

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | APRIL 2017

Insights on Equality for Women

THEN AND NOW: WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?



In a photo taken on March 23, not a single woman was pictured in a roomful of lawmakers discussing health care reform, including possible changes to women's health services. We have seen this many times before.



When Vice President Pence tweeted a photo of a recent White House meeting, I flashed back to a photo I took in 1987. I had been appointed by the Mayor of Philadelphia to the advisory committee for We the People 200, the bicentennial celebration of the U.S. Constitution. A focal point of the celebration was a large gathering on Independence Mall with a stage in front of Independence Hall that held a large crowd of dignitaries, including President Reagan.

From my seat in the audience, it struck me that there was not a single woman on that stage. I took a photo of the stage, blew it up, framed it, and hung it on my office wall. I captioned it: "What's wrong with this picture?"

That was 30 years ago, and the photo Pence tweeted has me asking the same question today. It shows a roomful of lawmakers discussing health care reform, including possible changes to women's health services such as maternity care and preventive screenings. There is not a single woman in the picture.

Vision 2020 News

VISION 2020 JOINS FORCES WITH INDEPENDENCE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK



Vision 2020 has signed a memorandum of understanding with [Independence National Historical Park](#) (INHP), home to the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, President's House and the former residences of several historic figures like Thomas Jefferson and Dolley Madison, as well as many other sites.

One important activity in connection with our partnership involves National Women's Equality Day, on August 26, when Vision 2020 will host a women's history scavenger hunt for young people and lifelong learners at both INHP and Valley Forge National Historical Park. Registration for both events will open in June, so stay tuned!

FORMER U.S. NAVY CAPTAIN TO CHAIR VISION 2020 VOTING GOAL COMMITTEE

Vision 2020 is delighted to announce that Nori Ann Reed, a National Delegate in Florida and a retired U.S. Navy captain, will lead "Team November" – a working group to develop the state-by-state competition to achieve the goal of 100% of eligible women voting in the 2020 national election. This is a key element of the [Women 100 civic engagement activities](#) culminating on November 3, 2020.

"Nori Ann has the perfect skill set to organize and manage this national effort," said Lynn Yeakel, president of Vision 2020. Prior to retiring from the Navy, Nori Ann commanded three Navy ships – the first woman to ever do so.



WEIGHING IN ON FEMINIST STEREOTYPES

A recent *Vanity Fair* profile of actress Emma Watson explored her latest film role and her thoughts on the importance of feminism and activism. But one photograph in the article sparked critics to label Watson a hypocrite; they claimed someone advocating for female empowerment and against sexual assault should not pose for revealing photos.

Lynn Yeakel, president of Vision 2020, was interviewed by *Ravishly* about how she too was called a hypocrite in her early years working on behalf of women's equality:

"Lynn Yeakel met this head on when she was a young, married mother of two and attending a meeting for women's equality. An older woman looked at her and said. 'Feminists don't wear wedding rings.'"

"I was stunned," Yeakel said. "I realized that there are all kinds of stereotypes regarding what a feminist is. Being a feminist has nothing to do with what you look like or wear, but rather what you value and believe."

[Click here to read the full article](#)



(Photo courtesy of Tim Walker/Vanity Fair)

Actress Emma Watson was labeled a hypocrite by some for wearing this outfit for a photoshoot and also identifying as a feminist.

People in the News

DAWN STALEY, VISION 2020 NATIONAL ADVISOR, COACHES SOUTH CAROLINA TO NCAA WOMEN'S TITLE

The University of South Carolina Women's Basketball Team won the NCAA Women's Basketball Championship on April 2 under the direction of Head Coach Dawn Staley, a Vision 2020 National Advisor. Dawn's involvement with the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership – the home of Vision 2020 – dates back to 2005 when she was the recipient of the [Woman One Award](#). She received a Pioneer Award from Vision 2020 in 2011.



Dawn also has been named head coach of the United States Women's Basketball Team for the 2020 Olympics!

In honor of Dawn's leadership and tenacity, we dug into the Vision 2020 archives to share insights directly from Dawn: ["What Women's Equality Means to Me" by Dawn Staley](#).

Congratulations to Dawn and the South Carolina Gamecocks!

NATIONAL ADVISOR RECEIVES WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AWARD FROM UNITED WAY

Eileen McDonnell – chairman and chief executive officer of The Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, a Vision 2020 National Advisor and a member of Vision 2020's [Women 100 Advisory Committee](#) – is the 2017 recipient of the Women's Leadership Initiative Award from United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

Eileen was honored at the organization's annual Women's Leadership Gala in Philadelphia on March 22.

Congratulations, Eileen!

[Click here to read more](#)



Eileen McDonnell and Dianne Semington, Chair of Women 100, at the annual Women's Leadership Gala on March 22

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBER DISCUSSES IMPACT OF REJECTION ON WOMEN AND SHARED LEADERSHIP

Karen Kaplowitz, a member of the [Vision 2020 Leadership Circle](#), was quoted in an article about how women and men process rejection differently in business settings, and how that difference contributes to women's underrepresentation in leadership roles.

A recent study found that women are less likely to apply for a job if they have been rejected for a similar position in the past, and women take themselves out of the running 1.5 times more often than men who have been rejected.

When asked about the study, Karen, a career coach who formerly worked as an attorney at a large firm, said, "This study strongly supports the idea that it is important not to take rejection personally and to be able to see rejection as part of a process."



[Click here to read the full article](#)

VISION 2020 DELEGATES SEEN IN PBS SEGMENT ABOUT TENNESSEE WOMAN SUFFRAGE MONUMENT



The Vision 2020 National Congress convened in Nashville in 2015 and visited sculptor Alan LeQuire's studio, where the Tennessee Woman Suffrage Monument was created.

