

**CIWiL**

Caribbean Women in Leadership



# I LEAD

*Stories of*  
**CARIBBEAN WOMEN  
LEADERS**

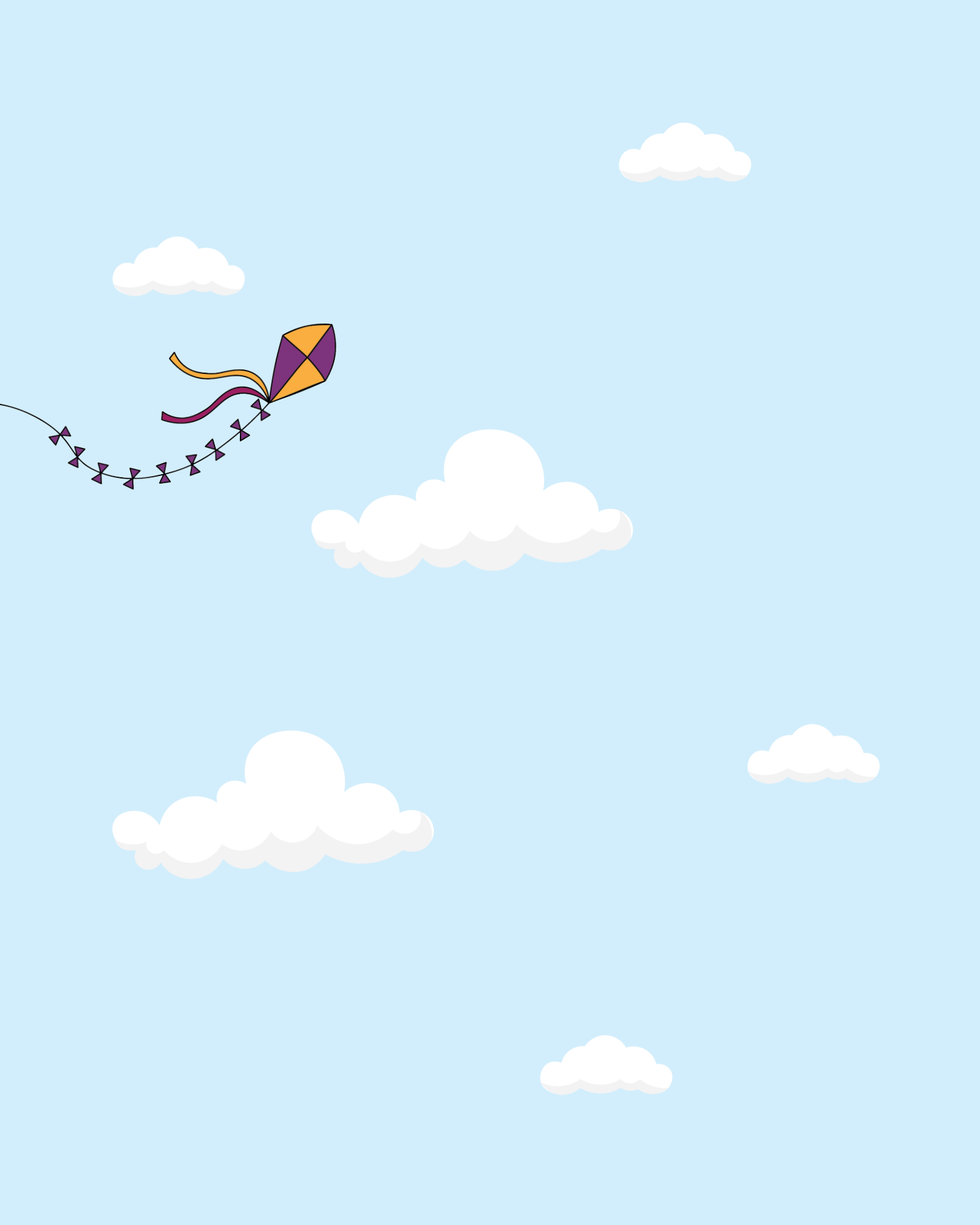


A publication of CIWiL  
Written and Illustrated by Oprah C. Francis





***All great women deserve their  
story told, and every child  
deserves to know them.***





# I LEAD

*Stories of*  
**CARIBBEAN WOMEN  
LEADERS**

**A publication of CIWiL  
Written and Illustrated by Oprah C. Francis**

**CIWiL**

Caribbean Women in Leadership

Copyright © 2023 Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL)

All rights reserved to Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL). No part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed or transmitted in any form or by any means or stored in any retrieval system of any nature without prior written permission, except in the case of any fair dealings such as research, private study, review and reporting.

