## Poem 1 (Personal Issue)

I am a woman with a heart that aches, I am a woman that is strong and bold, I have children to care for and duties to perform, I am about to finish college and ready to soar, I want to go after my dream job to be successful, I see the time required is not flexible to fit my life, I'm strong and can do more, but no chance of proving it, I'm afraid my dreams and goals will fade in the end, I carry on with hope in my heart that anything is possible. I wake up early before the sun rises, I get them to school before the bell rings, I go to school myself or get chores done, I rush to pick them up when school closes, I hold them tight and listen to their laughter, I am torn between love for my kids and ambition for myself, I know accessible daycare is out of reach, and this is a burden, I must do the job that fits and let go of my dream job, I want to balance the needs of my children and work.

## Poem 2 (Society Point of View)

We shape her to live the life we designed for her,
We silence her voice to disregard her opinion,
We want her to be humble and live under a man,
We want her to bear children and keep a home,
We make good work hard for her to secure,
We make sure her fight for equality will never be won,
We make her busy with what matters most, the home,
We brush aside her talent and skills, so she cannot lead,
We squash her dream because the cycle must go on.

You should know we stripped her of power, so men can lead, You think this is a privilege, but it is the way society will be stable, You call it unfair, but men are born to lead and women to follow, You know the path she walks has been dictated by age-old words, You can see the job designed for her, will keep her in place always, You know the salary she earns is to keep her in our control, You should know affordable childcare is out of her reach, You want her to achieve her goals but that's too much power, You know she needs to be tamed or will go wild and take over, You should know we offered enough rights as it is, she can vote!

## Poem 3 (Social Justice/Change Point of View)

In a world where childcare is inaccessible, And flexible hours is a privilege to get, Mothers are held back and restricted, To be a working mother, you must struggle daily.

We need to be a voice for change, We are fighting for fair play and equality, We will not be silenced anymore, Women rising higher is the mission.

It is time to change the way things are done, Giving women the support, it requires to shine, Affordable childcare should be a right, not a fight, Flexible hours should be a norm, not a dream.

When working mothers are held back and oppressed, The future becomes uncertain with no one to rely on, We need a better world with equality and love, Rules are not made in stone; it is time for change.