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Gender equality in Formula 1: legal and institutional challenges for the female representation in elite motorsports

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Gender equality in formula 1: legal and institutional challenges for female representation in elite motoring

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SUMMARY

The aim of this article is to understand the participation and challenges faced by women in Motor racing, with an emphasis on Formula 1, historically marked by male dominance. The research is exploratory and qualitative in nature, focused on the analysis of norms, doctrines, case law and institutional guidelines that address the issue of gender equality in sports. high-performance. The results indicate that, although there has been progress in the debate on diversity. and representativeness, concrete measures capable of guaranteeing equality are still insufficient. Opportunities for women in Formula 1. Structural, cultural, and economic barriers persist that They hinder women's access to and retention in both grassroots and elite motorsport categories. Furthermore, it consists of demonstrating social interest, based on social relevance. scientific and legal discussion addressing gender inclusion in Formula 1, resulting in a a more just society.

Keywords: Gender equality; Formula 1; Elite motorsport; Representation female.

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this article is to understand the participation and challenges faced by women in motorsport, with an emphasis on Formula 1, historically marked by male predominance. The research has an exploratory and qualitative nature, focused on the analysis of norms, doctrines, jurisprudence, and institutional aspects that involve the issue of gender equality in high-performance sports. The results indicate that, although there have been advances in the debate on diversity and representativeness, concrete measures capable of ensuring equal opportunities for women in Formula 1 are still insufficient. Structural, cultural, and economic barriers persist that hinder female access and continuity in grassroots categories and in the elite of motorsport. Furthermore, it demonstrates social interest, being based on social, scientific, and legal relevance, addressing gender inclusion in Formula 1, contributing to a more just society.

Keywords: Gender equality; Formula 1; Elite motorsport; Female representation.

1 INTRODUCTION

The 1988 Federal Constitution, in its article 5, enshrines the principle of equality. guaranteeing equality for all before the law and the full protection of fundamental rights. In addition, article 217, on the other hand, emphasizes sport as a social right, imposing The State has a duty to promote it and prohibit any form of discrimination (Brazil, 1988). Thus, forecasts show that access to sport is an indispensable tool for human, educational, social and professional development.

At the international level, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of The Convention on Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) requires States to adopt effective measures to... to ensure full female participation in various sectors, including sports (UN Women, 1979). Similarly, Fundamental Principle No. 4 of the Olympic Charter states that “the practice "The right to sport is a human right and must be guaranteed without discrimination of any kind." (International Olympic Committee, 2023), thus reaffirming the commitment of the movement Olympic Games with gender equality. Furthermore, the International Charter of Physical Education, of The UNESCO Declaration on Physical Activity and Sport recognizes the universal right of access to physical activity. sporting, ensuring equal opportunities regardless of gender, age, origin or social condition (Unesco, 2015).

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In the domestic legal system, Law No. 14,597/2023, in its article 3, §3, reinforces the duty to ensure women equal opportunities for participation at all levels of Physical activity and sports, including management, supervisory and decision-making positions, whether in any of the following modalities: recreational activities, whether in high-performance sports (Brazil, 2023). Added to this milestone is Law No. Law 9.615/1998 (Pelé Law, 1998), which establishes general rules on sports and reaffirms principles of democratization and inclusion (Brazil, 1998), as well as Law No. 12.288/2010 (Statute of Equality) Racial and Gender-Based Policies), which reinforces the obligation of the State and institutions to eradicate practices Discriminatory practices in sports (Brazil, 2010).

From a historical perspective, athletics was one of the first sports to allow... Female participation in official competitions. At the 1928 Olympics, the American athlete Elizabeth Robinson won the gold medal in the 100-meter dash, becoming a symbol of... The inclusion of women in the Olympic Games (Globo, 2023). Since then, athletics has become established as one of the sports with the greatest female representation and visibility worldwide.

