The X Factor: Making Women Visible.

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How I've formed my perspective...







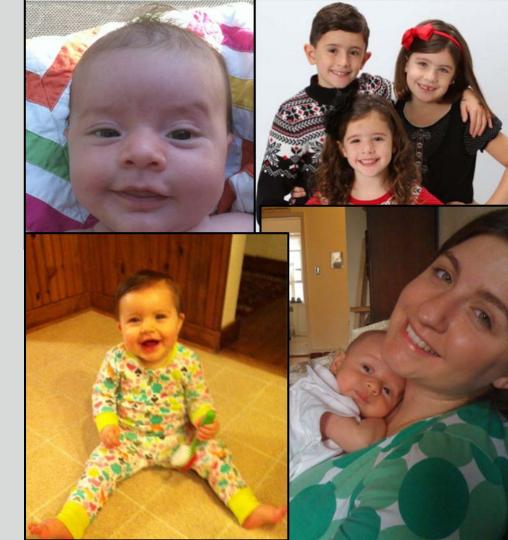








Then this happened. And now I feel so RESPONSIBLE.





On top of things happening at home and work, I now feel a strong societal obligation to preserve and enhance women's rights.

feminist

noun

noun: **feminist**; plural noun: **feminists** a person who supports feminism

feminism

noun

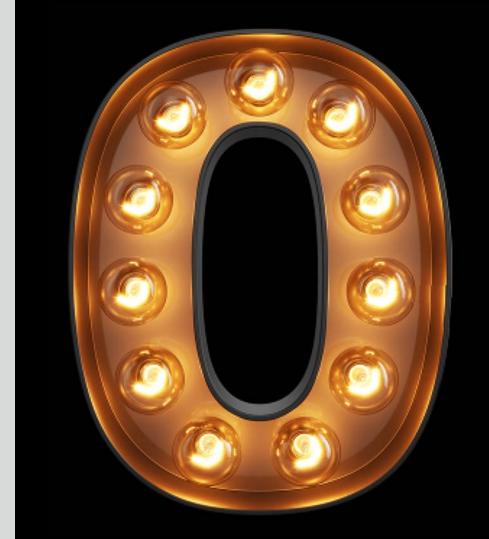
the advocacy of women's rights on the basis of the quality of the sexes





And then...

ZERO women volunteered to speak at our Irving Verizon Tech Day.





Diversity = Better Products

Diversity = Higher Revenue





Where are all the IT V-Team women, and why aren't they answering this call?



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There's this thing called "The Confidence Gap."



"In studies, men overestimate their abilities and performance, and women underestimate both. Their performances do not differ in quality."

Source: The Atlantic, Katty Kay & Claire Shipman



We're raising our girls to be perfect and we're raising our boys to be brave.

- Reshma Saujani, Founder & CEO, Girls Who Code







Men apply to jobs if they meet 60% of the qualifications. Women apply to jobs only if they meet 100% of the qualifications.

-Harvard Business Review





Women stay out of the spotlight for three main reasons:

- Avoiding backlash in the workplace
- Finding professional authenticity
- Parenthood pressures

-Harvard Business Review





What are we going to do with all this data?
We have to step up.





And now my asks...

Ladies, I need you to be visible. Our daughters need to see leaders that look like them. And our sons need to see leaders that look like us.





Ladies, I need you to sit at the table.





Ladies, I need you to think twice before volunteering for "unpromotable tasks."





Ladies, I need you to reach out beyond yourself and support other women.





And finally, Ladies, I need you to tell your stories. I need you to tell them to a lot of people at once.

I need you to publicly speak to build *your* brand -- to build *our* brand.





Men, so many of you are feminists. I need you to start nudging your colleagues to share their stories.





People leaders, you're not off the hook yet.

I need your help, too.





At Verizon, I have an audacious goal for our next Verizon Tech Day.





I want 100% of our speakers at our next Verizon Tech Day to be women.

(I also need some awesome external women speakers too.)

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"When I'm sometimes asked when will there be enough [women on the Supreme Court]? and I say 'When there are nine.' People are shocked. But there'd been nine men, and nobody's ever raised a question about that."

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

That's all folks.

