

Women with character who inspire – Profile: Kerry Kennedy

Background

Kerry Kennedy's life has been devoted to promoting equal justice, protecting basic rights, and preserving the rule of law. She has worked on diverse human rights issues such as children's rights, child labor, disappearances, indigenous land rights, judicial independence, freedom of expression, ethnic violence, impunity, and the environment. She has concentrated specifically on women's rights, exposing injustices and educating audiences about women's issues, particularly honor killings, sexual slavery, domestic violence, workplace discrimination, sexual assault, abuse of prisoners and more. She has worked in over 60 countries and led hundreds of human rights delegations. At a time of diminished idealism and growing cynicism about public service, Kennedy's life and lectures are testaments to the commitment to the basic values of human rights.



Humanitarian Work

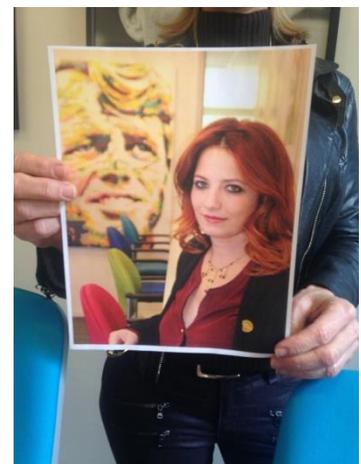
Kennedy is the author of *Speak Truth to Power: Human Rights Defenders Who Are Changing Our World*, which features interviews with human rights activists including Marian Wright Edelman, His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and more. *Speak Truth*, a global education initiative to aid the fight for international human rights, grew from her book exploring the quality of courage through the words of leading human rights defenders.

Which woman inspires you?

Ragia Omran

Ragia Omran is a human rights attorney and RFK Defender and has been at the forefront of the human rights and women's rights movements in Egypt for twenty years, dedicating her life to achieving a revolution in Egypt that is, like her, peaceful, compassionate and successful.

Through Ragia's leadership, we will see a brighter future for Egypt, in which women walk freely through Tahrir Square, and those arrested for crimes can count on a fair day in court. On that day, the dreams of those who fought for peace over violence, justice over impunity, and rule of law over rule of the mob, will finally be realized.



To learn more about *Speak Truth to Power* please visit <http://curriculum.rfkcenter.org/>



To learn more about Ragia's News Woman Foundation visit: <http://nwrcegypt.org/en/>

مؤسسة المرأة الجديدة
New Woman Foundation



Women's History Month: Students write about the women who inspire them

Who inspires you? In honor of Women's History Month in March, we want to know about the woman in history you look up to most and why. Send a photo of yourself, a close-up photo of your hands holding a picture (or drawing) and a short blurb about why you chose that woman to [newshourextra \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:newshourextra@gmail.com) and we may post it here.

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/student_voices/women_who_inspire/