

Jasvinder Sanghera - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

en wikipedia.org/wiki/Jasvinder_Sanghera

Jasvinder Sanghera is an activist and advocate for women's rights who was born in Derby. She is the co-founder of Karma Nirvana, a community-based project ...

Jasvinder Sanghera - Women in the World Foundation

womenintheworld.org/stories/.../woman-of-the-week-jasvinder-sangh.. Mar 22, 2012 - For Jasvinder Sanghera, 45, it was the prospect of a forced marriage ... Derby, England, Sanghera had been promised to him since she was 8.

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Karma Nirvana

www.karmanirvana.org.uk/

... ENLIGHTENMENT 'Honour-based violence happens behind closed doors, but it is there, creeping like a cancer through our society' - Jasvinder Sanghera ...

Shame by Jasvinder Sanghera - Reviews, Discussion, Bookclubs ...

www.goodreads.com/book/show/477816.Shame

Rating: 3.8 - 231 votes Shame has 231 ratings and 37 reviews. Nazia said: True story, it describes some harsh realities about Jasvinder's past life. A review I read by a reader...

Jasvinder Sanghera (Jas Sanghera KN) on Twitter

https://twitter.com/Jas_Sanghera_KN Instantly connect to what's most important to you. Follow your friends, experts, favorite celebrities, and breaking news.

'Honor' crime: Why just kissing a boy can trigger murder - CNN.com www.cnn.com/2012/08/24/world/europe/uk...sanghera/index.html Aug 24, 2012 - London (CNN) - Jasvinder Sanghera was eight years old when she was promised in marriage to a man she had never met. When, six years ...

Jasvinder Sanghera | Society | The Guardian

www.guardian.co.uk > News > Society Latest news and comment on Jasvinder Sanghera from guardian.co.uk,

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www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/jasvinder-sangerha Nov 28, 2011 - Jasvinder Sangerha is a high-profile survivor of early and forced marriage, award winning author and Cosmopolitan magazine's 'Ultimate ...

Trust Women - Jasvinder Sanghera

www.trustwomenconf.com/profile/jasvinder-sanghera/ Jasvinder Sanghera. Founder of Karma Nirvana. United Kingdom. Twitter Facebook. A survivor of a forced marriage & founder of Karma Nirvana now a leading ...

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'Multicultural sensitivity is no excuse for moral blindness' Mike O'Brien

CAMPAIGNS

A wise man once said that the best time to influence the life chances of a child is about one hundred years before it is born. And that's what we say too.

The NEXT GENERATION schools campaign, what's the big idea?

At Karma Nirvana, we're serious about saving the next generation from the cycle of forced marriage and honour-based violence.

Our campaign has four goals:

- greater personal accountability from teaching professionals who fail to investigate 'disappearances' from the school register, which could result in head teachers being removed from their post if they fail to investigate cases of missing children.
- a poster campaign rolled out to all UK secondary schools, starting with those in areas of highest risk
- one PSHE assembly dedicated to the subject of forced marriage/honour-based violence for every UK
 pupil under the age of 16. If a pupil misses this due to absence, he/she should receive information
 personally.
- a trained honour violence specialist to be made available to every at-risk pupil, 2 on hand in every school.

Defeating the scandal of forced marriage and honour-based violence is one of the most serious and urgent moral challenges the UK faces today.

Don't let it happen to the next generation of children. Stop what you're doing, click here and sign our schools petition. It will cost nothing more than a minute of your time – and it could make the difference between life and death for a child victim of abuse.

And help us take this message to every single person in the UK:Ca

It's not culture; it's abuse.

PETITION



Join us in asking the Government to protect child victims of honour-based abuse by signing our NEXT GENERATION e-petition

READ MORE

MP PLEDGE



Support Karma Nirvana's NEXT GENERATION schools campaign, by writing to your MP.

Download our letter

FIND YOUR MP

WHAT THE LAW SAYS

Campaigns

Forced marriage is recognised in the UK as a form of domestic violence, child abuse and a serious abuse of human rights.

READ MORE

Useful Resources Forced Marriage Protection Order Karma Nirvana Leaflet Survivor Empowerment Do's & Don'ts Karma Nirvana Poster

Increased Reporting, Reduce Isolation, Save Lives

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Women everywhere, of all cultures, merit access to education and basic human rights.

Home > News > Events > The AHA Foundation Honor Violence Symposium

The AHA Foundation Honor Violence Symposium

June 6, 2011

On June 6th, 2011, the AHA Foundation held the first ever conference on honor violence and forced marriage in the United States. By all accounts, it was a huge success and a day we know will save lives!

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Ayaan addressed an audience full of NYPD, FBI, criminal justice practitioners, domestic violence shelters and service providers on Honor Violence 101. She spoke about the unique circumstances facing Muslim women and girls in an honor-based culture, the challenges facing law enforcement when confronting these cases, and the differences between honor violence and traditional Western domestic violence. She reviewed six cases of honor violence from Queens to ¹¹ustrate that these crimes are happening on a local scale.

10/3/12

The AHA Foundation Honor Violence Symposium | The AHA Foundation



Nazir Afzal OBE, Director of the UK's Crown Prosecution Service

Our next keynote speaker was Nazir Afzal OBE, Director of the UK's Crown Prosecution Service. He discussed the UK's response to honor crime, forced marriage and female genital mutilation. During his lecture, he emphasized the need for everyone to believe victims who seek their help. When speaking of forced marriage, he pointed out that the forced marriage is often just the beginning of the abuse. In investigating and prosecuting honor killings, he said they should be handled like organized crime as often the entire family is involved. Finally, he spoke of the importance of educating everyone, starting with young children, on human rights, in order to stop the pattern of violence.

The AHA Foundation Honor Violence Symposium | The AHA Foundation



Laura Reckart, lead prosecutor in Arizona v. Almaleki

Following Nazir, we were extremely fortunate to be joined by Laura Reckart, lead prosecutor in Arizona v. Almaleki, the first case in the U.S. where an honor violence theory was successfully used to obtain a conviction of a father who murdered his daughter, along with Detective Chris Boughey, who led the investigation into the murder. They spoke in detail about the investigation, the challenges faced and the trial, including their disappointment with the verdict. Their belief is that Almaleki should have been convicted of first-degree murder rather than the lesser charge of second-degree murder as they clearly proved premeditation.

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Sabatina James, founder of Sabatina EV

Sabatina James, founder of Sabatina EV, an award-winning German foundation set up to protect Muslim women from violence and oppression, and a victim of forced marriage, told her story, including problems she encountered when seeking help from shelters, police and government agencies. She discussed the fact that her father lied to social workers to ensure her return home and emphasized that people who immigrate to the U.S. do not leave their cultures at the airport. The AHA Foundation Honor Violence Symposium | The AHA Foundation



Professor Ric Curtis of John Jay College of Criminal Justice

We were all gratified when, during a panel discussion led by Professor Ric Curtis of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, one attendee stood up to say that she would do her job at the DA's office differently the next day, thanks to information and awareness she gained at the conference.



- Keynote Lecture: Ayaan Hirsi Ali (Video)
- Keynote Lecture: Nazir Afzal (Video)
- Y Keynote Lecture: Reckart, Boughey (Video)
- Keynote Lecture: Ayaan Hirsi Ali (PDF)
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The AHA Foundation Honor Violence Symposium | The AHA Foundation

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Rachel Lloyd

trafficking

Rachel Lloyd on sex

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Sex Trafficking

With millions of women and girls bound in the international sex trade, sex trafficking has earned a fitting epithet: modern-day slavery.

