we can eliminate the wage gap and get women EVEN,

Evelyn Murphy, PhD
President, The WAGE Project