

# Gifts of Speech News

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## Featured Product



[Women's Tank Top](#)

**\$14.99**

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### 1. 'Mother' of Iraqi Women Bombers Arrested

From the article:

A woman accused of helping recruit dozens of female suicide bombers looked into the camera and described the process: trolling society for likely candidates and then patiently converting the women from troubled souls into deadly attackers.

The woman said she was part of a plot in which young women were raped and then sent to her for matronly advice. She said she would try to persuade the victims to become suicide bombers as their only escape from the shame and to reclaim their honor.

Read the rest of this deeply disturbing article at the link below.

Link: [http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2009-02/04/content\\_7443920.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/world/2009-02/04/content_7443920.htm)

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### 2. The Welfare of Women Worldwide

By Anna Quindlin:

As Barack Obama and Hillary Rodham Clinton begin to use their uncommon authority and intelligence to implement a new American international agenda, it might behoove them to read a speech given some years ago in Beijing. It read in part: "If there is one message that echoes forth from this conference, let it be that human rights are women's rights, and women's rights are human rights for one and for all. Let us not forget that among those rights are the right to speak freely—and the right to be heard. Women must enjoy the rights to participate fully in the social and political lives of their countries if we want freedom and democracy to thrive and endure."

Please continue reading at the link below.

Link: <http://www.newsweek.com/id/181263>

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### **3. Microcredit: Obama's mother & Hillary**

From the story:

From July 1993 to the end of 1994, Barack Obama's mother was hard at work in New York City convening experts, compiling surveys and drafting papers for a major United Nations conference in Beijing, where she hoped to show how much good can be done by lending small sums to poor women.

As Ann Dunham-Soetoro's colleagues brainstormed, they agreed that one advocate would electrify their panel: then-first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Dunham-Soetoro never made it to Beijing. By the time of the 1995 conference, she was in Hawaii, suffering the painful last stages of cancer that would soon claim her life.

But Clinton did speak at the panel co-sponsored by the International Coalition on Women and Credit that Dunham-Soetoro had brought together at the U.N.'s initiative. Two years later, Clinton helped launch a campaign to extend microfinance to 100 million families, a goal the coalition pushed at Beijing - and attained two years ago.

Read the whole story at the link below.

Link: <http://tinyurl.com/dy2hy8>

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#### 4. International Female Ride Day



From the website:

Flagged for the first Friday of May each year, International Female Ride Day, occurring this year on May 1st, prepares to host its

third year celebrating women motorcycle enthusiasts around the world. The event has fast become "the date" in women rider's agendas, embracing the campaign's request to

simply – just ride.

Female Ride Day, the globally synchronized day for women, was designed to emphasize and spotlight the many numbers of women who ride motorcycles, celebrating not only their diversities, but similarities in their shared passion for motorcycling. It became a huge hit at its inception in 2007, instantly identified among women riders and has since tripled in involvement each year. It is now an inescapable campaign, celebrated from all corners of the planet. It now encompasses a range of international cultures and locations including Canada, United States, South Africa, Australia, Greece and the UK to name but a few, with Poland joining in this year.

Read more at the link below.

Link: <http://www.clutchandchrome.com/News/0903/News0903032.htm>

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## 5. March Site of the Month

### **The Girl Effect**

is a project sponsored in part by the Nike Foundation who believes that adolescent girls are uniquely capable of raising the standard of living in the developing world. Among the 10 problems they propose to address are lack of identification for girl children, illiteracy, early pregnancy, high incidence of HIV infections, limited opportunity for respectable jobs, and lack of adequate reporting on the welfare of girl children in developing countries.

The site is not easy to navigate so I'll list some of

their major links here:

[Girls Count: A Global Investment & Action Agenda](#)

[The Girl Effect on Facebook](#)

[The Girl Effect Fact Sheet](#)

["Your Move" Guide](#)

Link: <http://www.girleffect.org>

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--Liz Kent

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