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Dear TWF friends

"Farrow, Kantor and Twohey amply demonstrate journalism's power, igniting the individual and collective passion that has led to empowering movements such as #MeToo and Time's Up" – actress Ashley Judd

This past week, we have witnessed the power of the media in a global movement against sexual harassment and assault. On April 17, the New York Times and the New Yorker shared the Pulitzer Prize for public service for their ground-breaking reporting that galvanised the #MeToo movement that would later spread beyond Hollywood.

The award recognises the works of the Times' Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey and the New Yorker's contributor Ronan Farrow as "explosive, impactful journalism that exposed wealthy and powerful sexual predators". It also shows the important role of the media in changing the conversation about a behaviour that has long preyed on and devalued women's experiences.

Kantor and Twohey – whose first exposure of Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein's decades-long history of sexual harassment and assaults sent shockwaves around the world – had said their journalistic pursuit was motivated by their young daughters. It was a point they revisited in their acceptance speech: "The two of us, and all of the other reporters around the country who worked on these kinds of stories, did so with the hope that girls your age will know nothing but dignity and decency in the workplace and beyond."

Two days later, Kantor, Twohey and Farrow – as well as Tarana Burke, the creator of #MeToo – were [named](#) in TIME 100's World Most Influential People this year. The #MeToo movement is [ranked](#) No. 3 in "the World's 50 Greatest Leaders" of Fortune Magazine.

Since the New York Times and New Yorker reported on Harvey Weinstein last October, more than 100 women have come forward accusing the producer. The #MeToo movement has spread beyond Hollywood, reaching other countries, including South Korea, where the campaign has brought down many influential men. The majority of the journalists who [reported](#) it have been women, which reveals a need for more engagement from male journalists on covering stories concerning violence against women. While the media is tightly controlled in mainland China, journalist Sophia Huang Xueqin [used](#) social media to shed a light on the widespread problem of sexual harassment in the media industry.

While the Hong Kong media have raised awareness about the #MeToo movement, there has been a backlash as well, especially in the form of [opinion pieces](#) warning that the hashtag will be used to falsely attack men. However, the prevalent problem in Hong Kong, where 1 in 7 women has [experienced](#) sexual assault, is under-reporting: only 10% of the victims decide [to report](#) it. Sexual harassment is even more prevalent – for example, we know from an [EOC survey](#) that 1 out of every 5 women has reported being sexually harassed at work. The psychological burden carried by survivors who are not able to speak out is well depicted in Rainlily's recent campaign, "[最佳女演員 Best Actress](#)". Journalism can have a huge impact on victims' and survivors' decisions to come forward. One important step is sensitive reporting that pays attention to the use of words that can potentially minimise the crime and blame victims and survivors. Calling a sexual assault "sex scandal", for example, diminishes an act of violence, and fails to distinguish the stark difference between a consensual act and a crime. There are a number of great resources out there, including from Australia-based [Our Watch](#) and from the US-based [Dart Centre for Journalism and Trauma](#).

On May 15, we will be hosting our second [#MeToo talk](#) on the corporate response to the movement and how companies can respond to sexual harassment reports more effectively and sensitively. We hope you join the conversation. Let's work together to help drive a societal change that unequivocally supports survivors and to build a zero-tolerance culture against sexual assault and harassment.

Connect will be taking a break next week and will resume on May 8.

As usual we would love to hear from you. Get in touch at Fiona.Nott@twfhk.org.

Have a great week.

Fiona Nott
CEO, The Women's Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS



Managing #MeToo: The Corporate Response

TWF invites you to join us in exploring the business response to #MeToo, looking at some of the key challenges companies are facing and sharing best practice of policies and procedures that companies can employ to create change. This is the second of a series



of events to examine the root causes behind sexual harassment & sexual assault in Hong Kong and will engage the community in discussions around models and solutions for change.

Date: Tuesday, May 15

Time: 8.15-9.30am (8.00am registration)

Venue: Thomson Reuters, 18/F, ICBC Tower, 3 Garden Road, Central

*Light breakfast will be provided courtesy of Thomson Reuters

Register [here](#). For inquiries, please contact Lisa Moore at Lisa.Moore@twfhk.org.

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATES



Financial Literacy and Employability Training Programme

Last Thursday, TWF held a workshop about the Mandatory Provident Fund (MPF) for the Alumni of our Financial Literacy and Employability Training Programme, in partnership with Manulife and HKSXH Lady MacLehose Centre. The workshop introduced the MPF system and employees' rights using real life examples, which was well received by the participants. Many thanks to Manulife's volunteers for their wonderful presentation and facilitation.



Girls Go Tech Company Visits

Last week, TWF partnered with Bloomberg and MTR Corporation to host two company visits for GGT participants from Hong Kong True Light College and Tack Ching Girls' Secondary School respectively. A huge thank you to Bloomberg and MTR Corporation for hosting the visits, and to the groups of passionate volunteers for inspiring the girls by introducing them to technology in media and railway construction.



T.E.E.N. Parent Workshop

Last Friday, we held our sixth positive parenting workshop at China Holiness College, a participating school of the T.E.E.N. Programme. Parents learned key concepts about the positive development of youth, including the importance of personal resilience and character strengths, to help boost the well-being of their children.



