

COMMON SENSE TALK



In an advance commemoration of International Women's Day on March 8, Common Sense Talk in this issue is devoted to quotations by women from all walks of life.

"For me, my greatest achievement is that during difficult times like bird flu and SARS, no one from my team said: 'I don't want to work.' No one called in sick and they all worked hard."

Dr. Wilina Lim Wei-Ling

"Women do lead differently from men. I try to share a tremendous amount with my staffers. I feel everything: the tribulations of business, the responsibility to people who depend on me to feed their families. Those things are always in my decision-making process."

Vera Wang

"If your kids are important and your work is, too, you compromise on something else. I compromise on time for myself."

Lata Krishnan

"I think I'm a better leader because I'm a parent. I am more organized and have learned to set priorities because of my children."

Eileen Collins

"As African women, we've had to compete more than women in developed societies. But this has compelled us to be more aggressive in trying to reach the highest levels."

President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf

"You need to be supportive of your people, because leading is about serving. That's not a girly thing; it's what I believe a strong leader does."

Judith Shapiro

"I'm a come-what-may person. If something feels right, I'll go with it. It's not the outcome that matters, it's the creative process."

Amy Tan

"Don't spend time beating on a wall, hoping to transform it into a door."

Dr. Laura Schlessinger

"You just don't luck into things as much as you'd like to think you do. You build step by step, whether it's friendships or opportunities."

Barbara Bush