It's difficult to estimate just how many women and girls are impacted by sex trafficking, in part because you can't easily divide sex workers into those who are working voluntarily and involuntarily. But in their book Half the Sky, Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn estimate that around 3 million women and girls (and a small number of boys) worldwide are currently enslaved in the sex trade — bought, held and

forced into commercial sex work against their will. This figure may even be on the conservative side, as it doesn't account for people who were intimidated into prostitution or the millions more under 18 who can't consent to working in brothels.

The U.S. State Department's tally is lower, with estimates that between 600,000 and 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders each year. Eighty percent of those trafficked are women and girls, mostly for sexual exploitation. But these figures overlook the millions more victims who are trafficked annually within their own national borders.

John Stanmeyer / VII

Whichever figure you choose, the outcome is the same — far more women and girls are shipped into brothels annually now, in the early 21st century, than African slaves were shipped into slave plantations each year in the 18th century.

And the problem of sex slavery is getting worse.

Trafficking for sexual exploitation is one of the fastest-growing organized crimes, generating \$27.8 billion each year. The collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and Indochina, which opened up markets for commercial sex, and globalization have added to the problem. So has the fear of AIDS, leading some customers to prefer younger girls, whom they think are less likely to be infected. Some men target virgins, believing the girls can cure AIDS.

Alex Majoli / Magnum

As the sex trade continues to grow, it also self-perpetuates. Once girls are sold into sex slavery, they often know nothing else and are so stigmatized that they remain in the trade, even when that means selling sex voluntarily. Drugs and other addictions can also work to keep women tied to brothels.

There is no easy solution to ending the complex issue of sex trafficking, but there are small steps you can take. With enough political will, we could begin to hold governments accountable not only to pass laws but also to enforce them. Officials worldwide should be under pressure to shut down jail-like brothels, investigate criminals buying underage girls, and crack down on corruption and trafficking across borders.

Every abolition movement begins with expressing our discontent and demands.

More Resources

To learn more and watch additional videos visit <u>Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women</u> <u>Worldwide on PBS (http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/half-the-sky/)</u>.

Narrated by actress and humanitarian Lucy Liu, "<u>The Road to Traffik (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3Pc-FgEB7k&feature=player_embedded)</u>" reveals the shocking world of sex trafficking that Somaly Mam, a former Cambodia sex slave, is heroically waging a crusade to expose and end. The filmmakers accompany photographer Norman Jean Roy



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(http://twitter.com/suemonkkidd published: The Girl God-a magica illustrated children's book that er girls in a new way <u>http://t.co/xQ1</u> (http://t.co/xQ1AA) ... on his painful journey to document the brutal rape and suffering that thousands of children face daily in the brothels of Cambodia and Southeast Asia.

See jewelry and bags made by survivors of sex trafficking at the Made by Survivors store

(http://www.madebysurvivors.com/), whose mission is to end slavery through economic empowerment and education, giving survivors and people at the highest risk the tools they need to build safe, independent, slavery-free lives.

Top left photo : Bruno Barbey / Magnum





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Forced Prostitution

While sex trafficking often grabs the headlines and attention, there are many other ways in which women and girls are forced into lives of prostitution. No matter how a girl enters prostitution — whether she is responding to the pressures of her circumstances or is actually coerced - the experience leaves a lasting imprint on her future.

Economic necessity, a lack of employment options, drug addiction or coercion by family, pimps or traffickers are all factors that can force women into sexual slavery. Paradoxically, it's the countries with the most straitlaced and sexually conservative societies, such as India, Pakistan and Iran, that have disproportionately large numbers of forced prostitutes. Since having sex with girlfriends may not be an option for most men in these cultures, prostitutes have become an acceptable solution.

Alex Majoli / Magnum

Take India, for example. There are 2 million to 3 million prostitutes in

India, a significant number of whom entered the sex industry unwillingly. One study found that of Indian and Nepali prostitutes who began as teenagers, about half said they had been coerced into the brothels. Meanwhile women who started in their 20s were more likely to have made the choices themselves, often to feed their children.

In some countries with strong class hierarchies, certain lower-class women are practically born into prostitution. In India and Nepal, for example, where the caste system is strong, girls from certain castes are pushed into prostitution from a young age, many times by their mothers. Some studies report that close to 90 percent of sex workers' daughters in India join the profession.

Once a girl or women enters prostitution it can be hard to leave. It's not uncommon for pimps to use a variety of methods to force women to continue serving as prostitutes. Often, they lure girls with alcohol or drugs, build up their dependency and use this addiction as a means of control. They may also threaten girls with the shame they might bring on their families if they leave or the punishments they might suffer if they go to the police.

Joachim Ladefoged / VII

But a study of nine countries showed that 89 percent of people in prostitution do want to escape. As a result, many girls or women who are enslaved in prostitution eventually come to accept their circumstances as fate, and resign themselves to selling sex because they perceive themselves to have no other options. A study of prostitutes in nine countries showed that 70 to 95 percent had been physically assaulted; 68 percent suffered post-traumatic stress disorder.

Educating and empowering women and girls is key to helping them escape and stay out of prostitution. Various groups globally are using this strategy. One example is New Light (http://www.newlightindia.org/), an organization in one of the oldest red light areas of Kolkata, India, which attracts sex workers from the city, Bangladesh and Nepal. The group provides shelter, education, health care and legal aid for high-risk children, girls and women in the community.

New Light (http://www.newlightindia.org/) is just one group doing this type of work. By supporting such organizations, be it through donating our time or money, we can work to help combat the vicious and complex cycle of forced prostitution.

More Resources

To learn more and watch additional videos visit Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide on PBS (http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/half-the-sky/). (http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/half-the-<u>sky/)</u>



(#) Ruchira Gupta

Ruchira Gupta discusses prostitution as the "absence of choice."



Mary Ellen Iskenderian on how a small loan can create better opportunities for a girl.



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<u>GEMS (http://www.gems-girls.org/)</u> is an organization designed to serve girls and young women who have experienced commercial sexual exploitation and domestic trafficking. Watch the <u>trailer (http://www.gems-girls.org/get-involved/very-young-girls)</u> for their 2007 documentary *Very Young Girls*.

<u>Appe Aap (http://appeaap.org/index.php)</u> organizes small groups of women and girls at risk or affected by trafficking into self-empowerment groups across India to access three fundamental rights – education, dignified livelihood and legal empowerment. See <u>photos</u>

(<u>https://picasaweb.google.com/107997934964026223955/GloriaSteinemSVisitToApneAapProgramsInForbesganjBihar</u>) of Gloria Steinem's visit to Apne Aap programs in Forbesganj, Bihar.

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Gender-Based Violence

Gender-based violence is both persistent and widespread, and ranks as top public health crisis for women in the world today. In fact, women aged 15 through 45 are more likely to be maimed or die from male violence than from cancer, malaria, traffic accidents and war combined.

This violence can take many different forms, and is constantly mutating into new forms, be it acid attacks, bride burnings, rape or domestic violence. Often this violence is perpetrated by those closest to a woman. Surveys suggest that about one-third of all women globally face beatings in the home. Another major study found that in most countries between 30 and 60 percent of women had experienced physical or sexual violence by a husband or a boyfriend. The figures for female murder by male partners are also astounding: Up to 70 percent of female murder victims are killed by their male partners, according to the World Health Organization.

In some countries, female genital mutilation is also a growing concern. Over 135 million girls and women have undergone genital mutilation and 2 million more girls are at risk each year. "Honor" killings, in which a woman's relative murders her for disgracing the family, can also be a concern in parts of the world. They too are on the rise.

Dominic Nahr / Magnum

Many governments across the globe continue to turn a blind eye to this violence. To date, 603 million women live in countries where domestic violence is not outlawed and more than 2.6 billion live in countries where rape within marriage is not considered a crime. Without legal retribution, assailants rarely face consequences for their actions and

the victims are less likely to report the abuse. In some cases, women are concerned that they will be the ones punished if they report the violence. Other times rape and sexual assault are so stigmatized that the victim stays silent even if there are laws in place.

