



Federation of
Post-Secondary Educators
of BC

RESOURCE GUIDE

FPSE STATUS OF WOMEN COMMITTEE
JULY 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Calendar	2
Organizations	4
Speakers	6
Films	8
Plays	13
Music.....	14
Books.....	16
Websites	19
Streaming Videos	20
Articles	21

CALENDAR

February: Black History Month

Canadians take this time to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation it is today. During Black History Month, Canadians can gain insight into the experiences of black Canadians and their vital role in the community.

www.cic.gc.ca/english/multiculturalism/black/index.asp

February 26: Pink Shirt Day

The original event was organized by Grade 9 students in Nova Scotia, who bought and distributed 50 pink shirts after another male ninth grade student was bullied for wearing a pink shirt during the first day of school. People are encouraged to wear something pink to symbolize that we as a society will not tolerate bullying anywhere.

www.pinkshirtday.ca

March 8: International Women's Day

International Women's Day has been observed since in the early 1900's. It is now recognized annually on 8 March, with thousands of events being held throughout the world to inspire women and celebrate achievements.

www.internationalwomensday.com

March 21: International Day of Elimination of Racism

Observed annually on March 21. On that day, in 1960, police opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration in Sharpeville, South Africa, against the apartheid "pass laws". Proclaiming the Day in 1966, the UN General Assembly called on the international community to redouble its efforts to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination.

www.un.org/en/events/racialdiscriminationday

October: Women's History Month

October is Women's History Month in Canada, an opportunity for Canadians to learn about women's and girls' valuable contributions to our country's history – and to the quality of our lives in the 21st century.

<http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/whm-mhf/index-en.html>

October 4: Sisters in Spirit

A research, education and policy initiative driven and led by Aboriginal women. The primary goal is to conduct research and raise awareness of the alarmingly high rates of violence against Aboriginal women and girls in Canada. October 4 is a day where we honour the lives of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls.

<https://nwac.ca/policy-areas/violence-prevention-and-safety/sisters-in-spirit/october-4th-vigils/>

October 11: International Day of the Girl Child

In 2011, United Nations General Assembly declared October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child, to recognize girls' rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world.

<http://www.un.org/en/events/girlchild/index.shtml>

October 18: Persons Day

The historic decision to include women in the legal definition of "persons" was handed down by Canada's highest court of appeal – the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of Great Britain – on October 18, 1929. This gave women the right to be appointed to the Senate of Canada and paved the way for women's increased participation in public and political life.

<http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/pd-jp/index-en.html>

November 25: International Day to End Violence Against Women

In 1999, the United Nations General Assembly designated November 25 as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and invited governments, international organizations and NGOs to organize activities designed to raise public awareness of the problem on that day.

<https://www.un.org/en/events/endviolenceday/>

December 6: National Day of Remembrance and Action

Established in 1991 by the Parliament of Canada, this day marks the anniversary of the murders in 1989 of 14 young women at l'École Polytechnique de Montréal. As well as commemorating the 14 young women whose lives ended in an act of gender-based violence, December 6 represents an opportunity for Canadians to reflect on the phenomenon of violence against women in our society.

<http://www.swc-cfc.gc.ca/commemoration/vaw-vff/remembrance-commemoration-en.html>

December 10: International Human Rights Day

The UN General Assembly first proclaimed this day in 1950 to call attention to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as the common standard for all peoples and all nations.

<http://www.un.org/en/events/humanrightsday>

ORGANIZATIONS

Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies

Elizabeth Fry Societies work with and for women and girls in the justice system, particularly those who are, or may be, criminalized.

<http://www.caefs.ca/>

Canadian Women's Foundation

We empower women and girls in Canada to move out of violence, out of poverty and into confidence.

<http://www.canadianwomen.org/>

Consent is Sexy Campaign

A Sexual Rights Awareness campaign, targeting students in High Schools, Colleges and Universities.

<http://www.consentissexy.net/>

Justice for Girls

Based in Vancouver, B.C., Justice for Girls promotes social justice and an end to violence, poverty and racism in the lives of teenage girls who live in poverty. Justice for Girls' primary areas of action include Criminal Justice Monitoring; Advocacy and Outreach for Girls; Public Education; and promoting girls' human rights, including the Right to Housing and an Adequate Standard of Living, Right to Education, and the Right to a Healthy Environment.