TECH: Transforming the Way We Work

Last Tuesday, TWF held the third event in its Leading Women in Futurism Series in partnership with Bloomberg. Entitled TECH: Transforming the Way We Work, the event featured three inspiring speakers - Fran Thompson | Pathfinder Talent Solutions, Jessie Lam | Brinc.io, and Olivia Cain | LinkedIn who shared insights into the future of hardware, what the future workplace will look like and what future skills will be in high demand. A huge thank you to Bloomberg for hosting.



Mentoring Programme – Online Presence Photoshoot and Networking

Last Wednesday, the Mentoring Programme held an Online Presence Photoshoot and Networking session where our mentors and protégés enjoyed a make-over session run by Shiseido Hong Kong and a photoshoot for their LinkedIn profile pictures to help refine their online presence. A huge thank you to our



corporate partners Clifford Chance for hosting the event and to our MP Alum, Morgan Tan of Shiseido Hong Kong for supporting the initiative. Thank you also to our fantastic photographers [Daniel Murray](#) and [Gareth Jones](#) for their time and support as well as to our generous sponsor [Kale](#) for the delicious snacks.



Mentoring Programme - April Workshops

Last Saturday, we held the second session in our series of workshops on Presenting with Confidence and Impact and Professional Presence. Our mentors and protégés gained a deeper understanding of their own self-awareness, how to increase their ability and capacity for professional presence, and how to enhance their personal impact and communicate with clarity, confidence and gravitas. Huge thanks to Divya Ahluwalia and MJ Jennings for facilitating and to Ogilvy & Mather for hosting.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



"Why Women Don't Ask" Panel Discussion

Last Thursday, TWF CEO Fiona Nott participated in a Bank of America Merrill Lynch Women's Leadership Council Panel Discussion on "Why Women Don't Ask". Moderated by Fion Leung | Bloomberg, she spoke alongside Margaret Lyng | BAML, Russell Kopp | BAML and Susan Chan | Blackrock. The speakers shared insights and learnings on negotiation skills, how to accept and learn from rejection, the value of finding mentors and sponsors, and how organisations can better support everyone in their growth.



'Governing for the Future' Breakfast with Elizabeth Proust AO FAICD

This morning, TWF and the 30% Club Hong Kong were pleased to support a breakfast organised by the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) featuring Elizabeth Proust, Chair of the AICD. Facilitated by Tim Payne, TWF Board Member and Chair of the 30% Club Hong Kong Steering Committee, and opened by TWF CEO Fiona Nott, Elizabeth spoke about key challenges that directors face: building trust, effectively leveraging the tech revolution and creating the right (and diverse) board balance to tackle these new, complex problems. Click [here](#) to read Elizabeth Proust's full speech.

SHE OBJECTS UPDATE



Screening at Discovery College

Last Tuesday, Discovery College screened She Objects to a group of upper secondary school students. TWF Development Officer, Riya Chandiramani, engaged in a lively Q&A following the film. If you would like to host a She Objects screening for your company or school, please contact Lisa.Moore@twfhk.org.

IN THE COMMUNITY



2017/18 Family-Friendly Employers Award Scheme
Register Now

2018 Family-Friendly Employers Award

TWF is delighted to support the 2017/18 Family-Friendly Employers Award Scheme. The Scheme recognises organisations that value a



family-friendly spirit and encourages companies to implement more diversified family-friendly employment policies and practices. You are encouraged to register. Please click [here](#) for details.

WHAT WE'RE READING

Our top picks for recommended reading on the key trends and breaking stories on women and gender:

- [What Most People Get Wrong About Men and Women](#) (HBR)
- ['Who Gets to Build the Future?': The Rise of Gender Lens Investing](#) (News Deeply)
- [Wynn Resorts appoints 3 women to board in a 'turning point'](#) (CNN Money)
- [Cape Town's New Masculinity](#) (NY Times)
- [Financial inclusion is improving around the world—but women are still missing out](#) (Quartz)
- [Taking Our Power Back: Women and Girls Are Key to Food Security During Conflict](#) (New Security Beat)
- [Indian women's commissioner on hunger strike over rape laws](#) (CNN)

We are following the latest developments on combatting sexual harassment. Key reports below:

- [A new frontier for #MeToo: Moving past the "classic" version of harassment driven by male lust](#) (Salon)
- [Non-disclosure agreements have been in the news a lot - but what exactly are they?](#) (BBC - video)
- [#Time's Up: Prevention is better than cure](#) (Deacons)
- [#MeToo was sputtering in Japan—until today, when two government officials resigned](#) (Quartz)
- [#MeToo and my six months as a radical feminist](#) (FT)
- [Sexual Harassment Was Rampant at Coachella 2018](#) (Teen Vogue)
- [Brace yourself for the attempted 'comebacks' of Hollywood's disgraced men](#) (Women's Agenda)
- [Why Chinese women don't speak out about sexual harassment in the workplace](#) (SCMP)
- ['Men only': Discrimination against women widespread in China's job ads, Human Rights Watch finds](#) (HKFP)
- [風雨蘭廣告揭女性啞忍性暴力 籲勿當「最佳女演員」](#)(HK01)

9A Chun Wo Commercial Centre, 23-29 Wing Wo Street, Sheung Wan
E. info@twfhk.org | W. twfhk.org | T. +852-2592-8265 | F. +852-2592-8264

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