Rape and these other abuses often work to keep women down, and there can be enormous economic, social and health consequences. Women who have experienced such violence can suffer isolation and depression and have increased drug and alcohol dependency or even poor reproductive health. They may become unable to work or care for their families.

While laws are important to help combat this violence, the main solution is to change the way people think. Two things lie behind gender-based violence: sexism and misogyny. And it's not just the men: women too adhere to discriminatory social customs, and frequently are the ones to transmit to the next generation. For instance, women are often the managers of brothels in poor countries or the ones who demand that their daughters' genitals are cut.

Since these attitudes are embedded in culture, they will only change with education and local leadership. But outsiders can play a role in creating change too, in part by shining a spotlight on these harmful and sexist attitudes and traditions. By not speaking out we too are helping to quietly sanction this violence against women.

More Resources

To learn more and watch additional videos visit Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide on PBS (http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/half-the-sky/).

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Desmond Tutu on the need to change harmful traditional practices.

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traditional practices.

Rachel Lloyd

based violence

Rachel Lloyd on gender-

Desmond Tutu



Rachel Lloyd on genderbased violence in the United States.



The International Rescue Committee (http://www.rescue.org) and writer/photographer Ann Jones worked together on "A Global Crescendo: Womens Voices from Conflict Zones" in 2007 and 2008, documenting violence against women in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire), Sierra Leone and Thailand. The work of these local women can be seen in this video (http://www.rescue.org/video/video-womens-voices-conflict-zones).

Photographer Melanie Blanding has been documenting violence against women and her work can be seen <u>here</u> (<u>http://www.melanieblanding.com/index2.php#/fgallery/1/</u>).

Top left photo : Lynsey Addario / VII

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Maternal Mortality

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Risk may not be the first thing that many associate with pregnancy, often considered a joyous experience. But for too many women, especially in the developing world, pregnancy and childbirth can pose serious health risks. For some, it can even serve as a death sentence.

Around 1,000 women die from pregnancy- or childbirth-related complications globally every day, according to the World Health Organization. That's one every 90 seconds. Some 99 percent of maternal deaths occur in poor countries, particularly in Africa and Asia.

The most common way to measure these deaths is the maternal mortality ratio (MMR), which is the number of maternal deaths for every 100,000 live births. For women in developed countries the average is only 14 maternal deaths for every 100,000 live births. Compare this to developing countries, where the average MMR is 290 deaths for 100,000 births. In sub-Saharan Africa it's even worse, at 900. The risk is highest for young women under 15, and those living in rural areas and poorer and less educated communities.

More pregnancies can also increase the chances of dying. Since those in developing countries have on average more pregnancies than women in developed countries, this adds to their lifetime risk. For example, the risk of dying in childbirth in sub-Saharan Africa is 1 in 22, while in the United States it's 1 in 4,800.

Some of the leading causes of maternal deaths are severe bleeding, infections, eclampsia, obstructed labor and unsafe abortions. And for every woman who dies in childbirth, at least 10 more suffer serious injuries such as fistulas and tearing. But most of these deaths are avoidable, since the solutions for preventing or treating these health problems are well known. Getting adequate care before, during and after childbirth can mean the difference between life and death for a woman. As can understanding and dealing with some of the socioeconomic and cultural issues that can contribute to maternal deaths, such as lack of education and gender discrimination.

Global health care spending has long neglected maternal care though, with policy makers and politicians focused on health issues such as AIDS or malaria instead. Not enough resources are being dedicated to address the lack of medical accessibility and care for pregnant women worldwide. Americans today spend on maternal health less than onetwentieth of a percent of the amount we spend on our military. While improving maternal health may not be as cost-effective as health solutions such as vaccines, it's our ethical duty to save mothers' lives.

It is high time we lead a global campaign to care for the world's

mothers and mothers-to-be. We can start by demanding that our governments prioritize and provide more funding towards safe motherhood.

Lynsey Addario / VII



(#) Christy **Turlington Burns**

Christy Turlington Burns on the importance of access to prenatal care.



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Help save a mother's life



(#) Nicholas Kristof

Nicholas Kristof on location in Somaliland calls on viewers to save the lives of mothers around the world this Mother's Day.

Gloria Steinem

Gloria Steinem on

maternal mortality.

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Sheryl WuDunn Sheryl WuDunn on maternal mortality.



(http://www.lynseyaddario.com/#/maternal-mortality/1SLMATERNALMORT_005).

More Resources

To learn more and watch additional videos visit <u>Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women</u> <u>Worldwide on PBS. (http://pbs.org/halfthesky)</u>

The World Health Organization estimates there may be as many as 50,000-100,000 new cases of fistula each year, yet the global treatment capacity is less than 20,000 cases a year. There is a large unmet need for treatment. Fistula is most prevalent in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. To learn more about fistulas see the facts on the <u>Fistula Foundation</u> (<u>http://www.fistulafoundation.org/whatisfistula/faqs.html</u>) website.

See <u>photos (http://www.ednahospital.org/galleries/half-the-sky/)</u>of Edna Adan and Diane Lane at the Half the Sky exhibit in Los Angeles and learn more about the <u>Edna Adan Maternity Hospital (http://www.ednahospital.org/)</u>.

Top left photo : Lynsey Addario / VII

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Education

One of the most effective ways to fight poverty and bolster poor communities is through investing in education, particularly that of girls. Schooling not only can be a precursor for women and girls to stand up to the injustices they witness, it can also help foster economic growth and stability.

However, today more than 75 million primary school-age children are not in school. More than half of these children are girls and 75 percent of them live in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Of all the primaryschool age girls globally, 20 percent are not in school, compared to 16 percent of boys in this age group. That's 1-in-5 eligible girls worldwide who aren't going to primary school.

The situation for girls in poor communities is worse, as they are more likely than boys to be deprived of an education. There are plenty of reasons for this discrepancy, including families wanting a girl's help in the house, the cost of tuition and the fact that girls tend to drop out of school at higher rates. When schools are far away, parents may also hesitate to allow their daughters to walk the long distances alone.

But education is vital. Though it's hard to prove the impact of girls' education statistically, over and over it has been shown that this investment can have a ripple effect of opportunity that impacts generations. With primary and secondary school education can come

increased job opportunities and higher wages. Girls who pursue secondary education are also at a significantly lower risk of engaging in crime or falling victim to human trafficking. Educated women have also been shown to marry later and have fewer children.

While most experts agree on the importance of education, not enough research has been done on what specific kinds of programs can help keep children in school. One thing is clear: Simply building new schools is not enough. The trick is to find ways to keep teachers and students regularly attending school.

One of the most cost-effective ways to increase school attendance is to deworm students. For as little as 50 cents per student, deworming has been shown to increase student alertness and has reduced school absenteeism by 25 percent in some regions. Other simple solutions include offering small scholarships to girls who do well in school, as well as helping girls manage their menstruation by providing sanitary pads and ensuring they have access to toilets at school.

Another smart strategy for keeping girls in school is essentially bribery. A program in Mexico, called Oportunidades (http://www.oportunidades.gob.mx/Portal/wb/Web/introduction), gives poor families cash grants in exchange for keeping their children in school and taking them for regular medical checkups. It helped raise high school attendance by 10 percent for boys and 20 percent for girls, according to the World Bank.

Supporting and providing aid to these kinds of innovative programs, which have proven effective, is one way we can help expand the number of girls attending school worldwide. It will also hopefully help spur other successful initiatives to step up girls' education.

More Resources

To learn more and watch additional videos visit Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide on PBS (http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/half-the-sky/). (http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/half-the-<u>sky/)</u>











Watch this <u>Shining Hope for Communities video (http://inkibera.org/baba-diana/)</u> about Baba Diana, chair of the parent's board at the Kibera School for Girls, the first tuition-free school and only school for girls in the Kibera slum in Nairobi. Shining Hope combats gender inequality by linking tuition free schools for girls to accessible social services for all.