In contrast, motor racing, especially its elite category Formula 1, It presents an extremely restricted and recent trajectory of female inclusion. The barriers faced The challenges faced by women in this sport include sociocultural prejudices, unequal sponsorships, and... investments, in addition to market interests that tend to favor male competitors, regardless of technical merit (Formula 1, 2023). Since the creation of Formula 1 in 1950, Only five women have ever competed in official training sessions, and currently there are none. A regular driver in teams in the category. Recent data reveals that less than 2% of these positions are held by women. Engineering and technical management positions in F1 are held by women, highlighting a persistent deficit. structural inclusion (Motorspost, 2024).

Although the International Automobile Federation (FIA) has established programs for Affirmative action initiatives, such as the F1 Academy and the FIA Girls on Track, still present... limited effectiveness, since they remain subject to strongly selective criteria. influenced by sponsorships and commercial interests (FIA, 2023; F1 Academy, 2025; CBA, 2025). Additionally, teams and the media contribute to the perpetuation of inequalities: Sponsors prioritize male drivers, and media coverage often reinforces this. stereotypes, reducing the visibility of women. A recent example is the promotion of engineer Laura Mueller from Haas to work with Esteban Ocon (Schmitz, 2022).

In the legal field, Brazilian jurisprudence has already recognized discriminatory practices in sports competitions. The Court of Justice of Goiás, in case number 5495745-03.2022.8.09.0051, condemned the Brazilian Futsal Confederation (CBFS) to pay

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compensation for moral damages to a minor prevented from participating in a championship due to sex, recognizing the conduct as discriminatory and noting the need for measures affirmative actions (Sedep, 2023). Furthermore, the Labor Public Prosecutor's Office (MPT) has been developing... Public campaigns and civil actions to curb discriminatory and harassing practices in workplaces. sports (MPT, 2024).

Internationally, there are reports of gender discrimination in various sports. Motor racing events, including in Formula 1, have repercussions in multilateral organizations and the media. specialized. Cases such as the exclusion of women from official tests or the absence of technical support. and financial equality demonstrate the need for action by the entities regulatory bodies. A prime example is the Caster Semenya case, in which the European Court of Human Rights, in 2023, recognized the violation of fundamental human rights in the face of... Gender eligibility rules imposed by World Athletics (AP News, 2023).

Therefore, a joint analysis of the national and international regulatory framework and of reality. The facts show that, although a legal framework exists to defend equity, its effectiveness... Current practices are still insufficient. The creation and application of regulatory mechanisms is necessary. more effective institutions to guarantee representativeness, equal opportunities and effective overcoming structural barriers, especially in motorsports and other high-performance sports performance.

This research has the specific purpose of investigating the legal, institutional and sociocultural factors that underpin the historical underrepresentation of women in Formula 1. 1. The study focuses on mapping the structural obstacles that hinder not only entry, but also... The permanence of women in high-performance motorsports. In this context, the real The effectiveness of FIA programs, such as the F1 Academy and Girls on Track, is compared to their results. with the limitations imposed by the inequality of investments and sponsorships. In the end, the work It proposes institutional mechanisms and legal solutions capable of fostering representativeness. effective female representation, aiming to consolidate a genuinely democratic sporting environment and inclusive.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The research will be conducted from a qualitative and exploratory perspective, focused on analysis of normative, doctrinal, jurisprudential, and institutional sources that involve the issue of gender equality in elite motorsport, with an emphasis on Formula 1. This approach It allows us to understand the role of Law as an instrument for social transformation and promotion.

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of gender equality in sports, highlighting the legal, cultural, and institutional challenges that They limit female representation.

To achieve the proposed objectives, several research methods will be integrated. Initially, a literature review will be conducted, including a survey of doctrinal works and articles. scientific and scientific reports from national and international organizations, such as the International Federation of Motor racing (FIA), UN Women and UNESCO. This stage will allow for the theoretical foundation and The institutional framework is necessary to contextualize the topic in a broad and consistent manner.

Furthermore, the documentary research will address the analysis of Brazilian legislation applied to sports, highlighting the Federal Constitution of 1988, Law No. 9.615/1998 (Pelé Law) and Law No. 14.597/2023, as well as international treaties and conventions related to equality of Gender and human rights in sports will also be examined. Regulations and programs of The FIA, like Girls on Track and the F1 Academy, aims to evaluate its effectiveness in promoting practical applications. of female inclusion.

