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The Unfinished Revolution: Voices From The Global Fight For Women's Rights



Synopsis

It's a time of change in the world, with dictators toppling and new opportunities rising, but any revolution that doesn't create equality for women will be incomplete. The time has come to realize the full potential of half the world's population. •Christiane Amanpour, from the foreword

The Unfinished Revolution tells the story of the global struggle to secure basic rights for women and girls, including in the Middle East where the Arab Spring raised high hopes, but the political revolutions are so far insufficient to guarantee progress. Around the world, women and girls are trafficked into forced labor and sex slavery, trapped in conflict zones where rape is a weapon of war, prevented from attending school, and kept from making deeply personal choices in their private lives, such as whom and when to marry. In many countries, women are second-class citizens by law. In others, religion and traditions block freedoms such as the right to work, study or access health care. Even in the United States, women who are victims of sexual violence often do not see their attackers brought to justice. More than 30 writers—Nobel Prize laureates, leading activists, top policymakers, and former victims—have contributed to this anthology. Drawing from their rich personal experiences, they tackle some of the toughest questions and offer bold new approaches to problems affecting hundreds of millions of women. This volume is indispensable reading, providing thoughtful analysis from a never-before assembled group of advocates. It shows that the fight for women's equality is far from over. As Leymah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate says, "Women are not free anywhere in this world until all women in the world are free."

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Customer Reviews

Inspired by the awarding of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize to three women for their nonviolent battles for the safety of women and human rights, Tawakkul Karman, of Yemen; Leymah Gbowee; and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Africa's first democratically elected female president, Worden, of Human Rights Watch, gathered together essays assessing the progress of worldwide rights for women and girls since the UN's human rights conferences in the 1990s. The ongoing global struggle consists of three distinct spheres: economic issues (human trafficking, property rights); violence against women and their health rights (including genital mutilation); and harmful traditions (religious clothing restraints, so-called honor crimes). Contributors begin with Eleanor Roosevelt's 1958 warning that Cold War politics threatened a doctrine of universal human rights transcending national sovereignty and move forward to today's unequal property rights for African women and violence against immigrant women in America. Diverse voices of hopeless, hopeful, and boldly determined women from around the world constitute a compelling, multicultural resource supplemented by copious endnotes, a reading list, and an index.

--Whitney Scott

"This compilation of commissioned essays, anecdotes, and photos presents a powerful overview of contemporary women's issues--from the unsettlingly enormous backlogs of untested rape kits in Los Angeles, to genital mutilation and child marriage in Kurdistan and Afghanistan--and the ongoing fight for women's rights around the world. While sociologically and academically relevant, this is a cohesive and eminently readable document that is simultaneously an inspiration and a call-to-action."

•Publisher's Weekly

Diverse voices of hopeless, hopeful, and boldly determined women from around the world comprise a compelling, multicultural resource...

•Booklist

This collection of essays goes into some of the most pertinent women's issues of the day, offering a concise history of the struggle for recognition and equality. The book ends with hopeful notes for the future, but only if we continue to push for women's rights and end cruelty globally. The pictures in the middle also bring faces to the suffering and struggle.

Very good book; the injustices described are devastating and you should be outraged, but the book has an overall uplifting sentiment.

Great!

I recommend this book. It isn't easy to sit and read in one sitting but I found I would pick it up occasionally and read a chapter since it is an anthology, it worked well. There are perspectives from women who live these issues so it goes well beyond an academic view.

Awesome inside on middle east women and great compliment to the class of WOMS121. I hope those who consider themselves feminist consider looking into this book and relating it to their daily lives.

This is a great book about the way women are still, in the 21st century, subjected to abuse and the denial of equality. It is especially useful to me in my role as an activist with Amnesty International for women's rights

This is a book for new people who need to learn about the Global Fight for Women's rights. It has a wealth of info. in it. But most of it I have already read or heard about.

Well written, clear, concise and in my opinion a critical read for our time lest we rest in complacency. Historically valuable and quite an inspirational read.

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