

A CLOSER LOOK AT PERIOD POVERTY IN THE UNITED STATES



Created by Andrea Ramos. For more information, scan the QR code!

WHAT IS PERIOD POVERTY?



the lack of access to sanitary products (unaffordable or inaccessible)



lack of factual and comprehensive menstrual health education



negative stigma associated with menstruation



lack of proper waste management, toilets, and handwashing facilities



THE TAMPON TAX

30 US States have a sales tax on menstrual supplies because they are not considered "medical necessities". The Tampon Tax makes period products unaffordable for the 25 million American women living below the poverty line.

STUDENTS IN SCHOOLS



Over 80% of students have missed class due to lack of access to menstrual products. Menstruation affects the educational experiences of female students, leading to educational fallout.

THE HOMELESS PERIOD



For women experiencing homelessness, buying period products might mean choosing pads over a meal. Many women create makeshift supplies from socks, napkins, or cottonballs, which are unsafe for their health.

PERIOD POVERTY FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

As of 2019, over 231,000 women and girls were incarcerated in the US, and for incarcerated women, having a period is both a degrading experience and health risk.



Many incarcerated women have to ask for menstrual supplies, and usually aren't given enough to last a whole period. If they stain their clothes, they have to wear them until its time for laundry.

WHAT WE CAN DO TO HELP

NATIONALLY



Sign petitions to remove the Tampon Tax!



Write a letter, email, or call your state representative



Ask your school or university to fund menstrual products



Host a drive and donate to local homeless shelters

LOCALLY