Case law analysis will be another essential component of the study, seeking to identify and To examine relevant judicial decisions in the areas of Sports Law and Constitutional Law. Special Attention will be given to decisions involving cases of gender discrimination and exclusion. women's participation in sports and the involvement of the Public Prosecutor's Office for Labor and Brazilian courts in parallel demands.

Additionally, the comparative method will be used to analyze policies of Gender equity applied to other popular sports, such as football, tennis and basketball. This procedure aims to identify good practices that can be adapted and applied to basketball. specific context of motorsports, broadening the perspective of legal solutions and institutional.

In terms of reasoning methods, the research will use the historical method to to understand the trajectory of women's participation in sports and the development of legislation. relevant. The deductive method will guide the systematic and well-founded interpretation of the rules. constitutional and sub-constitutional principles, in light of the principles of equality and human dignity. and the social function of sport. Finally, the dialectical method will allow for a confrontation between legal theory and practical reality, highlighting gaps and obstacles that hinder the effective inclusion of Women in Formula 1.

This detailed, interdisciplinary methodological structure will enable a critical analysis and a more in-depth analysis of the effectiveness of existing public policies and legal mechanisms. Thus, This will contribute to the academic and practical debate about the democratization of sport and its promotion. Gender equality within the context of modern Sports Law.

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3 RESULTS

The choice of the theme for this research is linked to the need to understand and address the Legal and institutional challenges that still limit female participation in Formula 1 and, in a way more broadly, in high-performance motorsport. The rationale for the study's relevance is based on... Firstly, based on the principle of equality enshrined in Article 5 of the 1988 Federal Constitution, which ensures everyone the right to non-discrimination and full social participation. Despite this Despite the constitutional guarantee, the persistent underrepresentation of women in the sports field is observed. especially in sports historically marked by male predominance, such as Formula 1, whether in the role of drivers, or in technical, administrative or decision-making functions. decision.

In this context, preliminary results indicate that, although public policies exist... and institutional measures aimed at promoting gender equality in sports, such measures are still They are insufficient to guarantee effective female participation in elite motorsport. especially in Formula 1. This finding directly relates to the hypotheses presented in Research indicates that initiatives such as incentive and inclusion programs represent progress. Important, but not yet capable of structurally overcoming existing inequalities. in accessing sporting and professional opportunities.

The recognition of sports citizenship, as Damiani (2014) points out, is understood as It is not merely a sporting activity, but it generates significant social and economic impacts. Female participation This scenario impacts human development, job and income generation, and dynamism. of the sports market and the expansion of the use of urban equipment. Furthermore, it improves the citizen mobility, expands knowledge of information on different modes of transportation, and contributes to... To promote a more inclusive sporting culture in the country.

In this sense, the analysis carried out shows that policies to encourage women's sports They are somewhat effective in increasing visibility and creating initial opportunities, however They still face structural limitations related to investment inequality and the absence of more robust regulatory mechanisms. As identified in the study, the effectiveness of these Policies depend not only on inclusion programs, but also on the adoption of strategies. institutional and legal mechanisms capable of guaranteeing continuity, funding, and equal access to structures of high-performance sports.

From this perspective, the social relevance of the present study becomes evident. Formula 1 is One of the global sports platforms, it exerts symbolic, economic, and media influence.

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Significant. Structural gender inequalities are perpetuated by the lack of women in prominent historical positions. Thus, promoting the inclusion of women in motorsports. This represents not only an advance in the field of sports, but a step towards a better society. more plural, fair and accessible, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals of The UN, especially SDG 5 (IPEA, 2015), which deals with promoting gender equality.