<http://www.justiceforgirls.org>

Native Women's Association of Canada

NWAC is an aggregate of thirteen Native women's organizations from across Canada. It is one of the five officially recognized National Aboriginal Organizations (NAOs) whose purpose is to represent and speak, at the national level, on behalf of Aboriginal women in Canada. They work to advance the well-being of Aboriginal women and girls, as well as their families and communities through activism, policy analysis and advocacy.

<http://www.nwac.ca>

Summer Institute for Union Women

Offers an intensive week of learning in a supportive environment in which union women can develop their skills as workers, activists and leaders. Location varies annually. For more information, contact the BC Federation of Labour: 604-430-1421

Vancouver Rape Relief and Women's Shelter

Advocates for women's equality. The centre works as an active force dedicated to challenge the social attitudes, laws and institutional procedures that perpetuate male violence against women and children.

<http://www.rapereliefshelter.bc.ca/>

WAVAW

WAVAW Rape Crisis Centre works to end all forms of violence against women. Guided by our feminist anti-oppression philosophy we challenge and change thinking, actions, and systems that contribute to violence against women. We provide all women who have experienced any form of sexualized violence with support and healing, and engage with youth to develop leadership for prevention of future violence.

<http://www.wavaw.ca>

West Coast Leaf

The only organization in BC that uses the law to further women's equality. We work to end discrimination against women using equality rights litigation, law reform, and public legal education.

<http://www.westcoastleaf.org/>

YWCA Canada

The country's oldest largest women's multi-service organization. YWCA is the largest national provider of shelter to women, serving 25,000 women, children and teen girls including 6,000 fleeing domestic violence each year. They are the largest provider of literacy, life skills, employment and counselling programs in the country, and the second largest provider of childcare services.

<http://ywcacanada.ca/>

SPEAKERS

Bif Naked

Bif Naked seamlessly flows between many mediums of creative work, enjoying an artistic existence as a recording artist, performance artist, painter, poet, author, and activist.

<http://www.bifnaked.com/>

Brene Brown

Dr. Brené Brown is a research professor at the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work. She has spent the past thirteen years studying vulnerability, courage, worthiness, and shame.

<http://brenebrown.com/>

Comfort Ero

Comfort Ero works for Crisis Group (an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organisation committed to preventing and resolving deadly conflict) as their Nairobi-based Africa Program Director. Her areas of expertise are conflict prevention, management and resolution, mediation, peacekeeping, transitional justice, and politics and international relations of Africa.

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/>

Eve Ensler

Eve Ensler, playwright, performer, and activist is the author of *The Vagina Monologues*. She has devoted her life to stopping violence, envisioning a planet in which girls and women will be free to thrive, rather than merely survive.

www.evensler.org

Igilka Ivanova

Igilka Ivanova is an economist and public interest researcher for The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. She investigates issues and trends in health care, education and social programs, and examines the impact of public services on quality of life.

<https://www.policyalternatives.ca/offices/bc/about/staff>

Katrina Harry

Katrina is a lawyer practicing in areas including child protection law, Aboriginal law, and legal writing.

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Lauryn Oates

Lauryn is a freelance consultant working with non-profit organizations, companies and networks around the world to help them develop their capacity to make social change and to create dynamic, effective programming. She specializes in the fields of education, and

communications for development; and gender equality, women in development and human rights.

<http://keynotespeakerscanada.ca/speaker/lauryn-oates>

Linda Rumleski

Linda works for CAUT as a Special Assistant to the Executive Director. Prior to coming to CAUT, Linda was administrative assistant for CUPE Local 4600, and an executive board member and chair of the local's women's caucus. Linda has taught in women's studies, and during her undergraduate years at the University of Alberta, she hosted her own program on radio CJSR.

<http://www.caut.ca>

Roberta Staley

Magazine writer and editor Roberta Staley brings to light such stories of the human condition, whether they originate in her own community or from remote places around the globe. Encompassing medicine, business, science, the arts, human rights and the environment, Staley's work has garnered numerous journalism awards.