Application for permission for other use of copyright material including permission to reproduce extracts in other published works shall be made to the publisher. Full acknowledgement of the publisher and source must be given. To request permissions, contact the publisher at [communicationsciwil@gmail.com](mailto:communicationsciwil@gmail.com).

Every effort has been made to verify the biographical information in this book. To make comments or leave reviews, please contact the publisher via the CIWiL website.

First e-book edition: December 2023

ISBN 978-976-97189-2-0 (e-book)

Written and illustrated by Oprah C. Francis  
Edited by Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL)  
Published by Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL)

[www.ciwil.org](http://www.ciwil.org)

This book was created with the support of ParlAmericas, with funding from the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada, ParlAmericas is the multilateral interparliamentary for the inter-American system, with a membership that comprises the national legislatures of the thirty-five (35) sovereign countries from North, South, Central America, and the Caribbean.





## Caribbean Women in Leadership

**CIWIL - Caribbean Women in Leadership** is an independent, regional non-partisan organization that applies a multi-partisan approach to promote women's participation in transformative politics, decision and policymaking. CIWIL works with activists, female parliamentarians, development professionals and national gender machineries to train and support women across the region as they seek elected office or assume other positions of leadership. We promote that women must be fully involved in the decision-making processes that impact their lives.

CIWIL is a volunteer-led organization with a committed Regional Board of Directors and an established reputation for empowering women leaders from across countries throughout the English-speaking Caribbean.

The CIWIL Regional Secretariat serves as the coordination and implementation centre for a regional and multi-country programme of work and its related activities.

CIWIL has a network of National Chapters which extends throughout the Caribbean, with nine chapters established in Saint Kitts and Nevis, the Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Belize and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada and Jamaica.

**For more information visit:** <https://ciwil.org/about/>

**Email:** [info@ciwil.org](mailto:info@ciwil.org)

## FOREWORD

# First President of the CIWiL Regional Board of Directors

The publication “I Lead” shares the synopsis of the lives and contributions of iconic Caribbean women leaders. Getting the first volume of this book to publication is indeed one of the highpoints of my tenure at the helm of CIWiL, but also a debt of gratitude is owed to Dylis and her team at CIWiL’s Secretariat in making it a reality.

We may be surprised that women transformational leaders have been making “herstories” in many spaces for centuries of our civilization and ahead of their times, often unheralded in the annals of our Caribbean “history.” Contained in this book are the stories of some of these remarkable Caribbean women whose stories are similar to those of the many untold heroine sisters of our region. While we always aim to be inclusive, the publication could not be all-encompassing, due to the scope of this project and resource limitations.

Thus, we consider this the first volume of I Lead, with a focus on women from CARICOM countries in politics and public life.

May we embrace the best lessons of their journeys, the best of their examples of leading with courage, daring, determination and resilience. May these life stories inspire the future aspirations of our own Caribbean girls and boys, so that they value the lessons of gender equality and gender equity, through the striving, sacrifices and leadership depicted by these women icons.

May their eternal legacies be the transformative efforts which inspire our collective futures as we continue to forge a sustainable, adaptive and resilient Caribbean people.

**Founding Member and President of  
the CIWiL Regional Board of Directors  
(2018 – July 2023)**





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

# We Thank Our Contributors

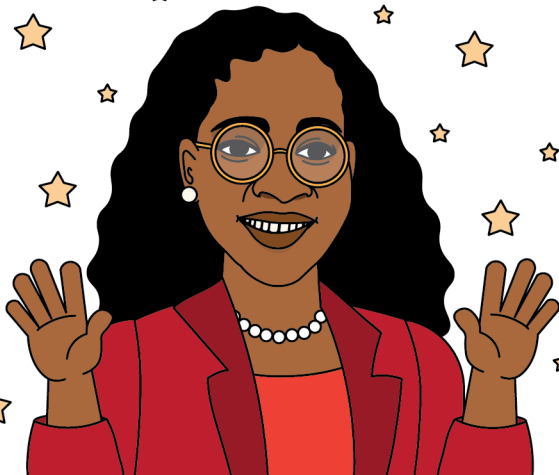
We at the CIWiL Regional Secretariat thank Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, Dr. Hilda Rosemary Husbands-Mathurin, Rene Baptiste, Roberta Clarke and Sheila Roseau, all of whom participated in interviews. Dr. Carla Barnett and Marion Bethel have also provided biographical information and we are very appreciative of these contributions. We also thank the families of Gema Ramkessoon, Hazel Brown and Dame Maizie Barker-Welch for providing additional information.