Furthermore, the issue of sponsorship is one of the main contributing factors to maintaining these inequalities, given that motorsport is a highly competitive sport. dependent on private investment and commercial partnerships. Research indicates that Sponsors tend to prioritize male drivers or traditionally established projects. which limits women's access to youth categories and career advancement opportunities. In this way, even when there are incentive programs, such as the F1 Academy and FIA's institutional initiatives, the absence of equivalent financial support significantly reduces The potential for female inclusion in elite motorsports.

The scientific and methodological relevance of this study lies in its contribution to opening up the dialogue between sports law, constitutional law, and international human rights law Humans and public policies. This interdisciplinary approach is advantageous for generating output. academic in areas that are still little explored in Brazil, while at the same time enabling reflections on institutional policies, regulatory instruments and legal strategies aimed at promoting of diversity and inclusion in high-performance sports.

From a legal perspective, the research enriches the approach to the practical application of norms. constitutional and international principles aimed at equality in sports, contributing to the Consolidation of sports law as an autonomous branch of law attentive to social demands. contemporary. Furthermore, it fosters debate about federal regulation, of responsibility of sports organizations and the role of the State in protecting and promoting fundamental rights in sports. Furthermore, it helps in identifying regulatory gaps and in... Proposing measures that promote inclusion and equity at all levels of practice. sporty.

Although Formula 1 has a history marked by the absence of women in leadership roles. Central to this, recent examples signal changes. The achievements of Hannah Schmitz, an engineer and Red Bull Racing team strategy chief (Vivo, 2022), and Laura Mueller, recently Her promotion to engineer responsible for driver Esteban Ocon at the Haas team highlights the female technical capacity and the gradual increase in representation in the sector (Vivo, 2025). These These are examples that highlight not only the competence of the professionals, but also the importance due to their presence in decision-making spaces within the category.

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These cases also reinforce the research results by demonstrating that the presence
The presence of women in motorsports is not related to a lack of technical or professional ability, but
Yes to the structural and institutional barriers that have historically limited their access to sport.
high performance. Thus, the hypothesis that the expansion of female representation is confirmed.
It depends not only on specific initiatives, but also on the implementation of broader public policies.
effective institutional incentives and legal mechanisms that promote real equality of
opportunities.

The choice of topic reflects the demonstrated interest in, and justifies, this study.
It is based on its social, scientific, and legal relevance. By analyzing the challenges and proposing
The goal is to foster academic and institutional debate on gender inclusion in solutions.
Formula 1, contributing to the construction of a more equitable sporting environment and, therefore
As a consequence, a more just society. Furthermore, the study aims to provide support for...
Policies and practices that promote equal opportunities in high-performance sports.

The results of this research demonstrate that, although the Brazilian legal system,
Based on the principle of equality (Article 5, CF/88) and Law No. 14,597/2023, establish the duty
to ensure equal opportunities in sport, the practical effectiveness of these rules in Formula
1 remains insufficient. The analysis reveals that affirmative action initiatives such as the F1 Academy and
Girls on Track, despite representing institutional progress, has limited reach because
being subject to selection criteria heavily influenced by commercial interests and by
dependence on sponsorships. This scenario highlights a "structural gender discrimination," which
It keeps elite motorsport as a highly restricted access area, where less than 2%
Most technical positions are held by women, distancing sports practice from the principles of
Human dignity and social justice enshrined in Sports Law.

The investigation confirms the hypothesis that the investment deficit and the inclination of
The advertising market tends to favor male competitors, often at the expense of merit.
Technically, these constitute the main obstacles to female representation in motorsports.
This contrasts sharply with the success of sports such as Tennis (WTA) and Basketball (WNBA), which, by
By adopting mandatory investment standards and equal pay, they demonstrated that...
Structured regulation and media exposure are key to converting participation.
in real equity.

To overcome these obstacles, the study proposes strengthening public policies.
through the granting of tax incentives to companies that sponsor women and the establishment of mandatory
parity targets in management and technical leadership positions. It is also imperative that the
The legal system should implement *accountability* mechanisms and sanctions to curb negligence.

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of sports entities, ensuring that Sports Law acts as an instrument of
Social transformation and democratization, guaranteeing dignity and equality in high-level sports.
performance.