<http://www.robertastaley.ca/>

Ron Couchman

Ron Couchman is the Community Engagement Manager at The White Ribbon Campaign. Ron has spent the past 7 years working in gender justice, violence prevention, and peer support, with a focus on engaging men and boys in positive masculinities.

<http://www.whiteribbon.ca/>

Sharon Mclvor

Sharon Mclvor has worked in the areas of prison reform, violence against women (including aboriginal women), disability rights, aboriginal rights and equality rights. She has played a key leadership role in the Native Women's Association of Canada, is a member of the Feminist Alliance for International Action and the BC CEDAW coalition and is the plaintiff in the famous and life changing Mclvor vs. Canada case, successfully challenging the ongoing discrimination in the Indian Act forcing the government to make amendments to the Act (the "Mclvor" amendments).

Email: smcivor@nvit.bc.ca

FILMS

A Separation

The movie takes place in present-day Iran, a modern nation that attempts to live under Islamic law. The film's story has no quarrel with Islam, but it demonstrates that the inflexible application of the letter of the law may frustrate the spirit of the law. (2011)

Bliss (original title Mutluluk)

Meryem, a young woman of about 17 years old, is believed to have been violated, and her village's customs call for her to be killed to restore honor and dignity to her family and village. A young, newly returned war veteran and son of the village leader, Cemal, is ordered to take Meryem to Istanbul and kill her, but at the last minute he doesn't allow himself to complete the task and the two, now unable to ever return to their village, run away together. (2007)

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0978649/>

Buying Sex

This NFB documentary explores the state of prostitution laws in Canada. *Buying Sex* captures the complexity of the issue by listening to the frequently conflicting voices of sex workers, policy-makers, lawyers and even the male buyers who make their claim for why prostitution is good for society. With the landmark Supreme Court decision in Canada, the film examines the realities in Sweden and New Zealand. The film also challenges us to think for ourselves and offers a gripping and invaluable account of just what is at stake for all of us. (2013)

https://www.nfb.ca/film/buying_sex/

Daughters of Afghanistan

When the hated Taliban were ousted, Afghan women felt their living nightmare was over. Now, they hope to harness the future for their daughters in the former pariah state – despite being left isolated and alone by the international community. Canadian journalist Sally Armstrong follows four women and one girl as they pursue their dreams of liberation. (2003)

Trailer: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AOu9qMbwWVk>

Erin Brockovitch

Based on a true story of an unemployed single mother becomes a legal assistant and almost single-handedly brings down a California power company accused of polluting a city's water supply. (2000)

<http://www.brockovich.com/>

Finding Dawn

A compelling documentary that puts a human face on a national tragedy: the murders and disappearances of an estimated 500 Aboriginal women in Canada over the past 30 years. This is a journey into the dark heart of Native women's experience in Canada. From Vancouver's Skid Row to the Highway of Tears in northern British Columbia, to Saskatoon, this film honours those who have passed and uncovers reasons for hope. *Finding Dawn* illustrates the deep historical,

social and economic factors that contribute to the epidemic of violence against Native women in this country. (2006)

https://www.nfb.ca/film/finding_dawn

Five Feminist Minutes

In 1989, as part of our 15th anniversary, Studio D, the Women's Studio of the National Film Board of Canada, invited women across the country to tell us in five minutes, what was on their minds. Each film was produced independently by the filmmaker as part of the 15th anniversary of Studio D of the National Film Board of Canada, in collaboration with Regards de femmes and NFB production studios across Canada. (1990)

<http://onf-nfb.gc.ca/en/our-collection/?idfilm=26031>

How to Survive the Plague

The story of two coalitions whose activism and innovation turned AIDS from a death sentence into a manageable condition. Despite having no scientific training, these self-made activists infiltrated the pharmaceutical industry and helped identify promising new drugs, moving them from experimental trials to patients in record time. (2012)

<http://surviveaplague.com>

I Was a Teenage Feminist

I Was a Teenage Feminist is a personal journey into a powerful, political movement that once sparked passionate response and social revolution, but now routinely evokes discomfort, indifference and even disdain. (2005)