We are grateful for our stakeholders and Chapter members who submitted suggestions for the book during the early stages. We are equally grateful to those who participated in and helped facilitate our focus group exercises.

Thank you to the members of our children's book committee who helped to steer this project, and to Lady Anande Trotman Joseph, Linnette Vassell and Dr. Rosina Wiltshire in particular, whose guidance proved instrumental at various phases.

Special thanks to our writer and illustrator, Oprah Francis. Your insights into the writing process and artistic talents transformed CIWiL's vision for this book into a final product that exceeds our original expectations. It was a pleasure working with you.

### About the Author and Illustrator



Hailing from Trinidad, Oprah C. Francis is an author and communications professional who specialises in creative production. As the creator behind the **Marvin the Manicou and Friends** brand, she has produced several children's books, stuffed toys, videos and other creative products that embody Caribbean culture. Through this and future projects, she continues her efforts as an advocate for the region.

## IN DEDICATION TO Dr. Hazel Brown

For Dr. Hazel Brown, who was not only a member and patron of CIWiL, but a friend, mentor, sister and mother figure to so many of us who had the privilege of knowing her and working alongside her. Hazel, you were in our thoughts and hearts guiding and motivating us throughout the writing process.

Hazel lived her life in steadfast service to women and children. In honour of this legacy, we also dedicate this book to every child who pores through its pages. It is for every girl, who must know that she deserves an equal place in society and that her voice matters.

We hope that you will be inspired by the stories of changemakers like Hazel to imagine a better, brighter world. Hazel would want you to know that these worlds are possible, your dreams are in reach, and you have the power to make it happen.

Hazel Brown was a mother of four - three girls and one boy. She also had eight grandchildren.





# Welcome!

Thank you for reading this book. We are happy to share with you exciting stories about the Caribbean and some of its brave and visionary women leaders. But before we begin, here are a few tips to help you along the way.

## Use the Glossary.

Some words may be new to you and there may be others you do not yet fully understand. Those words are **bolded and highlighted in purple**. When you encounter a word like that, flip to the '**Glossary**' at the back of this book. There, you will find the word and its meaning.

## Be curious.

There are many different ideas, events, places and people mentioned in this book. If you are interested in learning more, ask a responsible adult to help you find more information.

## Talk to a responsible adult.

Go to a responsible adult like a parent or teacher whom you trust and ask for help if anything in the book makes you feel upset or unhappy.

## Try the fun activities!

This book includes fun activities that will help you remember what you have read. Visit the website, [ciwil.org](http://ciwil.org), to print and download more activities. If you cannot remember something while doing an activity, flip through the pages and you will find the information you need.

## Enjoy!



## Page 1

Find out what this book is about.

