



*Everything equality, diversity & inclusion for business and lifestyle*

4 March 2021

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## Choose to challenge #IWD2021



The last 12 months has in many ways been a year of challenges, and with the challenges has come many changes. This year on International Women's Day, we're talking to trailblazing women and male allies, from across the globe, who are committed to advancing gender equality and challenging the changes much needed to advance gender equality and create a more balanced world. Whilst the last decade has advanced gender equality, the last 12 months has seen a great increase in inequality. We are at a cross roads where our governments, organisations and leaders must come together to find interventions that will allow millions of women to re-skill, continue to work, climb the ladder and continue to play a vital role in business and society. Join us at our **Gender Agenda Online Summit** on **10 March**, details below, and be part of a global conversation where we can all choose to challenge.

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## In The News

**Sign the petition.** Sign the petition to reinstate Mandatory Gender Pay Gap Reporting in the UK and back the Women & Equalities Select Committee recommendation that mandatory reporting for the financial years 2019/20 and 2020/21 is required in April 2021. [Read](#)

**Boardrooms of Britain increase female representation by 50%.** Women are now taking up one in every three boardroom roles in the UK following the Hampton-Alexander Review which started in 2016. [Read](#)

**100 actions for equality.** Michelle King, Founder, The Fix has launched 100 actions for equality in line with International Women's Day 2021. [Read](#)

**Historic vote cast in the House of Representatives.** This new legislation provides protection and sends a message that LGBTQ+ community should no longer be treated like second-class citizens. [Read](#)

**The requirements of Millennial and Gen Z.** How younger recruits are insisting diversity and inclusion is an imperative rather than a requirement. [Read](#)

**UK government slammed for sexist advertising.** The UK government released an advertising campaign, encouraging people to stay at home. However, the problem with the campaign, was that the visuals illustrate women doing the chores while a man is lounging on a sofa. [Read](#)

**The only Black CEO to run a Fortune 500 company.** Walgreens announce their new CEO, Roz Brewer, a woman whose parents did not graduate from high school, but ensured all their five children received the best education. [Read](#)

**Gender Pay Gap Back on the Agenda?** Fawcett Society, the leading charity in the UK for gender equality is calling upon the UK government to reinstate the gender pay gap reporting. [Read](#)

**First African woman to head WTO.** Nigerian economist, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala has made history by becoming the first female, African to lead the World Trade Organisation. [Read](#)

**Why menopause is a conversation for both men and women.** More must be done to support women in the workplace and, that women have male allies who understand. [Read](#)

**LGBTQ+ professionals in STEM facing workplace harassment.** A new study has found that LGBTQ+ professionals are 30% more likely to face workplace challenges with other career related obstacles. [Read](#)

**Nike goes hands-free.** A new type of sneakers by Nike has put innovation and accessibility at the heart of their latest sneakers. [Read](#)

**Land O'Lakes leading by example through authenticity.** The first openly gay woman to run a Fortune 500 firm shares how everyone benefits when authenticity is in all our aspects of lives. [Read](#)

**Michelle Obama in conversation with Amanda Gorman.** They talk poetry, speech difficulty and much more. [Read](#)

**US government announce their Gender Policy Council.** The council will aid to advance gender equality and, work with women and girls across a variety of issues. [Read](#)

**UK Census 2021.** A new question on gender identity has been added to the UK Census for the first time. [Read](#)

**The imperatives which build diversity, equity and inclusion.** A step-by-step guide from McKinsey & Company on building a successful diversity, equity and, inclusion strategy. [Read](#)

**Six Dr Seuss Books Scrapped.** Six books will no longer be published due to racist and insensitive imagery, the company founded by Dr. Seuss' family has announced. [Read](#)

**The Big Curry Night In returns in the UK!** You can choose a night between 5 - 14 March to hold your Big Curry Night In to support people living in the poorest parts of South Asia. The UK government will match your donation. [Read](#)

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## Information Hub

**Thought Leadership: Contributing to the Betterment of Society** by Akira Mitsumasu, Vice President Global Marketing, Japan Airlines.

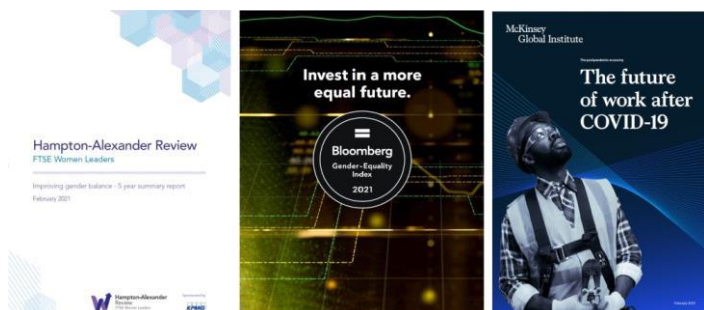


Japan Airlines (JAL), a Japanese national carrier, is breaking conventions and endeavouring to lead the charge for diversity and inclusivity by practicing *Allyship* – the process of emphasizing social justice and inclusion by building relationships with marginalized individuals and/or groups of people, based on trust, consistency, and accountability.