<https://therese-shechter.squarespace.com/i-was-a-teenage-feminist/>

Lake of Fire

This documentary, shot in black and white, focuses on the heated topic of abortion. Directed by British-born filmmaker Tony Kaye, the production depicts the heated ongoing abortion debate in America, and features graphic footage of actual medical procedures. Presenting people on both pro-choice and pro-life sides of the issue, the documentary includes interviews with philosopher and political activist Noam Chomsky, anti-abortion activist Randall Terry and numerous others. (2006)

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-b6h0lsiQcw>

Made in Dagenham

Set in the 1960s, *Made in Dagenham* is a dramatization of the 1968 strike at the Ford Dagenham car plant, where female workers walked out in protest against sexual discrimination. (2010)

<http://www.sonyclassics.com/madeindagenham/>

Miss Representation

The film exposes how mainstream media contribute to the under-representation of women in positions of power and influence in America. (2011)

<http://film.missrepresentation.org/>

Mothers Courage, Thriving Survivors

Filmmaker Léo Kalinda narrates this documentary “to the memory of my massacred family.” Interweaving archival footage with courageous stories from survivors of the 1994 Rwanda genocide, Kalinda is able to bring semi-closure to understanding the genocide, loss of his mother, extended family members, neighbors and friends. (2005)

North Country

A fictionalized account of the first major successful sexual harassment case in the United States -- Jenson vs. Eveleth Mines, where a woman who endured a range of abuse while working as a miner filed and won the landmark 1984 lawsuit. (2005)

Orgasm Inc

Orgasm Inc is a powerful look inside the medical industry and the marketing campaigns that are literally and figuratively reshaping our everyday lives around health, illness, desire — and that ultimate moment: orgasm. (2009)

<http://www.orgasminc.org/>

Payback

Based on Margaret Atwood’s bestselling and visionary work, *Payback: Debt and the Shadow Side of Wealth*, *Payback* offers a fascinating look at debt: how it influences relationships, societies, governing structures and even the fate of the planet. (2011)

<https://www.nfb.ca/film/payback>

Persepolis

Based on Satrapi's graphic novel about her life in pre and post-revolutionary Iran and then in Europe. The story follows a young girl as she comes of age against the backdrop of the Iranian Revolution. (2007)

<http://www.sonypictures.com/movies/persepolis/>

Pink Ribbons Inc

A feature documentary that shows how the devastating reality of breast cancer, which marketing experts have labeled a "dream cause," has been hijacked by a shiny, pink story of success. (2011)

http://www.nfb.ca/film/pink_ribbons_inc/trailer/pink_ribbons_inc_trailer/

Polytechnique

Based on the true events that occurred on December 6, 1989, at the Montreal's Polytechnique School, the movie tells us about that specific day through the eyes of two students, Valerie and Jean-Francois, whose lives have been changed forever, when a young man entered the school with one idea in mind: kill himself and take with him as many women as possible. (2009)

Trailer https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_H17moBp2o

Positive Women: Exposing Injustice

Positive Women: Exposing Injustice is a 45-minute documentary film that tells the personal stories of four women living with HIV in Canada. (2012)

www.positivewomenthemovie.org

Rebelle

Somewhere in Sub-Saharan Africa, Komona, a 14-year-old girl, tells her unborn child growing inside her the story of her life since she has been at war. Everything started when she was abducted by the rebel army at the age of 12. (2012)

<http://www.rebelle-lefilm.ca/english/>

The Magdalene Sisters

A film about 3 young women who, under tragic circumstances, see themselves cast away to a Magdalene Asylum for young women in 1964. The asylum, one of many that existed in theocratic Catholic Ireland, is for supposedly 'fallen' women. The asylums are run like prisons and young girls are forced to do workhouse laundry and hard labor. As the girls bond together, it soon becomes clear that the only way out of the Magdalene convent is to escape. (2002)

<http://miramax.com/movie/the-magdalene-sisters/>

The Vagina Monologues

A performance of a series of essays on women, their bodies, and the language they used to communicate about themselves. (2002)