More than 13,000 girls in nine countries will have access to improved educational opportunities and holistic support this year as part of Room to Read's Girls' Education program. Last year 95 percent of girls stayed in the program, with a 97 percent advancement rate. Room to Read hopes to reach 27,000 girls by 2014. Read more about their work <u>here</u> (<u>http://www.roomtoread.org</u>).





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Economic Empowerment

Putting money in the hands of women can have a positive long-term effect on the whole family, but women still suffer more from poverty than men.

Women comprise 70 percent of the world's poorest people and own only 1 percent of the titled land, according to a U.N. report. They suffer not only from unequal access to education and training, but also from discrimination by their employers. The majority of women earn on average about three-fourths of the pay that men receive for doing the same work, outside of the agricultural sector, in both developed and developing countries.

But if greater income equality was achieved across gender lines, this could help decrease poverty through the generations. Studies have indicated that when women hold assets or gain income, the money is more likely to be spent on nutrition, medicine and housing, and consequently their children are healthier. For every dollar a woman earns, she invests 80 cents in her family. Men, on the other hand, invest around 30 cents and are more likely to squander money on alcohol and other vices.

In order to gain access to better jobs and higher wages though, women need equal opportunities for education and skilled training. This isn't always the case though. Take this example: Although African women produce around 70 percent of food crops, the U.N. reports that they receive about 5 percent less of the agricultural training and tools available to men. The U.N. suggests that women could produce 20 to 30 percent more crops if they had equal access.

Microfinance institutions are one economic resource for women, though they are an imperfect solution and have proven more successful in Asia than in Africa. In Bangladesh, the Grameen Bank (http://www.grameen-info.org/) is a widely imitated model that provides credit to people in extreme poverty. About 94 percent of those

taking out loans are women, and the repayment rate is around 98 percent. Grameen claims that its loans have helped lift more than half of its borrowers out of extreme poverty.

Donor countries can also play a role in encouraging greater economic opportunities for women in poorer countries. Countries providing aid can nudge recipients to reform their laws to give more economic power to women. These laws should make it routine for a widow to inherit her husband's property, for example, and it should be made easy for women to own property and have bank accounts.

To its credit, the U.S. government has pushed for these kinds of legal changes. But by voicing your concern over women's economic empowerment, these types of policy moves can be reinforced and strengthened.

More Resources

To learn more and watch additional videos visit Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide on PBS (http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/half-the-sky/).



(#) Zainab Salbi

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Watch this <u>video (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hrxJTsF9WMI&feature=plcp)</u> highlighting how <u>Women's World</u> <u>Banking (http://www.swwb.org/)</u> Network member CECM in Burundi helps women to rebuild their lives with microfinance savings and microfinance loans after the 12-year civil war.

See how <u>Heifer International's (http://www.heifer.org/)</u> gifts of livestock and training have helped women in Nepal overcome extreme poverty in their short documentary <u>12 Stones (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zS-6pnQtR5A)</u>.



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Sheryl WuDunn

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Sheryl WuDunn (simplified Chinese: 伍洁芳; traditional Chinese: 伍潔芳; pinyin: *Wǔ Jiéfāng*; c. November 16, 1959) is a Chinese American business executive, author, lecturer, and the first Asian American to win a Pulitzer Prize.

A senior banker focusing on growth companies in technology, new media and the emerging markets, WuDunn also works with double bottom line firms, alternative energy issues, and women entrepreneurs. She has also been a private wealth adviser with Goldman Sachs and was previously a journalist and business executive for *The New York Times*. She is now senior

	Sheryl WuDunn
Born	November 16, 1959 ^[1] New York City
Alma mater	Cornell University (B.A., 1981) ^[2] Harvard Business School (M.B.A.) Princeton University (M.P.A.)
Occupation	author, business executive, lecturer
Spouse	Nicholas D. Kristof

managing director at Mid-Market Securities,^[3] a boutique investment banking firm in New York serving small and medium companies.

At the Times, WuDunn ran coverage of global energy, global markets, foreign technology and foreign industry. She oversaw international business topics ranging from China's economic growth to technology in Japan, from oil and gas in Russia to alternative energy in Brazil. She was also anchor of *The New York Times Page One*, a nightly program of the next day's stories in the Times. She also worked in the Times's Strategic 'lanning Department and in the Circulation Department, where she ran the effort to build the next generation of readers for the newspaper. She was one of the few people at The Times who went back and forth between the news and business sides of the organization.

She was the first Asian-American reporter hired at The Times and was a foreign correspondent in *The New York Times* Beijing and Tokyo bureaus. She speaks Chinese and some Japanese. While in Asia, she also reported from other areas, including North Korea, Australia, Burma and the Philippines. WuDunn, recipient of honorary doctorates from University of Pennsylvania and Middlebury College, was a senior lecturer at Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs in the fall of 2011. She is a commentator on China and global affairs on television and radio shows, including NPR, The Colbert Report and Charlie Rose.

Contents

- 1 Biography
- 2 Books
- 3 Notes
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Biography

A third generation Chinese American, Sheryl WuDunn grew up in New York City in the Upper West Side of

Manhattan. She attended Cornell University, graduating with a B.A. in European History in 1981.^[4] For three years, WuDunn worked for Bankers Trust Company as an international loan officer. After this, she earned her M.B.A. from Harvard Business School and M.P.A. from Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

WuDunn married reporter Nicholas D. Kristof in 1988.^[5] After working for The Wall Street Journal and other publications, WuDunn joined the staff of *The New York Times* as a correspondent in the Beijing bureau in 1989. She currently serves on the Cornell University Board of Trustees, is a member of the board's finance committee, and previously served on the board's investment committee. She also served on the advisory council of the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

WuDunn worked for a time for Goldman Sachs as a vice president in its investment management division as a private wealth advisor, before leaving to write a book.^[6]

She won the Pulitzer Prize with her husband Nicholas D. Kristof for her reporting from Beijing about the Tiananmen Square protests of 1989. WuDunn and Kristof were the first married couple ever to receive a Pulitzer for journalism. In addition to the Pulitzer, she also won a George Polk Award and an Overseas Press Club award, both for reporting in China.

In 2009, WuDunn and Kristof received the Dayton Literary Peace Prize's 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award.^[7] In 2011, WuDunn was listed by Newsweek as one of the 150 Women who Shake the World.^[8]

In 2012, WuDunn was selected as one of 60 notable members of the League of Extraordinary Women by *Fast Company* magazine.