## Page 4

The important role women play in leading the region

## Page 82

Trailblazers for Equality and Freedom

## Page 88

Public Service Leaders

## Page 96

Cultural Champions and Creatives

## Page 106

Young Changemakers

## Page 110

Activities

## Page 130

Glossary

## Page 2

A journey through Caribbean history

**FLIP TO THE PAGE YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ**

## Page 8

Thirty-five (35) transformational leaders

## Page 84

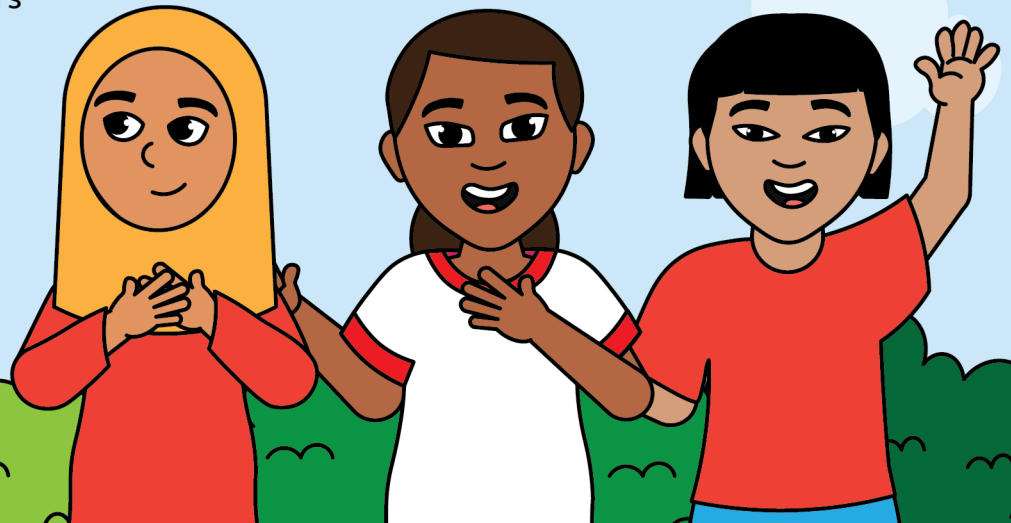
Groundbreakers

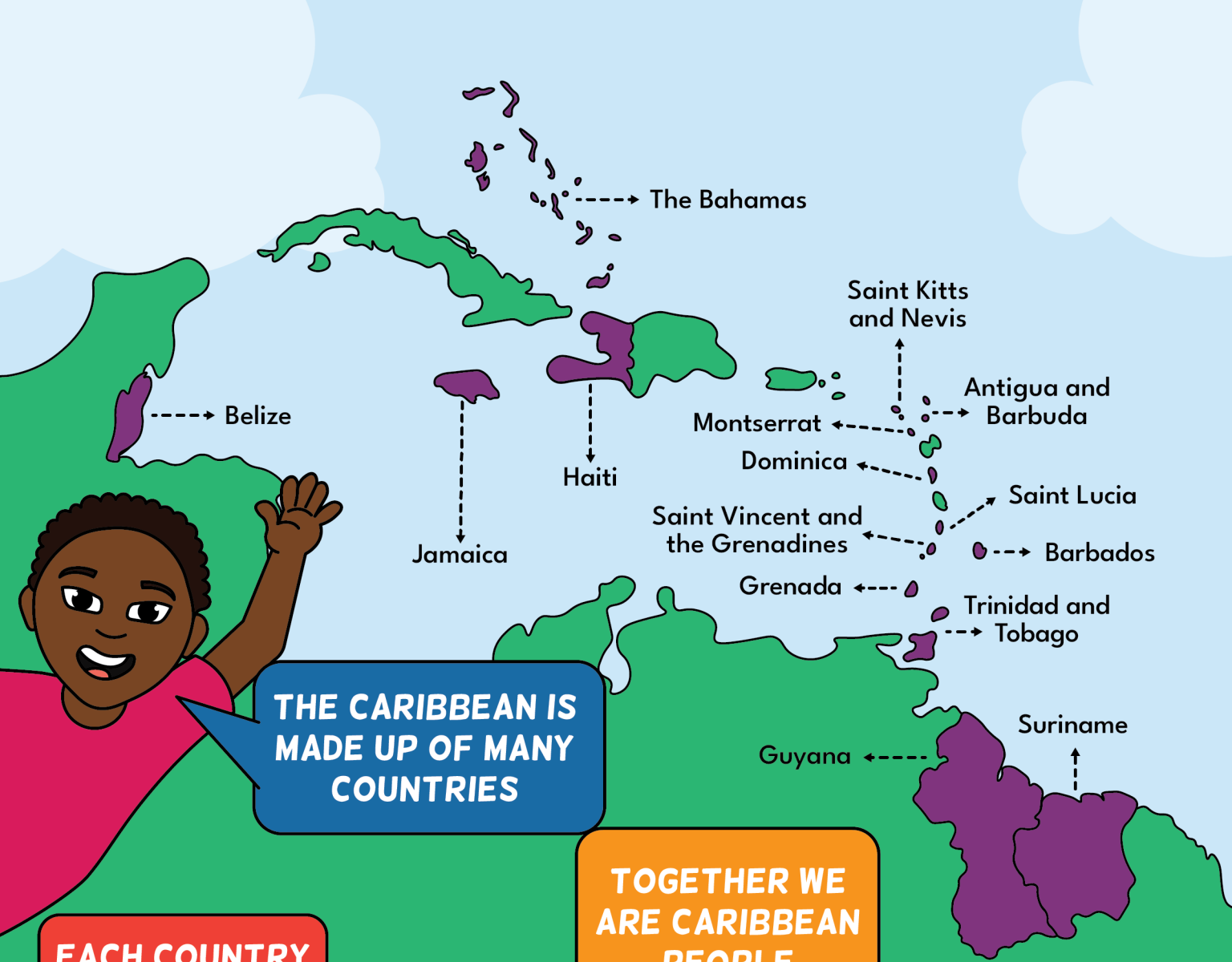
## Page 92

Social Justice Activists

## Page 102

Teachers and Knowledge-Makers





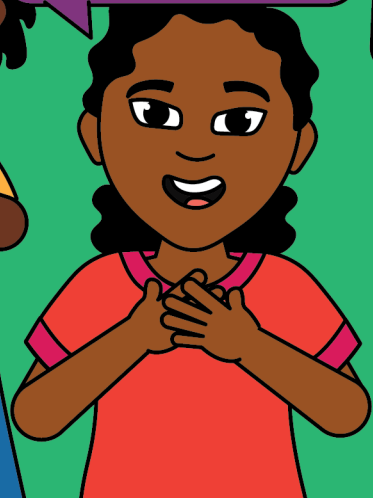
**THE CARIBBEAN IS  
MADE UP OF MANY  
COUNTRIES**

**TOGETHER WE  
ARE CARIBBEAN  
PEOPLE**

**EACH COUNTRY  
IS UNIQUE!**

**OUR HISTORY  
SHOWS OUR  
STRENGTH**

**FLIP THE PAGE  
TO READ OUR  
STORY**



# INTRODUCTION

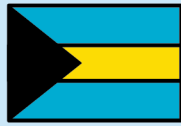
## About this Book

The Caribbean is a beautiful region made up of countries in and around the Caribbean Sea. It is known for its vibrant culture and unique blend of food, languages, music, festivals, folklores, and traditions. Each country has its own identity and history shaped by people from all over the world, including the Tainos, Kalinagos and other **first people** of the region, and later settlers from Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Americas. This book is about women leaders from fifteen (15) Caribbean countries.

These countries are all members of the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**.



**Antigua and Barbuda**



**The Bahamas**



**Barbados**



**Grenada**



**Belize**



**Dominica**



**Guyana**



**Haiti**



**Jamaica**



**Montserrat**



**Saint Kitts and Nevis**



**Saint Lucia**



**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**



**Suriname**



**Trinidad and Tobago**

A leader is someone who makes decisions and takes actions that affect others. This