<http://www.evensler.org/films/movies/the-vagina-monologues/>

The World Before Her

Women from across India arrive for an intense, month-long beauty boot camp. They are the hand-picked contestants for the Miss India pageant. Winning the coveted title means instant stardom, a lucrative career path and, for some girls, freedom from the constraints of a patriarchal society. As the contestants move through beauty boot camp, in another corner of India, there is an annual camp for young girls run by the Durgha Vahini, the women's wing of the militant fundamentalist movement. Through lectures and physical combat training, the girls learn what it means to be good Hindu women and how to fight against Islam, Christianity and Western influences by any means necessary. The Indian government says these camps promote terrorism and is trying to ban them. Until now, they have never been filmed. These young women may represent opposing extremes but in their hearts they share a common dream: to help shape the future of India as she meets the world before her. (2012)

www.worldbeforeher.com

Tough Guise

Tough Guise systematically examines the relationship between pop-cultural imagery and the social construction of masculine identities in the U.S. at the dawn of the 21st century. (2000)

Whale Rider

Based on the novel of the same name by Witi Ihimaera, the film stars Kahu Paikea Apirana, a twelve-year-old Maori girl who wants to become the chief of the tribe. Her grandfather Koro believes that this is a role reserved for males only. (2002)

<http://www.whaleriderthemovie.co.nz>

PLAYS

Dissolve

Dissolve confronts the topic of drink spiking and drug facilitated sexual assault.

<http://www.shamelesshussy.com/our-productions/articles/8.php>

Stalled

Stalled, explores the unexpected, and sometimes unwanted, communication initiated behind the gendered doors of public restrooms. Comprised of a series of vignettes, *Stalled* visits a diverse group of restrooms, from a bowling alley to a gay bar, from a dorm to an art museum, each inspiring a different set of humorous interactions.

Words from Prison

Any One Of Us: Words From Prison evolved from a decade long writing group with Eve Ensler and 15 women at Bedford Hill's Correctional Facility. A collection of stories written from the fierce and honest voices from the original 15 women, the piece is combined with additional writings from women in prisons across the nation. The stories move toward healing, understanding, and change with the ultimate goal of using their writing and voices to impact policy, laws and treatment of incarcerated women. Together these writings reveal the deep connection between women in prison and the violence that often brings them there.

http://vspot.vday.org/uploads/resource_downloads/en/19/AOOU2013 - Script.en.pdf

MUSIC

Ani DeFranco

An American singer, guitarist, multi-instrumentalist, poet and songwriter. She has released more than 20 albums and is widely considered a feminist icon.

<http://www.righteousbabe.com>

Femmes Fatales

From Nanaimo, British Columbia, The Femme Fatales are a high-energy, versatile, cover dance band that is taking hold of Vancouver Island's music scene with strong vocals and thick harmonies.

“Gunpowder and Lead” - Miranda Lambert

The lyrics focus on the narrator, who tells of her plans to shoot her abusive husband once he is let out of jail. (2008)

“I Am Woman” - Helen Reddy

A song celebrating female empowerment, it became an enduring anthem for the women's liberation movement. (1972)

<http://helenreddy.com/>

“Independence Day” - Martina McBride

The Lyrics are a depiction of domestic violence and how everyone in town knew about it, but did nothing to help stop it. The song implies that the wife burns her home down, and the abusive husband perishes in the fire. (1994)

“Just a Girl” — No Doubt

As the leader of a rock band comprised of men, Gwen Stefani's mere presence was an affront to the status quo. She used the experience to point out society's absurd notion of women as fragile beings in this all-time classic about what a girl can and can't do. (1995)

“Keep Ya Head Up” — Tupac

A song by a man, Tupac showed immense empathy in this 1993 single, asking a number of questions often wondered by the female sex: “Why do we rape our women, do we hate our women?” Tupac finds multiple ways to point out that women hold the power in their ability to give birth, men have taken them for granted, and we need to make changes in our gender relations for the good of future generations. (1993)

“Morning Train” - Sheena Easton

The Lyrics are about a woman who waits at home all day for her man to come home from work. (1980)

“Respect” — Aretha Franklin

Aretha Franklin’s signature song is and will always be an all-time anthem. In an era when speaking out for women’s rights wasn’t expected from pop songs, Franklin’s tweaking of Otis Redding’s original was bold but still instantly iconic, representing the changing times of the late ‘60s. (1967)

“She Works Hard for the Money”- Donna Summer

The song is a tribute to the working woman. (1983)

Sleater-Kinney

An American rock band that formed in Olympia, Washington, in 1994. Sleater-Kinney is a key part of the riot grrrl and indie rock scenes in the Pacific Northwest. The band is also known for its feminist and left-leaning politics.