Books

WuDunn has co-authored three best-sellers with her husband. *China Wakes: The Struggle for the Soul of a Rising Power* and *Thunder from the East: Portrait of a Rising Asia* are non-fiction Asian studies books which examine the cultural, social, and political situation of East Asia largely through interviews and personal experiences. Her third best-selling book, also co-written with Kristof, was published by Knopf in September 2009. It is titled: *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*.^[9]

Notes

- 1. ^ Cf. Library of Congress catalog entry for author Sheryl WuDunn
- A Gold, Lauren, "WuDunn '81 and Kristof honored for human rights work" (http://blogs.cornell.edu/theessentials/2009/08/24/wudunn-%E2%80%9981-and-kristof-honored-for-human-rightswork/), Cornell University, August 24, 2009
- 3. ^ "Team Profiles" (http://www.mid-marketsecurities.com/team.html), Mid-Market Securities, website
- 4. ^ Cornell News: Cornell Institute for Workplace Studies (IWS) workplace colloqium webpage (http://www.news.cornell.edu/releases/Feb04/Workplace.colloq.04.lm.html)
- 5. A "Sheryl WuDunn Wed to Reporter." The New York Times, 9 October 1988
- 6. A Bloomberg.com: Exclusive (http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news? pid=20601109&sid=agzMMPZAouLw&refer=home)
- 7. ^ Dayton Literary Peace Prize Press Release Announcing 2009 Finalists (http://www.daytonliterarypeaceprize.org/2009-finalists-press_release.htm)
- 8. ^ "150 Women Who Shake the World" (http://www.thedailybeast.com/newsweek/2011/03/06/150-women-who-

Sheryl WuDunn - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

shake-the-world.html), Newsweek, March 5, 2012

9. A Half The Sky (http://www.halftheskymovement.org) - website

External links

- Interview with Wudunn for Guernicamag.com (http://www.guernicamag.com/interviews/1496/emancipation_proclamation/)
- WuDunn's talk ad TED Global in July 2010 (http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/sheryl_wudunn_our_century_s_greatest_injustice.html/)
- Booknotes interview with Kristoff and WuDunn on China Wakes, October 16, 1994. (http://www.booknotes.org/Watch/60408-1/Nicholas+Kristof.aspx)

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that can last four to six hours and produces a "rape kit" - which, it turns out, often sits around for months or years, unopened and untested.

Stunningly often, the rape kit isn't

tested at all because it's not deemed a priority. If it is tested, this happens at such a lackadaisical pace that it may be a year or more before there are results (if expedited, results are technically possible in a week).

So while we have breakthrough DNA technologies to find culprits and exculpate innocent suspects, we aren't using them properly – and those who work in this field believe the reason is an underlying doubt about the seriousness of some rape cases. In short, this isn't justice; it's indifference.

Solomon Moore, a colleague of mine at The Times, last year wrote about a 43-year-old legal secretary who was raped repeatedly in her home in Los Angeles as her son slept in another room. The attacker forced the woman to clean herself in an attempt to destroy the evidence.

Tim Marcia, the detective on the case, thought this meant that the perpetrator was a habitual offender who would strike again. Mr. Marcia rushed the rape kit to the crime lab but was told to expect a delay of more than one year.

So Mr. Marcia personally drove the kit 350 miles to deliver it to the state lab in Sacramento. Even there, the backlog resulted in a four-month delay - but then it produced a "cold hit," a match in a database of the DNA of previous offenders.

Yet in the months while the rape kit sat on a shelf, the suspect had allegedly struck twice nore. Police said he broke into the homes of a pregnant woman and a 17-year-old girl, sexually assaulting each of them.

"The criminal justice system is still ill equipped to deal with rape and not that good at moving rape cases forward," notes Sarah Tofte, who just wrote a devastating report for www.nytimes.com/2009/04/30/opinion/30kristof.html? r=0

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Op-Ed Columnist - Is Rape Serious? - NYTimes.com

Human Rights Watch about the rape-kit backlog. The report found that in Los Angeles County, there were at last count 12,669 rape kits sitting in police storage facilities. More than 450 of these kits had sat around for more than 10 years, and in many cases, the statute of limitations had expired.

There are no good national figures, and one measure of the indifference is that no one even bothers to count the number of rape kits sitting around untested.

Why don't police departments treat rape kits with urgency? One reason is probably expense — each kit can cost up to \$1,500 to test — but there also seems to be a broad distaste for rape cases as murky, ambiguous and difficult to prosecute, particularly when they involve (as they often do) alcohol or acquaintance rape.

"They talk about the victims' credibility in a way that they don't talk about the credibility of victims of other crimes," Ms. Tofte said.

Charlie Beck, a deputy police chief of Los Angeles, said that there was no excuse for the failure to test rape kits, but he noted that integrating a new technology into police work is complex and involves a learning curve. Since Human Rights Watch began its investigation, he said, the department had resolved to test rape kits routinely — and as a result, cold hits have doubled.

While the backlog and desultory handling of rape kits are nationwide problems, there is one shining exception: New York City has made a concerted effort over the last decade to test every kit that comes in. The result has been at least 2,000 cold hits in rape cases, and the arrest rate for reported cases of rape in New York City rose from 40 percent to 70 percent, according to Human Rights Watch.

Some Americans used to argue that it was impossible to rape an unwilling woman. Few people say that today, or say publicly that a woman "asked for it" if she wore a short skirt. But the refusal to test rape kits seems a throwback to the same antediluvian skepticism about rape as a traumatic crime.

"If you've got stacks of physical evidence of a crime, and you're not doing everything you can with the evidence, then you must be making a decision that this isn't a very serious crime," notes Polly Poskin, executive director of <u>the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual</u> Assault.

It's what we might expect in Afghanistan, not in the United States.

I invite you to visit my blog, <u>On the Ground</u>. Please also join me on <u>Facebook</u>, watch my <u>YouTube videos</u> and follow me on <u>Twitter</u>.

A version of this article appeared in print on April 30, 2009, on page A27 of the New York edition.

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Nicholas D. Kristof

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

American journalist, author, op-ed columnist, and a winner of two Pulitzer Prizes. He has written an op-ed column for *The New York Times* since November 2001 and The Washington Post says that he "rewrote opinion journalism" with his emphasis on human rights abuses and social injustices, such as human trafficking and the Darfur conflict.^[1] Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa has described Kristof as an "honorary African" for shining a spotlight on neglected conflicts.

Biography

Nicholas Kristof grew up on a sheep and cherry farm in Yamhill, Oregon. He is the son of Ladis "Kris" Kristof (born Vladislav Krzysztofowicz), who was born of Polish and Armenian parents in former Austria-Hungary and who emigrated to the United States after World War II, and Jane Kristof, both long-time professors at Portland State Jniversity in Portland, Oregon.^[2] Nicholas Kristof graduated from Yamhill Carlton High School, where he was student body president and school newspaper editor, and later went on to become a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Harvard College. At Harvard, he studied government and



http://kristof.blogs.nytimes.com/

worked on *The Harvard Crimson* newspaper; "Alums recall Kristof as one of the brightest undergraduates on campus," according to a profile in the Crimson.^[3] After Harvard, he studied law at Magdalen College, Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar. He earned his law degree with first-class honors and won an academic prize. Afterward, he studied Arabic in Egypt for the 1983-84 academic year. He has a number of honorary degrees.

After joining *The New York Times* in 1984, initially covering economics, he served as a *Times* correspondent in Los Angeles, Hong Kong, Beijing, and Tokyo. He rose to be the associate managing editor of *The New York Times*, responsible for Sunday editions. His columns have often focused on global health, poverty, and gender issues in the developing world. In particular, since 2004 he has written dozens of columns about Darfur and visited the area 11 times. He has also been a pioneer in multimedia: he was the first blogger on the New York Times' website, and he also Tweets, has a Facebook fan page and a YouTube channel. Kristof resides outside New York City with his wife, Sheryl WuDunn, and their three children: Gregory, Geoffrey and Caroline.

Kristof's bio says he has traveled to more than 150 countries.^[4] Jeffrey Toobin of CNN and *The New Yorker*, Harvard classmate, has said: "I'm not surprised to see him emerge as the moral conscience of our generation of journalists. I am surprised to see him as the Indiana Jones of our generation of journalists."^[5] Bill Clinton said in September 2009: "There is no one in journalism, anywhere in the United States at least, who has done anything like the work he has done to figure out how poor people are actually living around the world, and what their potential is....So every American citizen who cares about this should be profoundly grateful that someone in our press establishment cares enough about this to haul himself all around the world to figure out what's going on....I am personally in his debt, as are we all."^[6]

Kristof is a member of the board of overseers of Harvard University and a member of the board of trustees of the Association of American Rhodes Scholars.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation says that a page one article by Kristof in January 1997 about child mortality in the developing world helped direct the couple toward global health as a focus of philanthropy. A framed copy of that article is in the gallery of the Gates Foundation.

