



**WE  
WILL**

# we.WIL

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# JING JING SUN S20

AN INTERVIEW BY SURI YANG

**Welcome to HEC Paris. It's nice to meet you! To start with, please tell us more about yourself including your child?**

My name is Jingjing Sun and my son's name is Lourenco Yang Sun Suspiro. The baby is seven months old.

**What has been one life-changing event that you consider very instrumental in shaping you?**

I had a PhD offer from the US in 2019, but I got pregnant afterwards. My PhD focus was on Biomedical Science and the major work would be performing experiments in the lab. I was concerned that it would harm my baby. So I deferred the offer, then in December of 2019, I decided to apply to an MBA because I think this will accelerate my career in a more efficient way than a PhD. People around me, like my supervisor, my friends and my families all thought that an MBA would be a more suitable choice for me. I got the offer in early February and gave birth to my boy in mid February. I reckon, this is a life-turning event and my life is totally different from what I imagined two years ago, in a better way. Luckily, my husband got an offer from ESSEC to do his PhD at the same time as I got my MBA offer. We were able to move to Paris together and I think all of these decisions and events are life-turning and pushed me to grow in a very short time.



**So Jingjing, this must be a new adventure for you as a mother. You are an inspiration to all of us. How did you come to make the decision of doing an MBA. What were the motivations?**

I want to have my own biotechnology company eventually. However, my background is biotech and I had no idea about starting a business. Having an MBA will equip me with all the necessary business aspects about starting and running a company.

**What keeps you going when things get tough?**

My family is for sure the most important thing that keeps me going, no matter how tough the situation is. Also, I try to focus on the aspects that I can do well in order to make tough times easier.



**How has your child's presence in your life evolved you? What has been her/his contribution in shaping you as a leader?**

The baby made me a complete person. Taking care of a baby somehow resembles taking care of a team. You have the full responsibility and you love seeing them grow up. In addition, you want your baby and your team to be better than you.

**What do you enjoy the most about what you do? What is it that you do not enjoy?**

I enjoy exploring my potential every day in my life in being a mom, in my career being successful and in my study being an active student that contributes. What I do not enjoy: I don't have an answer, I enjoy everything I have now.

**Who is your role model? Which books/movies keep you motivated?**

To be honest, I don't have any role model, I am a responsible person. Whatever choice I have made, I will try my best to make it perfect.

**What has been your greatest fear and how do you deal with these challenges/fears?**

My greatest fear so far is the health of my parents because I live abroad, if anything happens, I don't know what can I do to support. I call them every week to be updated about their life and "force" them to do a health assessment every year to make sure that there are no big problems potentially.

**What message would you like to give to the working/studying moms to be successful?**

It's not an easy job being a mom and having a successful career at the same time, but all moms are born to succeed. We have great potential of being whoever we want to be. Big thumbs up to every mom, we are all doing an excellent job.

# HALIMA LEVY J20

INTERVIEW BY AKANKSHA RASHMI

**Hi, Halima! To start with, please introduce yourself to our readers.**

I'm Halima, I'm Moroccan, I'm 30 years old, I have a master's degree in marketing, I don't have a driving licence and I have a little girl of three and a half years old. I have been working for the last eight years in fashion, juggling between retail and wholesale positions.

**You come from a very multi-cultural background. How has that shaped you as a person?**

I like to define myself as a citizen of the world. For me, this is an extraordinary asset that allows me to adapt to all situations. I try to pass on these values of tolerance and sharing to my daughter. She carries a beautiful message of peace, coming from a Muslim mother and a Jewish father. Multicultural succession is assured.

**How has Sarah's presence in your life evolved you? What has been her contribution in shaping you as a leader?**

Sarah has the ability to give meaning and colour to everything. My life is certainly a lot busier and faster, but it is also more authentic. It's also a shot of adrenaline on a daily basis: My deepest and most timid dreams suddenly became within reach and achievable.

The right balance of firmness and softness, of listening and resilience, are undoubtedly maternity assets that have shaped the leader I have become.



***"The right balance of firmness and softness, of listening and resilience, are undoubtedly maternity assets that have shaped the leader I have become."***

**- Halima Levy**

**What has been one life-turning event that you consider very instrumental in shaping you?**

The first episode of Game Of Thrones, a new world opened up for me. Joking aside, the major event of my life is the birth of my daughter. I never thought that one could love, anguish, laugh and cry so much.



**What do you enjoy the most in what you do? What is it that you dislike?**

I like my daughter's looks which express my central place in her life, I like to see her grow, evolve and assert herself.

