**Lesson 21: Women Micro-Entrepreneurs in Developing African Countries**

1. Read the caption “Gender Differences in Africa” on page 313 and then examine the map “Gender Equality in Africa, 2006.” on page 313.

| What does GDI measure? | GDI measures gender development index for countries with high equality, medium equality, low equality, ten lowest ranked countries in the world, and finally no data. | | |
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| How many of Africa’s 54 countries have “high equality” in the GDI? | 5 countries have high equality in GDI in South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, Rwanda, and Libya. | | |

1. Read pages 320-321.

| Why are 80% of small business loans given to women? | It is because women need the most help. The majority of people living in poverty are women and their children and it is really hard for them. Also microcredit organizations know that loaning to women is good, but they don’t know when they give the loans to the women if they will pay them back. | | |
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| In the bottom paragraph, it states, “micro-credit organizations aim to help people help themselves.” Given what you learned in chapter 21, how have women micro-entrepreneurs shown the ability to help themselves? | Women were once begging and trying to find a job. A group of two women started a business called the bead business in Africa. It expanded over time and it is a very popular thing now just because of two women. Some women do food truck businesses and make good food for a job. They can also market in Africa for a job and all of those jobs help women prove that they have shown the ability to help themselves. | | |
| How have women micro-entrepreneurs shown the ability to help their communities? | Women have helped with education, started a brand new business called bead making, make food, and opened a food truck restaurant all in Africa. | | |