Prizes

In 1990 Kristof and his wife, Sheryl WuDunn, earned a Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting for their reporting on the pro-democracy student movement and the related Tiananmen Square protests of 1989. They were the first married couple to win a Pulitzer for journalism. Kristof has also received the George Polk Award and an award from the Overseas Press Club for his reporting which focuses on human rights and environmental issues.

Kristof was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary in 2004 and again in 2005 "for his powerful columns that portrayed suffering among the developing world's often forgotten people and stirred action." In 2006 Kristof won his second Pulitzer, the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary "for his graphic, deeply reported columns that, at personal risk, focused attention on genocide in Darfur and that gave voice to the voiceless in other parts of the world." Kristof was a finalist for a Pulitzer Prize again in 2012; altogether, he has been a Pulitzer finalist six times.

In 2009, Kristof and WuDunn received the Dayton Literary Peace Prize's 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award.^[7] He has also won the 2008 Anne Frank Award and the 2007 Fred Cuny Award for Prevention of Deadly Conflict. Commentators have occasionally suggested Kristof for the Nobel Peace Prize, but when Media Web named Kristof its "print journalist of the year" in 2006 and asked him about that, it quoted him as saying: "I can't imagine it going to a scribbler like me. That's a total flight of fancy."^[8]

In 2011, Kristof was named one of seven "Top American Leaders" by the Harvard Kennedy School and The Washington Post. "His writing has reshaped the field of opinion journalism," The Washington Post explained in granting the award.^[1] Earlier, in 2007, U.S. News & World Report named Kristof one of "America's Best Leaders."^[9]

Books

Kristof's books, all co-authored with his wife Sheryl WuDunn, include *China Wakes: The Struggle for the Soul of a Rising Power* (1994), *Thunder from the East: Portrait of a Rising Asia* and *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* (Knopf, September 2009).^[10]

Among many of the motivations for writing *Half the Sky* Kristof explained to Jane Wales of the World Affairs Council of Northern California that the idea for the book was sparked by the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests. After covering the protests, which resulted in some 500 deaths, Kristof and WuDunn were shocked to learn that roughly 39,000 Chinese girls died each year because they were not given the same access to food and Nicholas D. Kristof - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

medical care as boys. Yet WuDunn and Kristof could not find coverage of these deaths, even though they were far more numerous than the casualties at Tiananmen Square. That led them to dig deeper into questions of gender, Kristof said.^[11] Half the Sky covers topics such as sex trafficking and forced prostitution, contemporary slavery, gender-based violence, and rape as a weapon of war and method of justice, as it shines light on the multitude of ways women are oppressed and violated in the world.^[10]

Half the Sky immediately hit the best-seller lists. Carolyn See, the book critic of The Washington Post, said in her review: "*Half the Sky* is a call to arms, a call for help, a call for contributions, but also a call for volunteers. It asks us to open our eyes to this enormous humanitarian issue. It does so with exquisitely crafted prose and sensationally interesting material....I really do think this is one of the most important books I have ever reviewed." ^[12] In Cleveland, a reviewer for *The Plain Dealer* said: "As Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring" once catalyzed us to save our birds and better steward our earth, 'Half the Sky' stands to become a classic, spurring us to spare impoverished women these terrors, and elevate them to turn around the future of their nations."^[13] The Seattle Times review predicted that *Half the Sky* may "ignite a grass-roots revolution like the one that eliminated slavery."^[14] In CounterPunch, Charles R. Larson declared: "*Half the Sky* is the most important book that I have ever reviewed."^[15]

Opinion and stances

Iraq War

^{*}n the run-up to the Iraq War, Kristof opposed the impending invasion and occupation of Iraq, particularly Jecause he felt that the Bush administration did not articulate a well-reasoned basis for it and did not have clear, long-term plans for post-invasion Iraq. In a column published six months before the Iraq invasion titled "Wimps on Iraq", Kristof warned, "It looks as if the president, intoxicated by moral clarity, has decided that whatever the cost, whatever the risks, he will invade Iraq. And that's not policy, but obsession."^[16] In a column entitled "The Day After" in September 2002, during a reporting visit to Iraq, he declared: "In one Shiite city after another, expect battles between rebels and army units, periodic calls for an Iranian-style theocracy, and perhaps a drift toward civil war. For the last few days, I've been traveling in these Shiite cities —Karbala, Najaf and Basra—and the tension in the bazaars is thicker than the dust behind the donkey carts. So before we rush into Iraq, we need to think through what we will do the morning after Saddam is toppled. Do we send in troops to try to seize the mortars and machine guns from the warring factions? Or do we run from civil war, and risk letting Iran cultivate its own puppet regime?"^[17]

On May 6, 2003, less than two months into the war, Kristof published an op-ed column titled "Missing in Action: Truth," in which he questioned whether or not the intelligence gathered by the Bush administration, which purportedly indicated that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction, was either faked or manipulated. In this article, Kristof cited as his source a "former ambassador" who had traveled to Niger in early 2002 and reported back to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the State Department that the uranium "allegations were unequivocally wrong and based on forged documents." Kristof added, "The envoy's debunking of the forgery was passed around the administration and seemed to be accepted—except

at President Bush and the State Department kept citing it anyway."^[18] Two months later, Ambassador Joseph C. Wilson IV came forward publicly and published a now-famous op-ed in *The New York Times* titled "What I Didn't Find in Africa".^[19] This set off a series of events which resulted in what become known as "Plamegate": the disclosure by journalist Robert Novak of the – until then covert – status as a CIA officer of Nicholas D. Kristof – Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Ambassador Wilson's wife, Valerie Plame Wilson. A criminal investigation was launched as to the source of the leak, as a consequence of which I. Lewis Libby, then-Chief of Staff to Vice President Dick Cheney, was indicted on obstruction of justice, false statement, and perjury charges, and subsequently convicted and sentenced to 30 months in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine (though he never served time in prison because President Bush commuted his prison sentence). Kristof's May 6 article was mentioned in the federal indictmen of Scooter Libby as a key point in time, and a contributing factor that caused Libby to inquire about the identity of the "envoy" and later divulge the secret identity of his wife to reporters.^[20]

"Grand bargain" with Iran

Kristof published several articles criticizing the missed opportunity of the "grand bargain" — a proposal by Iran to normalize relations with the United States, implement procedures to assure the US it will not develop nuclear weapons, deny any monetary support to Palestinian resistance groups until they agree to stop targeting civilians, support the Arab Peace Initiative, and ensure full transparency to assuage any United States concerns. In return, the Iranians demanded abolition of sanctions and a US statement that Iran does not belong in the so-called "Axis of Evil." In his columns, Kristof revealed the documents detailing this proposal and argued that the "grand bargain" proposal was killed by hard-liners in the Bush administration. According to Kristof, this was an "appalling mistake"^[21] since "the Iranian proposal was promising and certainly should have been followed up. It seems diplomatic mismanagement of the highest order for the Bush administration to have rejected that process out of hand, and now to be instead beating the drums of war and considering air strikes on Iranian nuclear sites."^[22] Kristof further believes that even if the grand bargain is not currently feasible, there is still an option for what he calls a "mini-bargain", i.e., a more modest proposal for normalizing U.S.-Iranian relations.^[22]

In June 2007 Kristof spoke on the importance of the "grand bargain" with Iran at a conference organized by the American Iranian Council in New Brunswick, New Jersey. The conference brought together a host of distinguished national and international policy makers, among them Congressman Dennis Kucinich (D-OH), Ambassador Javad Zarif from Iran's UN Mission, Senator Chuck Hagel, and Ambassador Anders Lidén from Sweden, in an attempt to improve the public's understanding of U.S.-Iranian relations and promote normalization with Iran. Kristof recounted his trips to Iran and told the audience that on a people-to-people level Iran is one of the most pro-American countries in the Middle East. He argued that American hard-liners, such as Dick Cheney, are reinforcing and strengthening Iranian hard-liners, and vice versa. He reiterated his support for the grand bargain and warned against the possibility of a military strike on Iran, calling it "absolutely terrifying" and remarking that he can't imagine something that would do more to undermine American interests in the region.^[23]

