

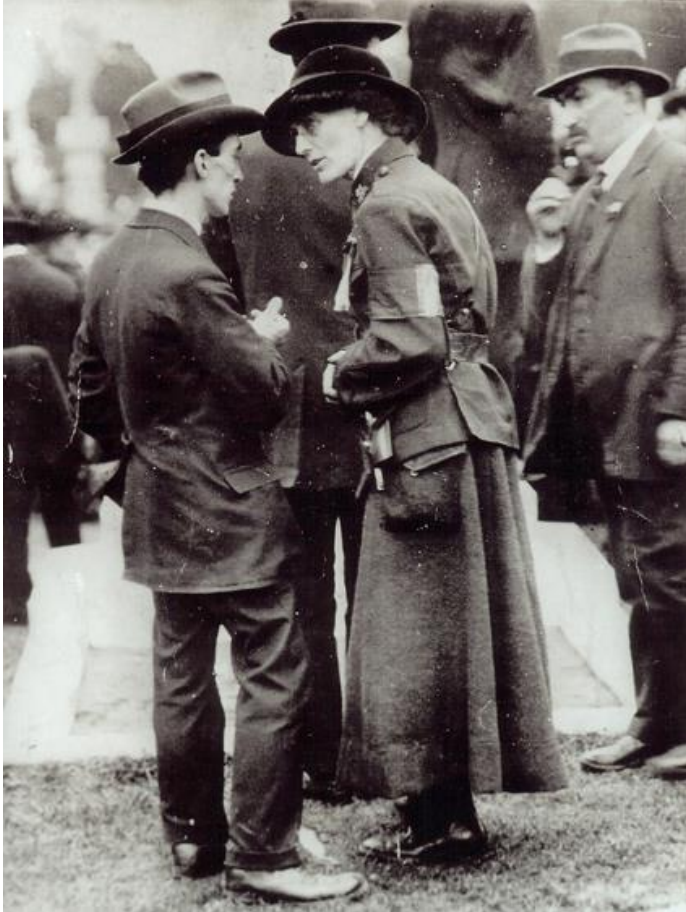
Women and politics in Ireland since 1918

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Countess Markievicz



Winifred Carney



Early women TDs



Margaret Collins-O'Driscoll,
FG, first elected 1923



Mrs. Brigid Ryan: "countrywoman's strength and grasp of reality".

Mary Brigid Ryan, FF, first
elected 1944

Role and status of women in 1930s

Extract on justification of implementing a marriage bar from *Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Civil Service 1932-33* (Brennan Commission) (para 180)

If a woman recruited to the post married after eight or ten years service the main purpose for which she has been employed entirely fails and she has moreover during that time been blocking the way of a man who could give the State good value for the service in question

Quoted in M. Fine Davis (1988) *Changing Gender Role Attitudes in Ireland, Vol. 1: Attitudes towards the role and status of women 1975-1986*, at

http://archive.oireachtas.ie/1988/APPENDIX_31051988_1.html

Wife as 'chattel'

1972 Braun v Roche criminal conversation case

Outcome: £12,000 awarded to Werner Braun against Stanley Roche (of Roches Stores) for 'seducing' Braun's wife

Justice Butler, in summing up, referred to Mrs Braun as a 'chattel' and a wife

as something that the husband owned, and you compensate him for [...] the value of the wife he has lost – just as you would compensate him for a thoroughbred mare or cow