What I dislike is the constant fear that she will hurt herself, that she will fall ill, I am afraid of the world of tomorrow, what kind of future will she have? Will I know how to protect her? This new fear is sometimes difficult.

**So Halima, I have seen you being super-active in class while taking care of Sarah on the side. What have been the challenges of having a child on your side and doing an MBA?**

I am going to share with you something that has been kept secret in the mothers' circle for decades, it's THE secret, the miracle recipe, the super power unique to mothers: WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. We just do it, that's the way it is. What is certain is that you have to be well surrounded and be productive. I am lucky to have a husband who is very present, who manages everything when I interpret the dark secrets of corporate finance, for example. The major challenge is to maintain a good balance between my family life and my life as a student. For example, I do my best not to miss out on all the campus life and the beautiful stories of friendship that are being created.

**What keeps you going when things are going tough?**

I am lucky, I am very optimistic by nature. I am made like this: when faced with a problem, I am immediately in the process of solving it. I will deal with the rest later, quietly with a good glass of wine, a cigarette, and a few tears if necessary. And we start again with a smile. That's the way I was brought up. Protect the essential, and keep your head high.

**What message would you like to give to the working/studying moms to be successful?**

Raise your head and hang on. You're doing an extra ordinary job!

# SPECIAL FEATURE- FATHER OF MBA

INTERVIEW BY SURI YANG

**Hi, Hyuntae! Thank you for accepting our WIL magazine interview. Please tell us more about yourself?**

As some of you may know, I lived on campus with my son from January 20 to March 20. Just the two of us. For personal reasons, my wife stayed in our home country, South Korea and I spent three months with my two-year-old son. I had to play two totally different and uneasy roles; a single dad and an MBA candidate. I should take care of my son by myself and at the same time should manage my MBA journey. That period was my decisive moment and life-turning event without a doubt.

**So Hyuntae, you are an inspiration to all of us. What have been the challenges of having a child on your side and doing an MBA?**

For me, the biggest challenges were time management and priority setting. Caring for a child takes a lot of time and effort. Everything from feeding, washing and education, it required a lot of dedication. I experienced many trials and errors. Since, I had to prepare for class only after putting my child to sleep, I had to prioritize everything. For example,



I had to cook for my son first, then prepare classes late or study a foreign language at night. Not only prioritization but also efficiency mattered. I was always thinking about what is the most time-efficient alternative under the given conditions. I felt how difficult and wonderful it is to combine parenting and studying (or working). I sincerely appreciate many mothers and fathers who are both parenting and working.

**How has Rian's presence in your life evolved you? What has been his contribution in shaping you as a leader?**

Interesting question. I think parenting is very similar to organizational management.



The requirements for becoming a good father are similar to those of a good leader. Parenting requires goal setting, education, feedback and coaching. Parenting also requires evaluation and compensation. Parenting is also human resource development. Parenting is also creating a better environment and includes conflict management. In short, parents are ready to be leaders.

**What keeps you going when things are going tough?**

Being a dad makes me keep going. I want my son to be the person who doesn't give up easily. I am inspired to be the best role model for my son and that's a great driver for me when things are tough.

**Who is your role model? Which book/movie keeps you motivated?**

My role model is my father. He always said 'You must live in a world wider than me'. He always gave me a great example of a person who is constantly learning and expanding his horizon. For example, he started learning a new foreign language after the age of 40, earned a college degree when he was over 50, and by over 60 he started riding a bicycle. Even now he constantly inspires me to push myself forward.

**What message would you like to give to the working/studying father to be successful?**

We can do the same as our fathers and mothers did.

**Please share your opinion on the working father culture. How could we possibly improve child care while working/studying?**

In order to survive as a working father, institutional arrangements such as the improvement of the government's public childcare system and the flexible work system of companies are required. Yet, in essence, I would like to say that parenting should be up to both parents. I think still in many families, mothers take primary responsibility for parenting and fathers are in the role of 'helping'. I think this may potentially lead invisible discrimination at work. If the standard and expectation of parenting changes, as to share childcare at a similar level for both parents the 'disadvantage of being parents' will be reduced. Maybe the term working mother and working dad will disappear in this ideal future.

# LADIES WHO CHANGED THE WORLD

BE FAIR  
BE ENLIGHTENED  
BE INSPIRED

"Don't let anyone rob you of your imagination, your creativity, or your curiosity. It's your place in the world, it's your life. Go on and do all you can with it, and make it the life you want to live."

— Mae C. Jemison,  
First African-American  
Woman Astronaut.





