

Dear TWF friends



The Legacy of RBG

"*Women belong in all places where decisions are being made.*" - Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Former Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States and gender equality champion

We pay tribute to Ruth Bader Ginsburg, US Supreme Court Justice and global feminist icon, who passed away last week.

Since the late 1960's, Ginsburg has led the fight for gender equality, challenging and overturning the many discriminatory restrictions on American women that still stood in law. She also advanced the rights for stay-at-home fathers and was a life-long advocate for truly gender equal roles at home and in society. She went on to become a Supreme Court Justice and used that position to continue to fight for gender equality and civil liberties. More recently, Ginsburg became something of a cultural icon. Outside of the US, her efforts have won respect and acclaim from Europe to China. Her legacy will continue to inspire younger generations, through her powerful and unwavering work that made the world a more equal place.

Here are a few of the areas she championed that intersect with current events.

[Read more](#)

UPCOMING EVENT



Virtual Gala 2020 - Join Us!

Join us as we bring you our Virtual Gala on Thursday **November 5, 2020**.

Following the success of our first-ever Virtual IWD Lunch in June, the Virtual Gala promises an evening of inspiring speakers, special guests and heartwarming stories from programme participants.

Hong Kong has faced unprecedented challenges in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, and women have been disproportionately affected across the spectrum. Gender equality has never been more critical as we recalibrate our thinking and utilise these challenges as a powerful catalyst for positive change.

Our exciting and dynamic programme will foster forward-looking conversations around the theme '**Facing Challenge | Fuelling Change**'. We are thrilled to announce the Hon **Julia Gillard AC**, 27th Prime Minister of Australia, as one of our guest speakers.

To register for an individual ticket, please

click [here](#). Please note tickets are available on a first-come-first-served basis.

[Click here for sponsorship opportunities](#)

TWF PROGRAMME UPDATE



Males Allies Initiative

Check out our new Male Allies Initiative video!

You are only an ally when you take action. So, what will you do today?

[Watch the video here!](#)

DONATE TO TWF



The COVID-19 pandemic is not only having a profound impact on our health, but also on our society. Women will continue to be disproportionately impacted by this crisis as we move towards recovery efforts – from large numbers of redundancies in female-dominated sectors to facing increased risks of domestic abuse and other forms of gender-based violence.

At TWF, we are committed to working with you all in forging a path forward that is equal – for men and women, boys and girls. As we build our new normal, it's more vital than ever that gender equality, diversity and the needs of our most vulnerable are kept in mind.

We would ask you to consider donating a portion of your HK\$10,000 Cash Payout to support our critical work. Help us as we continue to empower and improve the lives of women and girls in Hong Kong.

[Make your donation here](#)

#TECHFORGOD



Help Us Support Underprivileged Families

As we are facing the third wave of COVID-19 cases, making sure underprivileged students, in particular girls, have equal access to the technology they need to support their education during uncertain times continues to be a priority.

In collaboration with The Hong Kong Association for Computer Education (HKACE), TWF intends to donate 500 much needed second-hand portable devices to underprivileged families to enable their children to have access to online classes, schoolwork, tools, and resources.

We have delivered over 400 computers to families in need, but we need your help to give devices to our last few families. Please consider joining this vital project for our community by donating 25-50 laptops, iPads or tablets; or by helping us [cover](#) the costs for coordination of this outreach project.

Visit [here](#) for more information. Kindly contact Connie.Cheung@twfhk.org or Deanie.Chiu@twfhk.org with any questions.

For the next month, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) – the most progressive blueprint for the rights of women and girls around the world – we will feature one key focus area each week and note how it informs TWF's work.



Education and Training of Women

Education is essential for achieving gender equality. Apart from equipping women and girls with knowledge and skills to lead social change and contribute to societies, equal and unbiased education can also be a powerful tool to break traditional gender stereotypes.

Although women outnumber men in government-funded Hong Kong university programme enrollments, women are still significantly under-represented in STEM-related careers and fields of study, which is worrying considering the critical importance STEM skills play in our current and future workforce.

This is why we commissioned two studies to explore why fewer girls are pursuing STEM subjects, in [2017](#) and [2018](#). The findings indicated that girls have less confidence and interest in STEM subjects, have less support to pursue these subjects from parents, teachers and friends, and don't link STEM subjects with being meaningful or helping people – both characteristics they rank as important for their future careers.

To close the gender gap in STEM education, we launched the [Girls Go Tech Programme](#) (GGT) in 2015 for secondary school girls, which aims to inspire girls to build confidence and interest in STEM through providing coding and computer skills as well as problem solving and analytical skills, and increasing confidence around STEM. This is supplemented with engaging workshops, company visits, and career talks. Last year, we launched a Digital Literacy Programme, targeting disadvantaged parents and their young daughters to promote their interest in STEM and debunk negative stereotypes that STEM skills, subjects and careers are more suitable for boys.

By addressing the barriers preventing girls from pursuing STEM-related subjects, degrees and - eventually - careers, they will be one step closer to realising their full potential.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



TWF CEO Speaks on Prudential D&I Panel

On Monday, TWF CEO Fiona Nott participated in a panel discussion entitled "D&I Engagement: Leaders make change happen" hosted by Prudential. Moderated by Andrew McGregor | Immersive Inclusion, she joined Shalini Mahtani | The Zubin Foundation and Brian Henderson | Whole Business Wellness to discuss purpose, social change, and how leaders from any background can make a positive impact. They also shared insights around lessons learned and explored how they translate passion into action.

OPENING AT TWF

Senior Programme Officer / Programme Officer Opening

TWF is seeking a full-time Senior Programme Officer / Programme Officer to join its rapidly growing and dynamic team to plan and manage its innovative and impactful community programmes. Applications should be received by **September 22**.

[Apply Now](#)

WHAT WE'RE READING

Gender Equality

- [Countering the gender-regressive shock of COVID-19 in Asia](#) (FT)
- [COVID-19 and its economic toll on women: The story behind the numbers](#) (UN Women)
- [Women's rights seen taking a backseat under Japan's new government](#) (Reuters)
- [Equal pay essential to build a world of dignity and justice for all, UN says, commemorating first International Equal Pay Day](#) (UN News)
- [Don't Let Health Hold Women Back](#) (Foreign Policy)
- [The girls and women fighting to stop child marriage – photo essay](#) (Guardian)
- [Why is women's leadership not in the headlines?](#) (UN Women)

Sexual Violence & Harassment

- [To protect its abused women, China must fight ingrained male chauvinism](#) (SCMP)
- [Denmark to make consent the basis for determining rape](#) (Guardian)
- [The 'second wave of trauma': Why victim-blaming happens in sexual assault cases and its implications](#) (Today Online)
- [Dalits bear brunt of India's 'endemic' sexual violence crisis](#) (Guardian)
- [Her Husband Abused Her. But Getting a Divorce Was an Ordeal](#) (NYT)
- [Changes to 3 key bills will help protect women – Ramaphosa](#) (News24)

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