

The Dundalk Widows Group with the support of Cllr. Emma Coffey

Conference: The Parliament Qualification of Women Act 1918-2018 - Have Women Qualified?’

To explore the roles of women in the context of History, Politics and Industry in modern Ireland. Speakers at the conference include;

Marian Harkin M.E.P

Emma Pengally M.P

Sinead McCoole, Historian, as well as women from many fields on the island of Ireland

The conference will take place on Saturday 5th May 2018, at An Grianan, the I.C.A. Headquarters in Termonfeekin, Co. Louth.

The fee per delegate including lunch is €110.00.

Since obtaining the vote what steps or progress have women in Ireland made in terms of achieving equality of representation in areas such as politics, boards of management and public/ voluntary committees?

Through a series of lectures and Q+A sessions, those present will evaluate the lessons learned about political parties and the influence of gender on candidate recruitment at the 2014 local elections. It will examine the impact of ‘Gender Quota’ system on the 2016 General Election. Speakers and delegates will consider the Gender Quota system and whether it is effective, necessary and/or useful behind women’s increased participation in elections?

The conference will highlight the administrative structures of local authorities, where men dominate senior management positions. Recent years have shown an increasing number of women accessing senior management roles, however, gender barriers remain in play.

Analysis of candidate data and electoral results from the 2014 local elections show that women’s political representation currently stands at just under 21 %. This is a record high for women’s participation in the elected structures of county and city councils since 1918. Against this backdrop of increased yet still great under representation of the gender, the necessity of considering “Have Women Qualified?” must be highlighted and addressed.

For more Information please contact

Conference Coordinator Number: 089 4214394

Cllr.Emma Coffey, 0871940837 emma.coffey@louthcoco.ie