

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Nicole Hockley, Mom and Co-founder, Sandy Hook Promise

"I can't let this happen to someone else. I have a responsibility, a moral responsibility now to help other parents keep their kids safe...we go out and we teach people how to know the signs of someone who's at risk and we intervene. We've stopped at least two school shootings...We've stopped multiple suicides. We've gotten help for a lot of kids. It works.

<https://www.sandyhookpromise.org/>



Linda Sarsour, Co-founder Women's March 2016

"We can disagree and still love each other, unless your disagreement is rooted in my oppression and denial of my humanity and right to exist." <https://www.womensmarch.com/>



Simone Campbell

Simone Campbell is an American Roman Catholic Religious Sister, a lawyer, lobbyist and executive director of "Network". She founded the Community Law Center in Oakland, California and served for 18 years as its lead attorney working on the needs of the working poor. In 1971, a group of Catholic sisters created a national "network" of women religious to advocate at the federal level for social justice. Simone Campbell became the Executive Director of "NETWORK" in 2004. For more information on "Network: Advocates for Justice, Inspired by Catholic Sisters": <https://networklobby.org/>

Me Too



Tarana Burke

Tarana Burke began the "Me Too" crusade 10 years ago. It began as a grass roots movement for women of color in order to unify those who had been the victims of sexual violence. The goal was to let those victimized know that they were not alone. The campaign's motto is "Empowerment through empathy". Tarana Burke was moved to create her non-profit, "Just Be Inc." after hearing the story of a sexually abused 13 year old girl and feeling unable to be of significant help to the young lady. For more information: <http://justbeinc.wixsite.com/justbeinc/home>

#MeToo



Asha Dornfest

"For every woman saying #metoo, there's another woman rolling her eyes saying "boys will be boys" and "it's harmless flirting" and "just ignore it" and "take it as a compliment" and "you should have dressed more modestly" and "you're just imagining it" and "you're too sensitive." Or straight up: "you're lying". This is called internalized misogyny. It's both damaging and protective. It gives you a false sense of control. We women can love men, like men, joke with men, date them, marry them, be friends with them, be attracted or not attracted to them, be their professional colleagues and bosses, play sports with men, be sitting near men on public transportation, walk by men on the street...AND we can expect them not to harass us. It's not us against them. It's us against misogyny." <https://about.me/ashadornfest>



Angela Merkel

"I say to everybody who believes that the future of this planet is important," she defiantly proclaimed, "let us continue along this path together so that we can be successful for our mother Earth." <https://www.vogue.com>



Alicia Garza

Alicia Garza is an African-American activist and editorial writer from Oakland, California. Her activism is centered around health, student services, rights for domestic workers, ending police brutality, anti-racism and violence against trans and gender non-conforming people of color. Garza, with Opal Tameti and Patrisse Cullors established the "Black Lives Matter" movement after the acquittal of George Zimmerman in the murder of Trayvon Martin. It was her post on facebook: "Black people. I love you. I love us. Our lives matter, Black Lives Matter" that brought about the name for the movement. <https://blacklivesmatter.com>



Karen Armstrong

"If your understanding of the divine made you kinder, more empathetic, and impelled you to express sympathy in concrete acts of loving-kindness, this was good theology. But if your notion of God made you unkind, belligerent, cruel, or self-righteous, or if it led you to kill in God's name, it was bad theology." [The Spiral Staircase: My Climb Out of Darkness](#)



*Claim Your Dignity...
Find Your Voice...
Stand Up for What is
Right, True, Just and Beautiful!*

March 8, 2018

Dear Friends,

We are extremely proud of the women throughout the World who have found their voice. As they continue to speak out they claim justice for all abused and neglected people everywhere. Now, more than ever, it is important for women of courage and people of good will to stand up for what is right and just. We are alarmed by the power of greed that has infected the minds and hearts of so many. We are not impressed when the poor, immigrants and refugees are used as political pawns in the game of self-indulgent egoism. The Interfaith Community will continue to confront the structures by which oppression, racism, misogyny, and religious intolerance tears at the very fabric of our society.

We are alarmed that anyone would think weapons and guns have a priority over the right to live. We are concerned about the threat of using nuclear devices as an alternative to international negotiations. We cannot stand idly by as the rights of labor are compromised for greed. We cannot allow the rights of disabled people to be dismantled. We stand by the LGBTQ community as the safety, livelihood and well-being of so many are assaulted in the name of religious freedom. We are grateful for all those who work for justice. We sense a new age is upon us when men, women and children from all over the World stand in solidarity and claim that humanity forms but one human family. Perhaps nothing signifies the dawning of a new age more than the thousands of young people who are raising our consciousness to demand common sense laws ensuring the rights of all students to study and learn in peace.

The Interfaith Peace Project strongly believes that the dawning of this new consciousness in our time was born of women who showed remarkable courage throughout the centuries. They claimed their dignity for the sake of the oppressed. They found their voice that others might speak. They stood up for what is right and beautiful so others would be inspired to do the same. Here is a small but heartfelt expression of our gratitude to the women who continue this great legacy in our time. Honor them in your work and life as you contribute to the dawning of a new age when all of us will live in peace and mutual respect.

Peacefully,

Thomas P. Bonacci
Director
with The Board of Directors,
The Advisory Board and all of us
at the Interfaith Peace Project

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