[Patricia Pierce](#) and [Yvonne Wood](#), Vision 2020 National Delegates in Tennessee, are co-chairs of the [Tennessee Woman Suffrage Monument](#), which was placed in Nashville's Centennial Park on National Women's Equality Day (August 26) last year.

PBS followed the making of the monument for nearly two years. The segment aired on March 16 and shows scenes of several Vision 2020 Delegates and members at its unveiling party.

[Click here to watch the PBS segment](#)

CALIFORNIA DELEGATE HOSTS VISION 2020 THINK TANK SERIES

[Sara Terheggen](#), a partner at Morrison & Foerster LLP and a Vision 2020 National Delegate in California, has hosted several successful "Vision 2020 Think Tank" programs, a series of panel discussions aimed at connecting women and exploring topics related to women in leadership in business and government.

[Contact Vision 2020 to learn more](#) about organizing a Vision 2020 event or speaking engagement in your own region.



A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE

Melinda Johnson, associate director of Vision 2020 and director of administrative operations at Drexel's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership, has earned her EdD. Last month, she completed her doctoral defense, after which the committee's unanimous decision made it official: Melinda now has a doctorate in Educational Leadership and Management with a concentration in human resources. Melinda has been with the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership for almost 10 years.



Please join us in a well-deserved congratulations to Dr. Johnson! We are very proud of her.

Ally News

VOTERUNLEAD LAUNCHES 'RUN AS YOU ARE'

VoteRunLead, a Vision 2020 National Ally, recently launched "Run As You Are," a campaign that encourages women to run for office right now, just as they are. Run As You Are includes virtual training sessions held across three webinars (did we mention they're free?).

Mark your calendar for the next two classes, on April 15 and April 26.

[Click here to read more](#)



WILL PA BECOME THE FIFTH STATE TO ADVANCE GENDER-DIVERSE BOARDS?

The **Forum of Executive Women**, a Vision 2020 Regional Ally in Philadelphia, has drafted a resolution urging all companies and nonprofits that do business in Pennsylvania to have a minimum of 30 percent of women directors by the end of 2020. The resolution also calls for organizations to annually measure their progress on equal representation of men and women in leadership positions. Representative Kate Harper (R) plans to submit this resolution for the approval of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives on April 26.



If this resolution passes, Pennsylvania will become the fifth state to adopt a resolution encouraging companies to have gender-diverse boards. California, Colorado, Illinois and Massachusetts already have similar resolutions.

LET IT RIPPLE'S 50/50 DAY: RETHINKING THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

[Let It Ripple](#), a Vision 2020 National Ally, has created [50/50 Day](#), a global event aimed at sparking conversations about gender equality in leadership.



Vision 2020 will support 50/50 Day in Philadelphia, screening Let It Ripple's 20-minute documentary and hosting a panel talk on shared leadership in business and government.

Want to organize your own Vision 2020 discussion around 50/50 Day? [Contact our team](#) to receive our toolkit.

Upcoming Events

WOMEN'S HEALTH EMPOWERMENT SUMMIT

Wednesday, May 17, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
The Newseum, Washington, D.C.



The first [Women's Health Empowerment Summit](#) will take place during National Women's Health Week this year in D.C. Created by the Coalition for Women's Health Equity, this event will bring together policymakers, thought leaders and women's health champions to explore the rapidly changing legislative landscape and inequities in quality of care, funding and support, as well as gaps in women's health awareness.

The Coalition for Women's Health Equity – of which Vision 2020 and Drexel's Institute for Women's Health and Leadership are members – was launched last year by Hadassah, a Vision 2020 National Ally.

Lynn Yeakel will participate on a panel representing Vision 2020. [Contact us](#) if you are interested in attending.

DON'T MISS YOUR PRIMARY ELECTION

Primary elections have already taken place in several states, and several more are scheduled for this spring and summer.

Find your state's important election dates using helpful tools from Vision 2020 National Allies [Rock the Vote](#) and [Nonprofit VOTE](#). See you at the polls!



In Loving Memory

CARMEN DELGADO VOTAW 1935-2017



Carmen Delgado Votaw, a leading advocate for women's rights both nationally and internationally, passed away on February 18, 2017. She was a key member of Vision 2020, serving as both a Visionary Delegate and a charter member of our Leadership Circle.

The entire Vision 2020 network extends our deepest condolences to her family and friends. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to learn from such an intelligent, compassionate and beloved civil rights pioneer.

Carmen's life and outstanding work in increasing equality and opportunity throughout the world was shared in a Congressional session last month. Congressman Jamie Raskin of Carmen's home state of Maryland honored her with a beautiful tribute, which we encourage you to read in this [Congressional Record](#).

Have an empowering photo to share? Submit it to vision2020@drexelmed.edu to be included in one of our future newsletters.



(Photo courtesy of BETTMANN/GETTY IMAGES)

Kathrine Switzer was almost chased off the course of the 1967 Boston Marathon by its race manager, who shouted "Get the hell out of my race!" as he attempted to derail her at mile two. She got away and finished the 26.2 miles in just over four hours.

50 YEARS SINCE BOSTON MARATHON'S FIRST FEMALE RUNNER

The Boston Marathon will take place on April 17, drawing 30,000 runners and half a million spectators from around the world. This year's race marks not only the 121st Boston Marathon but also the 50th anniversary of its first female runner.

In 1967, Kathrine Switzer was just two miles into the race when she was nearly forced off the course by the race manager, who insisted it was a "male-only marathon." Nearby runners helped her escape his grip and finish the 26.2 miles. Now at age 70, she plans to run this year's marathon to commemorate the 50th anniversary of her barrier-breaking run.

We will be cheering for you, Kathrine!

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