<http://www.sleater-kinney.com/>

Tongue and Groove

A trio from Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. This groups supports feminist/anarchist lyrics with a variety of grooves.

<http://music.cbc.ca/#/artists/Tongue-and-Groove>

“What It Feels Like For A Girl” — Madonna

Opening with a passage from the Charlotte Gainsbourg film *The Cement Garden*, “What It Feels Like For A Girl” highlighted the silencing behavior expected of women starting in childhood with lines like, “When you open your mouth to speak, could you be a little weak?” (2000)

BOOKS

Bad Feminist (Roxane Gay)

In these funny and insightful essays, Roxane Gay takes us through the journey of her evolution as a woman of color while also taking readers on a ride through culture of the last few years and commenting on the state of feminism today. This collection covers everything from how to be friends with another woman to writing about women's weight and reproductive rights to holding out for a hero. (2014)

By Snowshoe, Buckboard and Steamer: Women of the Frontier

The lives of four pioneer women in nineteenth-century British Columbia come alive in this historical biography. Florence Agassiz, Eleanor Fellows, Violet Sillitoe, and Helen Kate Woods lived and travelled throughout British Columbia in the nineteenth century and left detailed accounts of their adventures in journals, letters, and sketches. Kathryn Bridge has incorporated these rare sources in her historical narrative, which reveals the enormous courage, determination and compassion of these pioneering women. (1998)

Feminism Without Borders: Decolonizing Theory, Practicing Solidarity (Chandra Mohanty)

Feminism without Borders addresses some of the most pressing and complex issues facing contemporary feminism. Forging vital links between daily life and collective action and between theory and pedagogy, Mohanty has been at the vanguard of Third World and international feminist thought and activism for nearly two decades. This collection highlights the concerns running throughout her pioneering work: the politics of difference and solidarity, decolonizing and democratizing feminist practice, the crossing of borders, and the relation of feminist knowledge and scholarship to organizing and social movements. Mohanty offers here a sustained critique of globalization and urges a reorientation of transnational feminist practice toward anti-capitalist struggles. (2003)

Full Frontal Femism: A Young Woman's Guide to Why Feminism Matters (Jessica Valenti)

The 2007 revised edition includes a new foreword by Valenti, reflecting upon what's happened in the five years since Full Frontal Feminism was originally published. With new openers from Valenti in every chapter, the book covers a range of topics, including pop culture, health, reproductive rights, violence, education, relationships, and more. (2007)

Gender Trouble: Feminism and Subversion of Identity (Judith Butler)

Arguing that traditional feminism is wrong to look to a natural, 'essential' notion of the female, or indeed of sex or gender, Butler starts by questioning the category 'woman' and continues in this vein with examinations of 'the masculine' and 'the feminine'. Best known however, is Butler's concept of gender as a reiterated social *performance* rather than the expression of a prior reality. (republished 2006)

Granta 115 (May 1, 2011) – The F Word

Granta has published many of the world's finest writers tackling some of the world's most important subjects, from intimate human experiences to the large public and political events

that have shaped our lives. This edition is a collection by female poets, writers and photographers.

Headstrong: 52 Women Who Changed Science-and the World (Rachel Swaby)

Fifty-two inspiring and insightful profiles of history's brightest female scientists, covering Nobel Prize winners and major innovators, as well as lesser-known but hugely significant scientists who influence our every day. (2015)

Herstory: Women Who Changed the World

A collection of short biographies offers insightful sketches of the lives and accomplishments of 150 of history's most influential and brilliant women, including Clara Barton, the legendary Trung Sisters of medieval Vietnam, and many others. (1995)

Lean In: Women, Work, and the Will To Lead

Thirty years after women became 50 percent of the college graduates in the United States, men still hold the vast majority of leadership positions in government and industry. This means that women's voices are still not heard equally in the decisions that most affect our lives. Sheryl Sandberg examines why women's progress in achieving leadership roles has stalled, explains the root causes, and offers compelling, common sense solutions that can empower women to achieve their full potential. (2013)

