

Gifts of Speech News

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1. Global Women's Rights Awards

From Feminist Majority Foundation:

"Each year, the Feminist Majority Foundation honors extraordinary people who have overcome great obstacles, adversity, and threats to their own lives and well-being to expose global women's rights injustices and fight for women's rights worldwide. [On the evening of Wednesday, April 30th] I had the pleasure of attending the 5th Annual Global Women's Rights Awards. [snip] I couldn't help but be in awe of the fact that I was mingling with truly incredible, beyond inspirational, groundbreaking, unrelenting feminist honorees."

The honorees of the evening were:

- Christiane Amanpour, CNN's chief international correspondent
- American filmmakers Abigail Disney, Gini Reticker & Leymah Gbowee for their award-winning film, Pray the Devil Back to Hell, together with Liberian journalist Janet Johnson Bryant
- Executive producer and writer Dr. Neal Baer and actor Mariska Hargitay of Law & Order: Special Victims Unit
- Billie Heller, a champion of the International

Women's Rights Treaty (CEDAW)

- And the groundbreaking One Million Signatures Campaign to end discrimination against Iranian women

Mariska Hargitay is also the president and founder of the [Joyful Heart Foundation](#). Joyful Heart Foundation helps survivors of sexual assault heal and reclaim their lives.

Read the whole article at the link below.

Link: <http://feministcampus.blogspot.com/2009/05/pressing-issues-raised-at-global-womens.html>

2. New Domestic Violence PSA

From CNN:

"Actress Keira Knightley released a violent commercial in the UK on April 2nd, 2009 highlighting the problem of domestic violence. In the two-minute film, Knightley is beaten by an abusive boyfriend after she arrives home from a day of filming".

Read the article at CCN [here](#).

Try to ignore the bogus "does this go too far?" palaver.

See the whole bold Knightley PSA at the YouTube link below.

Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ctoZbeD-GIY>

3. Afghan Women March, America Turns

Away

From Nader Nadery And Haseeb Humayoon in the New York Times:

"LAST November, extremists on motorbikes opposed to education for women sprayed acid on a group of students from the Mirwais School for Girls in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Several young women were severely burned. Yet it did not take more than a few weeks for even the most cruelly disfigured girls to return to school. Like the crowds of women in Kabul this week who protested a new law that restricts their rights, the Mirwais students demonstrate unbending courage and resolve for progress. They don't fear much — except that the world might abandon them."

Link to the [Afghanistan: Ensuring Success Conference](#).

Link: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/20/opinion/20nadery.html>

4. Interview with Linda Johnson Rice

From CNBC:

"In this episode of Beyond the Boardroom, Jon Tisch talks to Linda Johnson Rice, CEO of Johnson Publishing. Johnson Publishing, started by Linda's father John, runs prominent African American publications such as [Ebony](#) and [Jet](#). Linda tells Jon about how her father got started, her time on the West Coast and the occasional frustration of working in the family

business. Linda talks about what is most important for her company: brand development and getting the right people in the right positions. Like her mother, Linda's daughter hopes to one day sit at the helm of Johnson Publishing."

Everything about this 25 minute video interview is well done, except the music. The music sounds like it came from a very groovy episode of "Bewitched." Enjoy it all at the link below.

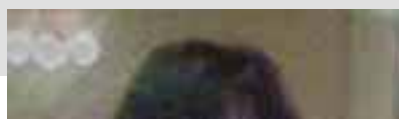
Link: <http://www.plumtv.com/videos/beyond-the-boardroom---linda-johnson-rice/index.html>

5. May Website of the Month

The Woodhull Institute Young Women's Ethical Leadership Core Training program has been developed to educate young women who exhibit leadership potential in their careers, community or family life. This core training program is designed to educate a small group of women in the practical skill sets that are so necessary to succeed in today's businesses, political and community environments. Participants in this program will be presented with the concepts of ethical leadership; taught professional development skills; and be directed to networks, mentors and resources that can channel their leadership aspirations into practical and attainable achievements.

Learn more about the program at the link below.

Link: <http://www.woodhull.org/pageView.php?id=6>



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--Liz Kent

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