Anthrax attacks columns

In 2002 Kristof wrote a series of columns indirectly suggesting that Steven Hatfill, a former US Army germwarfare researcher named a "person of interest" by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), might be a "likely culprit" in the 2001 anthrax attacks.^[24] Hatfill was never charged with any crime. In July 2004 Hatfill sued the Times and Kristof for libel, asserting claims for defamation and intentional infliction of emotional distress.^[25] Subsequently, Hatfill voluntarily dismissed Kristof as a defendant in the case when it became clear that the District Court lacked personal jurisdiction over Kristof. The suit continued against the Times and was initially dismissed by the District Court on the basis that the allegations in Kristof's articles, even if untrue, did not constitute defamation. In July 2005, however, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit reversed the decision, and reinstated the suit against *The New York Times*. In January 2007 Judge Claude M. Nicholas D. Kristof - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Hilton of the Eastern District of Virginia tossed out the suit, claiming that Kristof's anthrax articles were "cautiously worded" and asserted that the scientist could be innocent.^[26] Judge Hilton wrote that Kristof "made efforts to avoid implicating his guilt" and that "Mr. Kristof reminded readers to assume plaintiff's Hatfill) innocence."^[26] Kristof praised the dismissal of the suit, commenting that he was "really pleased that the judge recognized the importance of this kind of reporting" and that it was "terrific to have a judgment that protects journalism at a time when the press has had a fair number of rulings against it".^[26] When the FBI exonerated Hatfill, Kristof wrote a column on Aug. 27, 2008, "Media's Balancing Act," in which he wrote: "So, first, I owe an apology to Dr. Hatfill. In retrospect, I was right to prod the F.B.I. and to urge tighter scrutiny of Fort Detrick, but the job of the news media is supposed to be to afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted. Instead, I managed to afflict the afflicted."

Sudan and Darfur

Kristof is particularly well known for his reporting on Sudan. At the beginning of 2004, he was among the first reporters to visit Darfur and describe "the most vicious ethnic cleansing you've never heard of." He recounted what he called "a campaign of murder, rape and pillage by Sudan," and he was among the first to call it genocide. His biography says he has made 11 trips to the region, some illegally by sneaking in from Chad, and on at least one occasion he was detained at a checkpoint when the authorities seized his interpreter and Kristof refused to leave him behind. Kristof's reporting from Sudan has been both praised and criticized. Robert DeVecchi, past president of the International Rescue Committee, told the Council on Foreign Relations: "Nicholas Kristof...had an unprecedented impact in single-handedly mobilizing world attention to this crisis. There are undoubtedly hundreds of thousands of refugees in and from the Darfur region who owe their very lives to this formidable humanitarian and journalist."^[27] New York Magazine said that Kristof single-handedly focused the world's attention on Darfur,"^[28] and the Save Darfur Coalition said that "he is the person most responsible for getting this issue into America's consciousness and the resulting efforts to resolve it."^[29] Samantha Power, the author of Pulitzer Prize-winning book on genocide, told an American Jewish World Service audience that Kristof was probably the person the Janjaweed militia in Darfur most wanted to kill. In June 2008, the actress Mia Farrow spoke as Kristof was honored with the Anne Frank Award, declaring: "Nick Kristof was one of the first to publicly insist that the words Never Again mean something for the people of Darfur. For his courage and his conviction in telling tell searing truths, he is the voice of our collective conscience, demanding we bear witness to the first genocide of the 21st century and encouraging us not to sit by while innocents die. Every once in a great while a moral giant appears among us. Nicholas Kristof is that person." For his coverage of Darfur, Ann Curry of NBC suggested that Kristof was "the modern journalist who showed courage and leadership comparable to the great Edward R. Murrow,"^[30] On the other hand, some Arab commentators have criticized Kristof for focusing on atrocities by Arab militias in Darfur and downplaying atrocities by non-Arab militias. A book by Mahmood Mamdani of Columbia University, "Saviors and Survivors," criticized Kristof's reporting for over-simplifying a complex historicallyrooted conflict and packaging it as "genocide." Other Arabs and Africans, including some critical of Sudan, have sometimes made similar arguments. Sudan's government has also objected that Kristof's reporting exaggerates the scale of suffering and ignores the nuances of tribal conflicts in Darfur. The Sudan government and pro-government news media criticized him in March 2012 for sneaking into Sudan's Nuba Mountains region without a visa, to report on hunger and bombings there, saying that his illegal entry was "shameful and mproper."^[31]

Criticism of the anti-sweatshop movement

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In company with Nobel Prize-wining economists Milton Friedman and Paul Krugman, Nicholas Kristof argues that sweatshops are, if not a good thing, then defensible as a way for workers to improve their lives and for impoverished countries to transform themselves into industrial economies.^[32] In this argument, sweatshops, which overwhelmingly employ women,^[33] are an unpleasant but necessary stage in industrial development. Kristof is critical of the way "well-meaning American university students regularly campaign against sweatshops", particularly the Anti-Sweatshop movement's strategy of encouraging consumer boycotts against sweatshop-produced imports. Kristof and WuDunn counter that the sweatshop model is a primary reason why Taiwan and South Korea—which accepted sweatshops as the price of development—are today modern countries with low rates of infant mortality and high levels of education, while India—which generally has resisted sweatshops—suffers from a high rate of infant mortality (3.1 million Indian children under the age of five die every year, mostly from diseases of poverty.)^[34] Kristof and WuDunn admit that sweatshop labor is grueling and dangerous but argue that it is an improvement over most alternatives in extremely poor countries, providing much-needed jobs and boosting economies. They caution that anti-sweatshop boycott campaigns could lead to the closing down of manufacturing and processing plants in places like Africa where they are needed most. "This is not to praise sweatshops," they admit:

Some managers are brutal in the way they house workers in firetraps, expose children to dangerous chemicals, deny bathroom breaks, demand sexual favors, force people to work double shifts or dismiss anyone who tries to organize a union. Agitation for improved safety conditions can be helpful, just as it was in 19th-century Europe. But Asian workers would be aghast at the idea of American consumers boycotting certain toys or clothing in protest. The simplest way to help the poorest Asians would be to buy more from sweatshops, not less.^[35]

Turkish denial of the Armenian Genocide

Kristof has also criticized in his *Times* column the Turkish government's ongoing denial of the Armenian Genocide and what he calls the United Nations's inability to stand up to Turkey on this issue.^[36] Kristof believes the United Nations has capitulated to regimes that have actively committed atrocities in the past (Turkey) and in the present (Sudan).^[36]

Israeli–Palestinian conflict

Kristof supports Israeli and U.S. negotiation with Hamas as a means to resolve the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. He criticizes Israel for what he views as collective punishment of Gazans and holds that the lack of negotiations only strengthens extremists.^[37] He also advocates removing Israeli settlements from Hebron since "the financial cost is mind-boggling, and the diplomatic cost is greater ". Kristof contrasts "two Israels": an oppressive security state in the Palestinian territories and a "paragon of justice, decency, fairness - and peace," in the work of Israeli human rights activists, journalists, and jurists.^[38]

Slovenia

Kristof consistently uses Slovenia in his *New York Times* op-ed columns as a flail to shame American healthcare. For example: "... it's scandalous that babies born in the United States are less likely to survive their first year than babies born in Slovenia" (31 January 2006); "American children are twice as likely to die by the age of 5 as children in Portugal, Spain or Slovenia" (28 February 2009); and "No wonder we spend so much on medical care, and yet have some health care statistics that are worse than Slovenia's" (12 September 2009).

