Target Gender Equality – When She Leads

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Quick facts: Harriet Quiney – Partner – DWF Law LLP – UK

Key Accomplishments:
- To have attained partnership without compromising and while being my authentic self
- To be able to promote a positive image of neurodiversity
- To remain approachable

“We’re all in it together – sisterhood is powerful.

We have 10 years to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. What are you doing to champion the Global Goals in your business?

I try to live in a sustainable way and model values that promote the goals, by considering diversity and inclusion in everything I do, trying to minimize my environmental footprint and speaking truth to power.

What motivates you to keep fighting for the issues you care about?

I am trying to create the world I want my children to live in; a world where the issues I care about matter. If I don’t fight, how can I expect anyone else to?

Can you share one obstacle that you had to overcome to achieve a successful career in business?

At my previous firm, I was told I would never make partner there or anywhere else because I was different and not able to conform. Fortunately, I disagreed, so I resigned and found a firm with a more diverse approach.

Can you share one barrier to women’s economic empowerment that you think is overlooked or not adequately prioritized? In your opinion, what needs to happen to accelerate the pace of change?

The education of girls is fundamental. If you cannot conceive it, you cannot be it.

What is one piece of advice you would like to share with fellow women that are aiming to shatter the glass ceiling in the business world?

Don’t compromise. Do it your way.

What is one piece of advice that you would like to share with male leaders?

Women do not always communicate in the same way as men. They tend not to shout. They may not ask directly for what they want. Learn to listen carefully and with empathy before you act.