Law was reformed in 1981 to delete crim con from statute book

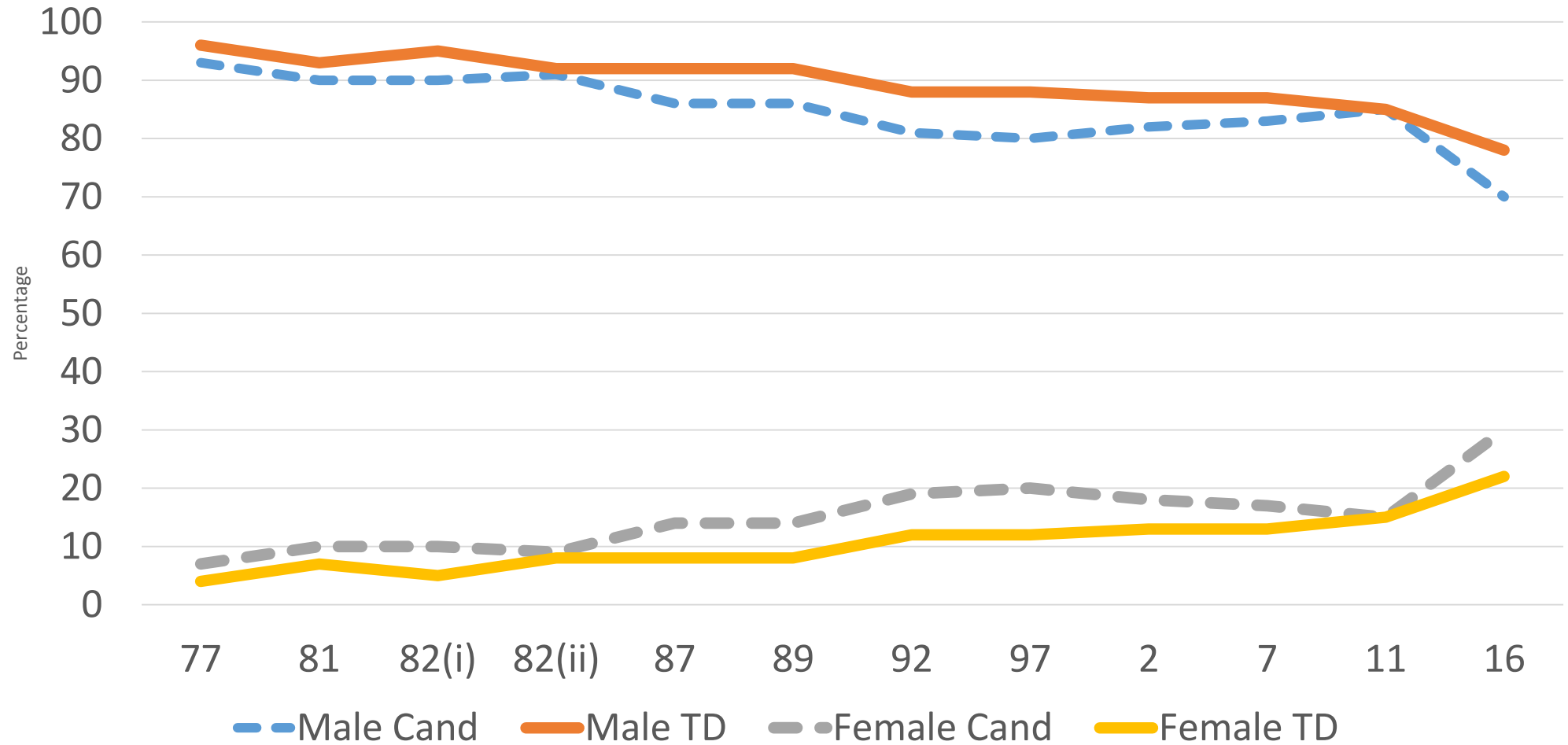
- Urquhart, D (2012) 'Ireland's Criminal Conversations', *Études Irlandaises* 37:2, 65-80

Attitudinal and behavioural changes to women's role 1988-2002



O'Sullivan, Sara (2012) 'All Changed, Changed Utterly'? Gender role attitudes and the feminisation of the Irish labour force', *Women's Studies International Forum*. 35(4): 223-232.

Candidates and TDs by gender, 1977-2016



Women TDs and Senators 2008, 90th anniversary of the vote

Source <http://www.ivanabacik.com/womeninpolitics/oireachtaswomen.html>



Female Ministers since 1979

Source <https://www.taoiseach.gov.ie/eng/>

Dáil	Cabinet Minister	Dáil	Cabinet Minister
21 st 27 th Dáil	Maire Geoghegan Quinn	29 th 30 th Dáil	Mary Hanafin
22 nd Dáil	Eileen Desmond	31 st Dáil	Joan Burton
24 th Dáil	Gemma Hussey	31 st Dáil	Frances Fitzgerald
25 th 26 th 28 th Dáil	Mary O'Rourke	31 st Dáil	Jan O'Sullivan
27 th Dáil	Niamh Bhreathnach	31 st 32 nd Dáil	Heather Humphries
27 th Dáil	Nora Owen	32 nd Dáil	Katherine Zappone
28 th 29 th 30 th Dáil	Mary Harney	32 nd Dáil	Mary Mitchell O'Connor (2016-17)
28 th Dáil	Sile De Valera	32 nd Dáil	Regina Doherty
29 th 30 th Dáil	Mary Coughlan	32 nd Dáil	Josepha Madigan

Legislation for candidate gender quotas

- Economic crisis and 'broken' political system ushered in change of government, ending 14-year rule by Fianna Fail
- The *Electoral (Amendment) (Political Funding) Act 2012* part of new coalition Programme for Government
- Section 6 incentivises parties to select at least 30 per cent female candidates and at least 30 per cent male candidates for general elections
- Rising to 40% in 2023
- Sanction is loss of 50% public funding per year

Pattern of selection, 2016 General Election

- Of Fine Gael 88 candidates, 27 were women:
 - 13 came through convention without a gender directive,
 - 5 came via gender directive,
 - 9 were added (and 6 men)
- Of Fianna Fail 71 candidates, 22 were women:
 - 8 came through convention without a gender directive,
 - 5 came via gender directive,
 - 9 added (and 7 men)



**International Congress
of Parliamentary
Women's Caucuses 2018**

9-10 September 2018
Dublin Castle

Countess Markievicz makes it to Westminster, July 2018

