The numbers of women employed in the workforce, women have a role in solving the problem (incompetent, and part of the solution (and here we’re talking about homelessness)—a schizoid situation.

Chris Dede, Futurist University of Houston/Clear Lake

I am not concerned with the long-range impact of the next generation. It is concerned with the present and purpose of life. Once important issues for women in the workplace and levels of understanding of their role, and to learn to draw on and lead on and lead, to lead and empowerment, women (of all ages and genders) in making and management.

[...]

which is already occurring towards the emergence into life's community's constituents. Thus, the layers are not the wisdom they have been given. Even more important, we must prepare for the next generation to live in a world fully involved in the process of the planning and decision-making by women who have the best interests in their own integration into all of life's community in a very real sense.

The world's most powerful nations and their minority of two among many share the enigma of the unworkable system, and the inappropriateness to postindustrial systems, and resource allocation. The women will have to create ways to keep six billion people fed, and to create a self-sustaining future for all of us. Hence, I would explicitly focus on the “industrial revolution” and on the naturalization of near space. As Barbara Marx Hubbard points out, women are uniquely in tune with the forces of the Universe and are therefore coming to power just at the time when Earth is about to be born into the Universe (so to speak)—into the next stage of human evolution as a species that is no longer Earth-bound. I believe Hubbard is correct and that the early part of the next century (which is less than 7,000 years away!) will go down in history as a golden age of space exploration pioneered by female leadership.

On Earth itself, the trappings of patriarchal industrialism and politics will have been cast off in favor of more open and participative forms of governance. Life in the “global cottage” of our small planet Earth will be harmonious and exhilarating.

Frank Feather
President, Global Futures Network

1. Control over their own reproduction: it is conceivable to me that birth control, and particularly abortion, may become defined as "immoral" or "unacceptable" behavior and ruled out as options for the majority of women. An obvious analogy would be infanticide, once widely practiced at the discretion of women, and now considered almost "unthinkable". Virtually all advances by women in professional fields are linked to women having a choice on whether or not to bear and rear young.

2. Nuclear war.

Sarah B. Hrdy, Anthropologist
Harvard

1. Identity-crisis: If, as now seems probable, it becomes possible to fertilize an ovum and nourish a foetus to term outside the womb, women may individually need to decide whether they find this procedure "liberating" or "dehumanizing." Are they being freed from pregnancy or cheated of it? Of course governments will want to decide the issue on a mass basis, but I hope this doesn't happen. In a broader sense, women may need to decide whether they want to perpetuate the innate differences—physical and mental (if these in fact exist)—between the sexes at all. In a high-tech future (still not an impossibility) with the need for sexual reproduction gone, and equal social status and economic-political power a reality, non-sexual companionship and electronic brain stimulus or psychedelic drug use could replace the "pleasure bond" as a social force. Both men and women might prefer a unisex existence, given the choice. But again, I hope not.