Sheros (Varla Ventura)

Profiling 200 real and fictional women who dared, women who rock, and women who rule, this book features the low-down on Dana Scully, Rosa Parks, Foxy Brown, Wonder Woman, Emma Peel, Thelma and Louise, Mary Richards, and Eleanor Roosevelt, among others. (1998)

Spinster (Kate Bolick)

Using her own experiences as a starting point, journalist and cultural critic Kate Bolick invites readers into her carefully considered, passionately lived life, weaving together the past and present to examine why she—along with over 100 million American women, whose ranks keep growing—remains unmarried. This inquisitive memoir and cultural exploration asks us to acknowledge the opportunities within ourselves to live authentically. (2015)

The Abramson Effect

With her shocking dismissal in the spring of 2014, former New York Times editor Jill Abramson can now be added to the list of women who have been hired to run large, prominent corporations only to be publicly fired soon thereafter. This troubling trend, often referred to as the glass cliff, raises important questions about the challenges that confront women and minorities in the workplace, and the prejudices that still surround those who make it to the top. In *The Abramson Effect*, Barnard College president Debora Spar explores how far women have come from the days when career options were limited to secretary, teacher, and nurse, but also, as illustrated by Jill Abramson's case, how far we have left to go. (2014)

The Blazing World (Siri Hustvedt)

Hustvedt's novel has sexism as its main theme: It's about a female artist named Harriet Burden who did not get critical acclaim for her work, ostensibly because of the art world's sexism. So she plays a JT LeRoy-style trick on the world that spurned her. She begins to put her work out under the names of three different men to see what the critical response will be. (2014)

The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou was an American author, poet, and civil rights activist. The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou contains her five books of poetry, published between 1971—1990. (1994)

Underground Girls of Kabul: In Search of Hidden Resistance in Afghanistan (Jenny Nordberg)

An amazing look at the curious practice of *bacha posh* in Afghanistan: dressing daughters as sons. The book highlights the economic and cultural situations that have made sons and reputations so highly prized--and made women almost worthless. The author creates intimate, revealing portraits of girls and their families as they navigate contemporary Afghan society as girls disguised as boys. (2014)

Vagina (Naomi Wolf)

An astonishing work that radically changes how we think about, talk about and understand the vagina - and consequently how we think about women and sexuality - from Naomi Wolf, one of our most respected cultural critics and author of the modern classic, *The Beauty Myth*. (2012)

We Should All Be Feminists (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie)

What does "feminism" mean today? That is the question at the heart of this personal, eloquently-argued essay—adapted from her much-viewed Tedx talk of the same name. She draws extensively on her own experiences—in the U.S., in her native Nigeria, and abroad—offering an artfully nuanced explanation of why the gender divide is harmful for women and men, alike. (2014)

Women Who Changed the World: 50 Inspirational Women Who Shaped History

This book features 50 women who "are outstanding individuals who achieved exceptional things in the major fields of human endeavor--politics, literature, art, science, music, social reform, entertainment, sport, and adventure." Each woman's life story is told in a 3-page mini-biography. (2006)

WEBSITES

<http://feministing.com>

A feminist blog founded in 2004 by Jessica Valenti. Its purpose is to make feminism more accessible to young women through giving an Internet presence for young feminists.

<http://hellogiggles.com/>

A positive online community for women (although men are always welcome!) covering the latest in culture, female empowerment, style, relationships, friendship, careers, and issues that matter most to young women's lives. A platform for writers and artists to create and share, it welcomes reader contributions and publishes them daily. Founded by Zooey Deschanel, Molly McAleer, and Sophia Rossi in 2011.

<http://jezebel.com/>

A blog aimed at women's interests, under the tagline "Celebrity, Sex, Fashion for Women. Without Airbrushing." It is one of several blogs owned by Gawker Media.

<http://www.msomagazine.com/>

An American liberal feminist magazine co-founded by second-wave feminists and sociopolitical activists Gloria Steinem and Dorothy Pittman Hughes. Since 2001, the magazine has been published by the Feminist Majority Foundation. Ms. boasts the most extensive coverage of international women's issues of any magazine available in the United States.