can include their family, a group, a community, an organisation, and even a country. But being a good leader is not just about being in charge or having power. It is about using your power to help others and motivating them to do the same. To better understand the work of Caribbean women leaders, let's first take a look at major events in history.



# JOURNEY THROUGH Caribbean History

Much of Caribbean history is about the journey to freedom and **equal rights** which are the things that all people deserve and are entitled to. This includes food, education, health care, free speech and being treated fairly. To better understand the achievements of Caribbean women leaders, let's first take a look at major events that helped shaped their work.



## Colonisation of the Caribbean

The Caribbean was first home to communities like the Tainos and Kalinagos, called the **first people**. But from the late 15th century, Europeans formed **colonies** there. This means that they took control of each country and settled across the region. Many first people lost their homes and were taken as slaves.



## The African Slave Trade

During the **African slave trade**, millions of Africans were taken from their homes to work as slaves on plantations in the Caribbean. They fought for their freedom for over 300 years and in the 19th century, they were freed. **Slavery** is now against the law because it takes away the rights of others.

## Indentureship of Workers from Asia

When slavery ended, the **indentureship system** was created to replace it. Workers from Asia were brought to the Caribbean to work on plantations. The system lasted for over 50 years.







## The Right to Vote

**Suffrage** is the right to vote in elections. In the Caribbean, many people were not allowed to vote because of their race, **gender**, wealth, and family history. As more countries took action for freedom, Caribbean people were given the right to vote so that they could help choose their own leaders.



## