The real issue this election year

A couple of front-page stories in the past week have come from the East Coast, the other from the West Coast. Both were about the same theme: the plight of those United States in this election year.

With unemployment climbing across the nation, The New York Times reported that "for the first time since we've measured it, an economic recovery has completely gone bush, and the percentage of woman at work has fallen, not risen, the usual trend in recovery. Each of the seven previous recoveries since 1948 ended with a greater percentage of women at work than when it began."

Working women now earn a third of America's total household income, and by 2020, only 20 percent of all partnerships in the workplace will have made real gains in their standard of living. Yet even that same period, the percentage of women employed outside the home has fallen to that same period, the percentage of women at work has fallen, not risen, the usual trend in recovery. Each of the seven previous recoveries since 1948 ended with a greater percentage of women at work than when it began.

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