<http://rhrealitycheck.org/>

A daily publication providing news, commentary and analysis on sexual and reproductive health and justice issues.

<http://www.thefword.org.uk/>

An online magazine dedicated to talking about and sharing ideas on contemporary UK feminism. Topics range from body and health, culture and media, and feminism to politics and current affairs, religion, violence and more.

<http://www.womensmediacenter.com/>

Founded in 2005 as a non-profit progressive women's media organization by Jane Fonda, Robin Morgan, and Gloria Steinem. WMC works with the media to ensure that women's stories are told and women's voices are heard.

<http://www.xojane.com/>

Written and created by an entirely devoted community of women (and some token males) who have strong ideas, identities and opinions, who are living what they are writing about. It is where women go to be their selves, and where their unabashed selves are applauded -- regardless of age, size, ability, location, occupation, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, economic status, relationship status, sexual preferences or lifestyle choices.

STREAMING VIDEOS

Sheryl Sandberg: Why we have too few women leaders

Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg looks at why a smaller percentage of women than men reach the top of their professions -- and offers 3 powerful pieces of advice to women. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18uDutylDa4>

TED: Women

A collection of TED Talks (and more) on the topic of women. <https://www.ted.com/topics/women>

ARTICLES

"Instruments of Oppression" – Huffington Post

An in-depth discussion about the U.S. policy (the Helms amendment) that prevents American aid from being used to pay for abortions - not even for women who are raped in conflict or who would die without the procedure. "Obama could change this with a single executive action," writes Bassett. "Why hasn't he?" (2015)

<http://highline.huffingtonpost.com/articles/en/kenya-abortion/?ncid=fbklnkushpmg00000046>

"Monica Lewinsky Is Back, But This Time It's On Her Terms" – The New York Times

Monica Lewinsky became famous (or perhaps infamous is the better word) in her early 20s under less-than-ideal circumstances. Now, in her early 40s, Lewinsky is taking back her narrative. Bennett's writing helps capture the current sensibilities of a woman who was once known only as the object of scorn and scandal. (2015)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/03/22/style/monica-lewinsky-is-back-but-this-time-its-on-her-terms.html? r=0>

"Nobody Wants To Be The Girl On A Diet" – The New York Magazine

Bans explores women's complicated relationship to beauty standards and the effort required to meet them. She outlines a deeply uncomfortable truth: We want women to be conventionally beautiful and thin, but there are few labels more undesirable than "the girl who watches what she eats." Bans points out that it's impossible to win. "Rather, we choose," she writes. "If dropping 15 pounds means canceling all future dinner dates, developing fake sudden-onset allergies to alcohol and gluten, and buying a food scale, I choose 15 pounds." (2014)

<http://nymag.com/thecut/2014/11/nobody-wants-to-be-the-girl-on-a-diet.html>

"Why Didn't You Just Leave?" – The Huffington Post

"Why didn't you just leave?" is an ignorant question that gets thrown at many survivors of intimate partner violence. Jeltsen helped six women use their own voices to explain exactly why it's never that simple. Read (and listen) to all six stories. Each stands on its own, but together, they paint an even more powerful picture. (2014)

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/09/12/why-didnt-you-just-leave_n_5805134.html

"Why Women Still Can't Have It All" – The Atlantic

Anne-Marie Slaughter's article ignited a media debate around women in the workforce. She states that women who have managed to be both mothers and top professionals are superhuman, rich, or self-employed. Slaughter places the blame upon the institutions and current structure of American society for the gender gap at the top. She points to her experience holding a high-profile position in government as the moment when she realized it was impossible to balance her responsibilities as a parent and a professional and continue to

meet her high expectations of each role. She argues that if women are ever to achieve real equality as leaders, then they have to stop accepting male behavior and male choices as the default and the ideal. (2012)

<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2012/07/why-women-still-cant-have-it-all/309020/>

“Why Do I Make Less Than My Male Co Stars?” – Jennifer Lawrence

<http://us11.campaign-archive1.com/?u=a5b04a26aae05a24bc4efb63e&id=64e6f35176&e=1ba99d671e#wage>