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## Sommario/riassunto

In 1949 the German constitution set down the entitlement to equality for men and women in the Federal Republic of Germany in article 3. Until the late 1950's it was up to men to decide where to live and how to utilize families' assets. Women were not permitted to decide on their participation in the labour market but had the duty to administer the household and help their husbands. When Angela Merkel became chancellor of Germany in 2005, she was not only one of the most influential politicians in the world but also one of the few female leaders who managed to break through the glass ceiling

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