However, his 31 January 2006 blog ("Apologies to Slovenia") had expressed regret at the offense he had caused. On 15 September 2009 the acting consul general for Slovenia, Melita Gabrič, objected to Kristof's use of Slovenia as a "derisory sort of punch line."^[39]

Libya

During the 2011 Libyan civil war, Kristof wrote that the U.S. should create a no-fly zone and also use military aircraft to jam Libyan state communications. He remarked, "let's remember the risks of inaction — and not psych ourselves out. For crying out loud!"^[40]

U.S. Government

In a column published in the *New York Times* on June 15, 2011 Kristof argued that the United States military was a prime example of how comprehensive social safety net, universal health care, a commitment to public service, low income disparity and structured planning could be made to work within an organization. He then suggested that the military could serve as a model for improving American society along those lines.^[41] This brought criticism from several other commentators, who argued that the military is only effective at what it does by severely limiting the freedom of its members. Jonah Goldberg argued that "You've got to love how a system that requires total loyalty, curbs free speech, free association, freedom of movement etc is now either 'lefty' or 'liberal' because it gives 'free' healthcare and daycare" and hinted that the ideas in Kristof's column resembled fascism.^[42] David French added that "If you want to see the military do what it does best, then ride out on a mission with an armored cavalry squadron. If you want to see the military struggle to do its job well, then I suggest you spend some time with its social services."^[43]

In July 2011, President Barack Obama, at a Twitter town hall, referred to Kristof as "a great columnist" -- and then proceeded to disagree with him.^[44]

Education Reform

In a 2011 New York Times op-ed, Kristof wrote that he is "not a fan" of teachers' unions^[45] because he maintains that unions encourage teachers to accept low wages in return for job security (future seniority benefits, pensions, and protection from arbitrary dismissal). He feels that such protections have the effect of protecting bad teachers, who then have to be fired for cause – a time-consuming, drawn out process – rather than being subject to being summarily fired at will.^[46] Instead, Kristof advocates that teachers give up these rights and protections in exchange for receiving much higher average starting salaries. He suggests that instead of the current figure of \$39,000 for teacher starting salaries, entering teaching salaries start at \$65,000, a figure which he believes will have the effect of attracting and retraining more talented individuals to the profession.^[47]

Kristof and the Newpaper Guild

When Kristof joined the *New York Times* in the 1980s to work as an overseas reporter, he was himself rotected by job-security provisions as a member of the Newspaper Guild of New York. Upon becoming an opinion columnist for the *Times* editorial page, Kristof ceased being a union member.^[48] In December of 2011, Kristof declined to join his *New York Times* colleagues in their open letter of protest to *Times* owner Arthur Ochs Sulzberger, Jr., over the freezing of pension funds and the cessation of independent health

insurance for overseas reporters.^[49]

Win a Trip with Nick Kristof contest

In 2006, *The New York Times* launched the Win a Trip with Nick Kristof contest, offering a college student the opportunity to win a reporting trip to Africa with Kristof by submitting essays outlining what they intend to accomplish in such a trip. From among 3,800 students who submitted entries, Kristof chose Casey Parks of Jackson, Mississippi. In September 2006, Kristof and Parks traveled to Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, and the Central African Republic and reported on AIDS, poverty, and maternal mortality. During the trip, Kristof published his *New York Times* columns while Parks wrote about her observations in her blog.

The success of this partnership prompted the *Times* to hold the Second Annual Win A Trip with Nick Kristof contest in 2007. Leana Wen, a medical student at Washington University in St. Louis, and Will Okun, a teacher at Westside Alternative High School in Chicago, were the winners of the 2007 competition.^[50] During summer 2007, they traveled with Kristof to Rwanda, Burundi, and eastern Congo. Filmmaker Eric Daniel Metzgar joined Kristof, Wen and Okun on their trip. The resulting film, *Reporter*, premiered at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival^{[51][52]} and aired on HBO in February 2010.^[53] In reviewing the film, which was executive produced by Ben Affleck, *Entertainment Weekly* wrote: "In *Reporter*, he's a compelling figure, a cross between Mother Teresa and the James Woods character in *Salvador*, and what seals the intensity of his job is the danger."^[54] The *Washington Post* observed, "Ideally, [Kristof] hopes to teach his companions, who won a contest to travel with him, about the value of witnessing the world's atrocities and scintillating them into stories that will call on people to act. Which is what Kristof did with his work in Darfur, Sudan: He caused people -- from George Clooney on down -- to do whatever they can."^[53]

For the Third Win A Trip, Kristof chose University of South Carolina student Paul Bowers, and the two traveled in Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia.^[55] The fourth Win a Trip journey took place in May 2010, with Mitch Smith, a Kansan student studying at University of Nebraska. Smith had never been outside the United States before. They traveled to Gabon, Republic of Congo, and Democratic Republic of Congo.^[56] For the Fifth Win A Trip, in 2011, Kristof took a medical student, Saumya Dave, and a teacher, Noreen Connolly, through Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal, Niger and Burkina Faso.^[57]

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External links

- Nicholas D. Kristof at the New York Times (http://www.nytimes.com/top/opinion/editorialsandoped/oped/columnists/nicholasdkristof/)
- Kristof archive and author page (http://www.nybooks.com/authors/10534) from *The New York Review* of Books
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Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Nicholas_D._Kristof&oldid=515586221" ategories: 1959 births | Living people | Alumni of Magdalen College, Oxford | American bloggers American columnists | American newspaper reporters and correspondents | American Rhodes scholars American people of Armenian descent | The Harvard Crimson people People from Yamhill County, Oregon | George Polk Award recipients Pulitzer Prize for Commentary winnersPulitzer Prize for International Reporting winnersThe New York Times Pulitzer Prize winnersThe New York Times columnists

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PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION REQUEST Wednesday Council Meeting 9:30 AM

Council Meeting Date: 10 - 3 - 10 AUDITOR 09/26/12 AM10:07
Today's Date 9-26-12 AM10:07
Name MARY ENG
Address 1417 SW
Address <u>417</u> <u>500</u> Telephone <u>503577 0963</u> Email <u>Maryeng1@gmail</u> com
to port of Half the Sky
project for Global Political.
Civic, and Economic
project for Global Political, Civic, and Economic Empowerment for Women.
(signed) Many Eng

- Give your request to the Council Clerk's office by Thursday at 5:00 pm to sign up for the following Wednesday Meeting. Holiday deadline schedule is Wednesday at 5:00 pm. (See contact information below.)
- You will be placed on the Wednesday Agenda as a "Communication." Communications are the first item on the Agenda and are taken promptly at 9:30 a.m. A total of five Communications may be scheduled. Individuals must schedule their own Communication.
- You will have 3 minutes to speak and may also submit written testimony before or at the meeting.

Thank you for being an active participant in your City government.

Contact Information:

Karla Moore-Love, City Council Clerk 1221 SW 4th Ave, Room 140 Portland, OR 97204-1900 (503) 823-4086 Fax (503) 823-4571 email: <u>Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov</u>

Sue Parsons, Council Clerk Assistant 1221 SW 4th Ave., Room 140 Portland, OR 97204-1900 (503) 823-4085 Fax (503) 823-4571 email: <u>Susan.Parsons@portlandoregon.gov</u> Request of Mary Eng to address Council regarding Half the Sky project for global political, civic and economic empowerment for women (Communication)

OCT 03 2012

PLACED ON FILE

Filed SEP 2 8 2012

LaVonne Griffin-Valade Auditor of the City of Portland By

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:									
	YEAS	NAYS							
1. Fritz									
2. Fish	2								
3. Saltzman									
4. Leonard									
Adams									