4. DISCUSSION

Gender equality in sports is based on constitutional principles and
international rights, essential to citizenship and social justice. The 1988 Federal Constitution, in its
Articles 5 and 217 guarantee equal rights before the law and recognize sport as a social right and
State responsibility, which must promote all modalities without discrimination (Brazil, 1988).
Therefore, it is essential that the authorities adopt effective policies to ensure equity between
men and women.

At the international level, instruments such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Biodiesel
Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW, 1979) obligate States to promote
equality and female participation, including in sport (UN Women, 1979). The Convention
The Inter-American Convention of Belém do Pará (OAS, 1994) expands this obligation, considering the forms
Institutionalized forms of discrimination, such as violence, require public policies and legal norms.
appropriate. As Pimentel (2017), a legal expert involved with CEDAW, points out, the
Structural inequality in sport reflects historical causes and demands proactive, political action.
integrated and profound cultural changes, overcoming traditional masculine stereotypes. In this
Bairros (2011), along the same lines, adds that gender and racial equality requires state intervention.
and institutions that promote funding for training, competition, and visibility. For
Marques (2011-2012) reinforces that Sports Law is essential to citizenship, holding people accountable.
the State and sports entities for the adoption of active measures for female and racial inclusion in
professional sport.

Finally, Romanelli (2019) highlights that, despite the increased female presence in
In Brazilian motorsports, invisibility and a lack of public policies persist, along with stereotypes.
which make the media essential for social transformation. Therefore, ensuring equality between
Women and men in sports transcends a mere legal obligation, but also a
a moral and political necessity that demands collaborative efforts from the State, federations,
sponsors and civil society.

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4.1 The Right to Sport as a Social Right and Instrument of Inclusion

Brazilian Sports Law is guided by inclusion and democratization, according to Law No.
Law 9.615/1998 (Pelé Law) and Law No. 14.597/2023, which ensures equal opportunities for women,
including in technical and administrative positions. The Pelé Law promotes democratization without
discrimination, while more recent legislation recognizes women's right to full participation.
in leadership and sports decision-making.

According to Bairros (2011), effective public policies depend on structures.
institutional bodies with responsible monitoring and accountability mechanisms,
highlighting the need for intersectional gender and race actions in sports. Capraro (2020)
It criticizes the persistence of patriarchal structures in the Brazilian sports system, which concentrate...
men in positions of power, and advocates for the creation of regulatory instruments to guarantee the
Women's participation in competitions and management, promoting equality and dignity.

In elite motorsport, the exclusion of women is striking. Since 1950, only five
Women participated in official Formula 1 training sessions, without recent tenure (FIA, 2023).
This exemplifies the “structural gender discrimination” described by Bairros (2011), characterized
of cultural and geopolitical practices, even without explicit prohibition. International treaties, with
Mandatory status according to article 5, §3, of the Federal Constitution, binds sports entities.
respect for human rights and constitutional principles, making norms or practices illegal.
that promote gender inequality. Sports Law should be seen as an instrument of
Guaranteeing fundamental rights in sports.

International organizations, such as UN Women and UNESCO (2023), emphasize sport.
as an effective tool for equality and female empowerment, highlighting the role of sport.
in the development of independence, cooperation and citizenship for girls and women globally.
Thus, the right to sport, in addition to being competitive, is a means of citizenship and should be developed as such.
autonomous discipline, integrating Constitutional, International and Anti-Discrimination Law for
To ensure gender equality in sport.

4.2 Role of the FIA, F1 Academy and other Diversity Promotion Programs

On a global scale, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the FIA are implementing actions.
Concrete steps towards diversity and inclusion. The F1 Academy, created in 2023, trains and funds young people.
Women pilots to address the historical absence of women in both lower and elite categories. In addition
In addition, the FIA also promotes the Girls on Track program, which offers seminars and workshops.

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technical skills and behind-the-scenes experiences in motorsport. These efforts aim to stimulate the Women's interest in the industry and opening up genuine professional careers.