**The Last Word from Hampton-Alexander Review.** The fifth and final independent review of looking at increasing the representation of women in senior leadership positions on the boards of FTSE350 companies.

**Bloomberg Gender Equality Index Insights.** The Index tracks the performance of public companies committed to disclosing their efforts to support gender equality through policy development, representation and transparency.

**The Future of Work after COVID-19** by **McKinsey Global Institute.** This is the first of three reports examining the future of work, consumer behaviour and recovery led by productivity and innovation.



[Read](#)

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## Online Summits

Here's our full line-up of speakers for our #IWD2021 flagship event, **Gender Agenda Online Summit** powered by **Virgin Media**, **10 March**. A full day of conversations with trailblazing women and male allies from across the globe who are committed to advancing gender equality. Join them as they share how they are making an impact and challenging the changes in our new future of work.

Delighted to announce our partnership with **JobSeer** at the **Gender Agenda Online Summit**. JobSeer is an AI-powered tool that helps job seekers simplify the job search process by narrowing down search results and finding the most relevant jobs using the Smart Search and Match Score Features giving more understanding and transparency. *Find your next role with **JobSeer***



It's FREE to attend and you can [book here](#).

### SAVE THE DATE:

9th June 2021: **LGBTQ+ Inclusion Matters Online Summit**. A full day of talks, interviews and storytelling with LGBTQ+ people to shape the future of visibility and representation in our places of work.

6 October 2021: **Race Equality Summit**. Racial equality will be one of the most important factor in our places of work over the next decade. Therefore, what do businesses need to know, how do they solve the problems diverse employees are experiencing and how do we bring about tangible changes.

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## Learning

Exploring Unconscious Bias in People Management, **21 April**

Creating an Environment Where Inclusive Teams Can Flourish, **22 April**

Making Mental Health Everyone's Business, **18 May**

[View Courses](#)

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## Inclusion Calendar

**International Women's Day**, an annual event focusing on the movement for women's rights.

**World Purple Day**, an international grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness on epilepsy.

**Holi**, celebrated by the Hindu community worldwide, to welcome in spring, and seen as a new beginning. Sometimes known as the festival of colour.

**International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** is observed with a series of events and activities worldwide. The day aims to remind people of racial discrimination's negative consequences.

[View Calendar](#)

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## Books

**Stronger by Porna Bell.** A book which is inspired by Porna's journey to get physically strong after the death of her husband. She wants to empower every woman to tap into confidence, mental strength and physical activity to overcome barriers that exclude her from being her best. [Review](#)

**The Conversation** by Robert Livingston. A great tool for anyone who wants to start a dialogue on racism and bias and turn well-intentioned statements into action. [Review](#)

**Your Wellbeing Garden.** A well-thought-out garden can enhance your mood and well-being. This book explains why green spaces are good for you and how to optimize space. [Review](#)



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## Podcast

**Renegades: Born in the USA.** A series of conversations between Bruce Springsteen and former US President Barack Obama on issues including race, fatherhood, marriage and the state of America. [Listen](#)

**Happy Mum, Happy Baby** speaks with Baroness Tani Grey-Thompson DBE. A conversation with an inspirational woman, she's a Paralympian, Crossbench Peer, Motivational Speaker, Broadcaster and Mother. Tani talks about being mum, her career and competing to win in the Olympics and winning 16 medals. [Listen](#)



**Your Dream Life.** Host Kristina Karlsson speaks with Dr Aseem Malhotra on sugar, healthy choices and following your passion. Dr Malhotra is a world-leading expert in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease. [Listen](#)



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## Visit

**An Egyptian show coming near you.** Egypt's Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities have announced a touring show featuring ancient Egyptian treasures which will tour the world from November 2021. [Find out more](#)

**Culture & Climate at the British Museum.** Join curators Amber Lincoln and Jago Cooper for a special curator's tour of the online exhibition exploring life in the Antarctic. [Find out more](#)

**WOW Festival goes online.** The annual Women of the World Festival is taking place in March with conversations and interactive workshops throughout the month. [Find out more](#)

**Jane Austen's Artful Letters.** An online exhibition of Jane Austen's life through letters. The exhibition reveals objects from the collection at Jane Austen's house and how an artfully written letter can tell us much about her life. [Find out more](#)

**Visit Northern Ireland's Royal Residence.** Hillsborough Castle and Gardens is a stunning castle nestled amongst 100 acres of beautiful gardens with plenty to do for a family day out. [Find out more](#)

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## Watch

**What's Is Your Life's Blueprint by Martin Luther King, Jr.** Shortly before we lost MLK Jr, he spoke to a group of students in Philadelphia about taking pride in your job and striving to be the very best at whatever it is you do. It is called "What Is Your Life's Blueprint?" [Watch](#)

**It's a Sin.** A Channel 4 mini-series in the UK, which tells the story of three gay men during the 1980s, living with HIV/AIDS. Perhaps a few lessons in the series where we can learn to create an inclusive world. Available on [Channel 4](#)

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