Ruth Bader Ginsburg in 1994. Irving Penn/ Vogue

## THE NOTORIOUS RBG

BY MONICA YUSUF

The whole pandemic situation is apparently not depressing enough. Two weeks ago, the world lost one of the greatest characters in history, specifically one who played a great role in gender equality and women's rights. After fighting pancreatic cancer for more than a decade, Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away on Friday, 18 September 2020, leaving so many legacies.

Born Joan Ruth Bader in March 1933, Ginsburg held office for 17 years as an associate justice of

the Supreme Court of the United States until the day when she passed way. She was one of nine female students in Harvard Law School back in 1957 and was the second woman to serve on the United States Supreme Court when she was nominated back in 1993. Ever since, Ginsburg has been dedicating her life to fight the discrimination against women.

In 1996 she wrote the majority opinion of the court to strike down the Virginia Military Institute's male-only admissions policy, with the argument that it violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. This case was such a phenomenon that it was discussed in most



Librado Romero/The New York Times

of the law, but also in the form of attention in American pop culture. The 2018 American documentary film “RBG” is one of the well-known depictions of her entire life and career. Another movie released the same year “On the Basis of Sex” is also one of the other examples of how America has seen RBG. With all the remarkable trails in her entire career, Ginsburg was proofed to be a revolutionist.

Constitutional Law classes, usually taken by first year law students.

The case of Ledbetter v. Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. Inc. in 2007 is also one of Ginsburg’s famous court decisions. The lawsuit was started when it was filed by Lily Ledbetter, a supervisor at a Goodyear tire plant in Alabama, claiming pay discrimination. The case was unique because it became the cause for a major amendment of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, a federal statute later known as Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009.

Ginsburg’s remarkable advocacy to gender equality and women’s rights gave her the international recognition not only from the perspective

**"WE ARE AT LAST THE BEGINNING TO RELEGATE TO HISTORY BOOKS, THE DAYS OF THE TOKEN ONE AT A TIME WOMAN."**

Stephen Crowley





# MALALA YOUSAFZAI

WRITTEN BY AKANKSHA RASHMI

At age 22, Malala is one of the most accomplished and celebrated people in the world. She is an activist, an author and the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

During her journey to the world stage, she took on Taliban as an 11-year old blogger, survived an assassination attempt, and co-founded the Malala Fund, an organisation that supports education around the world.

Her advocacy for women's educational and social rights has held to account those in charge of turning policy promises into real opportunities for women.

***"They (the terrorists) thought they would change my aims and stop my ambitions. But, nothing changed in my life except this: Weakness, fear, and hopelessness died. Strength, power and courage were born"***

**- Malala Yousafzai**

As a joint winner of the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize, Malala is a powerful role model for girls all over the world, especially the ones growing up in countries where cultural, political and economic factors prevent them from living happy, secure and productive lives - to speak up and speak out against gender injustice.



# GRETA THUNBERG

WRITTEN BY BEATRIZ FLORES

"How dare you continue to look away", Greta Thunberg's speech addressing the climate change to UN world leaders.

Who is this 17-year-old Swedish girl that was elected person of the year by Time magazine in 2019? Greta got famous after standing outside the Swedish parliament for days claiming for action to battle climate change. She held a sign that read "School Strike for Climate" and began regularly missing lessons to go on strike on Fridays, urging students around the world to join her, and they did. Fridays For Future reached 161 countries and more than 4 million students.

***I WANT YOU TO ACT AS YOU WOULD IN A CRISIS. I WANT YOU TO ACT AS IF OUR HOUSE IS ON FIRE. BECAUSE IT IS.***

GRETA ON DAVOS FORUM SPEECH

Greta stands for more action and agility to reduce carbon emissions. She got a lot of visibility after addressing the climate change issue in the world economic forum - Davos and at the UN's 2019 climate change gathering in New York. Greta is one of the most influential people today and got nominated to the Nobel Peace prize in 2019. She also got support from millions of students, climate activists, scientists, world leaders and the Pope, who told her to "continue" her work.

# UPCOMING EVENTS AND EXTERNAL EVENTS

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	1- <b>October</b>	2	3	4
5	6 <b>PE Club and WIL</b> Club collab PE talk with Level 20	7 <b>Woman at the top-</b> Financial times, digital conference	8 <b>Woman at the top-</b> Financial times, digital conference	9 Women in Leadership ( <b>Fireside Chat</b> )	10	11
12	13	14	15 WIL Club <b>Breast Cancer awareness</b> campaign	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 27th <b>WIL &amp; Hilti</b> company info & Q&A*	28 <b>WIL &amp; Admiral</b> group Company info & Q&A*	29 <b>WIL and GMC Club</b> Collab event	30	31	1- <b>November</b>

\*These dates may change in the future

## WIL.Calendar



Read the Qr code to sync our calendar and don't miss our events!

# BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH SPECIAL: SHARE YOUR STORY

## SANGITA MALHOTRA

INTERVIEW BY KRITIKA TANEJA

### **When were you diagnosed with Cancer and at what age?**

I was diagnosed in 2008 at the age of 48 with breast cancer.

### **How did you discover that you were suffering from breast cancer?**

After my children went to college, I had started to volunteer at the Indian Cancer Society, where I learnt how to do a self-breast examination. When I examined my own breast I found a lump. This was in March and I didn't tell anyone until August. When I relayed it to a few of my colleagues at ICS they insisted I get a mammography done immediately. Even then, I didn't get it done till it was November. By then, I could see the changes - the lump had hardened by that time, there was dimpling. Even before my mammography results came out, I knew it was malignant. When the results came out, I was diagnosed with CA-Breast. The doctors told me that my cancer was aggressive and even a slight delay would have been fatal.

### **How did you feel when you first received the information?**

To be honest, I didn't feel anything. My family and friends came to see me as



soon as they got the news. I had a lot of support from my family. Once my chemotherapy started, I was impacted by the usual side-effects, I started to lose weight, I lost my appetite, there were ulcers in my mouth. My WBC count went down because I had to be given injections, which resulted in intense pain in my bones. My body was weak yet I tried to remain positive. What I loved the most was people coming to see me. It was hard to sit for long and I used to be tired; but I liked it. After my first chemo, I started losing my hair and that's when I cried for the first time. I was not ashamed, but I could not let my husband see me like that, because I would always want to see myself as a beautiful woman in his eyes. I don't know why but I think his pain was more than mine and I didn't want to see that. But I tried to be calm and positive and I started to recover. In about 6 months, though my body was still reeling under some of the side-effects, I was happy that I was recovering and with my husband's support and love, I felt like a new person.

## **Now that you are a survivor, how are you living your life differently?**

When I started working as a volunteer with the Indian Cancer Society, I did not have enough knowledge - it was very difficult to talk to patients and it was emotionally distressing. But after my own experience, I knew exactly how they felt and what could make them better. I started working in the hospital and helping patients. I decided to do everything possible to help others. Cancer has made me so strong that I can now overcome any of my fears, stage fright being one of them. I started to conduct awareness lectures on how early detection of cancer can be cured. Every time I gave a talk to a big group, there were women who got themselves tested. Over the course of time, I realized that I was privileged to have the support of my family and to be able to fund my treatment. Having cancer can be life changing and not always positively. Breast cancer is not just a health threat but also has societal implications. Cancer as a disease that not only drains you physically and mentally but also financially. The treatment is very expensive and not everyone has access to medical facilities and health cover.

As an ICS volunteer I visit hospitals for emotional counselling. While interacting with patients I always felt that my hands were tied and always wished to do more. Though I was associated with ICS and we do give funds to poor patients for treatment, our budget was always limited, and we could not help everyone.

While watching a TV programme, I heard about this young 17-year-old boy. This boy used to play guitar on the local train after college hours, so he could collect money for his mother who was a cancer patient. His story truly inspired me and I wondered that, if this young boy with no means could collect money maybe I could too. I had always been passionate about baking and I took this opportunity to start baking to raise funds. I would donate every single cent that I gained by selling these cakes. With this money I have been able to help patients with their treatment.

Surviving my cancer gave a new kind of confidence and I have done things that I could have never imagined earlier. I have been the Director of the Emotional Support Group of the Indian Cancer Society for two years. Even though I was a simple home-maker, as the Director I organised several events, seminars, workshops etc. and managed the support group.

## **What message would you like to provide women in the community?**

The message I want to convey is - be aware and prioritize yourself. If you feel something is not normal, get yourself tested. Awareness, screening, if detected, then early treatment should be the table, because cancer if detected on time is curable. If I had not joined the Indian Cancer Society I wouldn't have ever learnt self-breast examination and I wouldn't have detected my lump. If not for ICS I would not have been here talking to you.

**ACHIEVING GENDER  
EQUALITY IS ABOUT  
DISRUPTING THE STATUS QUO  
- NOT NEGOTIATING IT.**

**- PHUMZILE MLAMBO-NGCUKA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UN  
WOMEN**