The F1 Academy has the support of the community and Formula 1 teams, preparing drivers. to advance technically and compete at higher levels through competitions, scholarships Studies and projects like Discover Your Drive. Expert analysis highlights that, although exclusively female categories support the entry of women into motorsports, is It is essential that these initiatives be accompanied by integrated policies that promote Sponsorship, technical training, and progression to mixed competitions.

According to the report Inside Track: Exploring the Gender Gap in Motorsport by More Than Equal (2023), only about 10% of participants work in youth categories, with a drop to around 7% in the top-level formulas, in addition to facing financial barriers and track access issues. and reduced career time evidence that simple segregation can accentuate a “separation symbolic”1 that keeps women on the margins of the elite of motorsport.

4.3 Discrimination and Cultural and Gender Barriers in the Sports Environment

Discrimination and cultural barriers in sports involve stereotypes and invisibility. media, investment inequality and exclusionary institutional practices. Research (SciELO, Brazilian periodicals) document the reduction in journalistic coverage and the unequal treatment of women's sports, which perpetuate the lack of sponsorship and opportunities.

Pimentel (2017) highlights that substantive equality requires not only formal opportunities, but a reconfiguration of the symbolic, institutional, and cultural structures that maintain inequalities. These barriers reflect broader social structures.

Therefore, gender equality, especially in elite motorsport, is a legal obligation and institutional, and not merely a policy of incentives. The constitutional principles of human dignity, Citizenship and the social function of sport impose a responsibility to guarantee women access. Real permanence and visibility.

4.4 Institutional Responsibility and Mission in Promoting Equity

Gender equality in sports requires joint action from the State, regulatory bodies, clubs, Sponsors and media. Reports and recommendations from UN Women and UNESCO recommend goals for parity in leadership, specific resources for women's sports, capacity building Managers need transparency and sanctions against negligence. Failure to act constitutes a violation of rights.

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Humans, requiring legal and administrative accountability.

In motorsports, it is up to regulatory bodies and federations to promote diversity by means of training, subsidies and support for grassroots and women's categories, in addition to incorporating policies inclusive licensing and regulations. Recent FIA reports indicate progress and gaps in this area. process, especially in the transition to main categories.

The institutional responsibility of sports federations is another crucial point. Reports UN Women (2022) and UNESCO (2020) indicate that promoting gender equality in Sport depends on the adoption of mandatory legal mechanisms, parity targets, and oversight. The effectiveness of inclusive policies. The omission of sports organizations in promoting equality. This constitutes an indirect violation of human rights and should be addressed through the law. International Sports.

It is clear, therefore, that making gender equality a reality in sport requires a a collective and continuous effort, in which the State, federations, sponsors, and media act in a way coordinated and committed. In motorsports, especially, ensuring presence and growth. Women's equality depends not only on creating spaces, but also on maintaining integrated public policies. Effective oversight and real incentives that enable equal access and technical development. and competitive opportunities at all levels.

4.5 Female Representation, Pluralism, and Human Rights in the Sports Environment

Women's representation should include athletes, coaches, engineers, managers, and... Arbitrators. Legal pluralism allows for adaptable norms, reconciling universal human rights. with local solutions that respect the cultural and economic diversity of the athletes. This demands integrated policies on human rights, gender equality, and disciplinary specificity, including female representation in management, refereeing, training and competition.

Thus, female participation in sports depends on policies, programs, and efforts. promotional initiatives and institutional reforms that ensure visibility, participation, and leadership. Women's effectiveness.

4.6 Comparisons with other Sports and the Environment (e.g., Football, Tennis, Basketball)

A comparative analysis of sports such as soccer, tennis, and basketball. In soccer, FIFA and CBF increase visibility and minimum investments in women's football, despite challenges in

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financing and coverage (FIFA, 2025). In tennis, the WTA achieved prize money equality in elite tournaments (WTA, 2025). In basketball, the NBA and WNBA promote female inclusion in sports and developing diverse leaders on and off the court. (WNBA, 2024). These experiences They show that mandatory regulations, structured funding, and media exposure are key to... Convert participation into equity.

The environmental and sustainability agenda, as outlined in international documents such as the Charter UNESCO connects with the promotion of equity, highlighting inclusive and mindful practices. Local social disparities. Sustainable sports policies must integrate the promotion of equality. and social and environmental responsibility, aiming for a democratic and inclusive sports ecosystem. (UNESCO, 2025).

Therefore, gender equality in Formula 1 must be understood legally. institutionally and socioculturally, uniting domestic law and international mechanisms to Consolidation of a pluralistic and democratic culture. Sports Law is a fundamental tool for this. to ensure that competitive progress goes hand in hand with effective inclusion.

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4.7 Pioneering and Representativeness: The Naming of the Mueller-Schmitz Curve in the Great Australia Prize

The symbolic consecration of female presence in Formula 1 reached a historic milestone with the decision to name Turn 6 of the Albert Park circuit, at the Australian Grand Prix, in A tribute to Laura Mueller and Hannah Schmitz. This initiative, scheduled to coincide with the International Women's Day marks the first time in the category's history that a curve of one The official circuit is dedicated to women in motorsports. They were chosen to host this event. Honored for the direct impact of their roles on team performance.

The tribute is part of the "In Her Corner" initiative, a partnership between Engineers Australia and the Australian Grand Prix Corporation. The central objective of the project is to inspire the next a generation of female engineers, promoting the idea that the visibility of women in positions of Technical leadership is essential for other young women to see themselves represented in the sector. According to Mueller, the action reinforces the importance of the concept "if you can see it, you can be it", encouraging the Girls' interest in STEM careers (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics).

Katherine Richards, chief engineer at Engineers Australia, highlighted that the appointment of Curva celebrates the talent and leadership of two professionals who are redefining what is possible. within Formula 1, as well as in technology and business. For Schmitz, recognition is an opportunity to demonstrate his passion for engineering and honor the support he received from his...

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Her own teachers, who inspired her to follow this path. Therefore, the
The Mueller-Schmitz curve is not just a tribute to their individual journeys, but a symbol.
Institutional cultural change and inclusion within elite motorsport.

5. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

This study fully achieved its proposed objectives by investigating and mapping the legal, institutional and sociocultural barriers that perpetuate historical underrepresentation Women in Formula 1. Through a qualitative analysis, the research demonstrated that, although There must be a national and international legal framework in defense of equity based on... The Federal Constitution and treaties such as CEDAW, its practical effectiveness in motor racing... The elite is still insufficient. The investigation confirmed that female inclusion is not hindered by a lack of Technical ability, but structural deficits that limit access to prominent positions.

Regarding financial incentives, it is observed that Brazilian laws, such as the General Law... The Sports Law and the Pelé Law establish the duty to ensure equal opportunities, but not They specifically contemplate instruments that overcome inequality in private sponsorships. Since motorsport is a sport highly dependent on marketing investments that While they tend to favor men, the results point to the need for new mechanisms. regulatory measures, such as granting tax incentives specifically aimed at sponsorships that foster female talent. Without this legal intervention, the funding remains a A glass ceiling for women.

Regarding the need for exclusively female categories, such as the F1 Academy, the study He concluded that such initiatives are fundamental as a starting point for ensuring training. funding and initial visibility. However, it should be noted that these categories should not be used for a "symbolic separation" that keeps women on the margins of the elite. For equality to be For these programs to be lasting, it is essential that they be accompanied by integrated policies that promote mandatory progression to mixed competitions, preventing female talent from being left behind. segregated into niches with lower technical levels.

Ultimately, gender inclusion in Formula 1, illustrated by milestones such as the trajectory Hannah Schmitz and Laura Mueller's performance represents more than just a sporting advancement; it's a step forward. essential for building a more just and plural society. The research reinforces that equity It is a legal and moral duty that requires coordinated action between the State, federations, and the private sector. It is concluded that Sports Law should be used as a A tool for social transformation, ensuring that technical progress goes hand in hand with...

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Social justice and the democratization of access to high-performance sports.

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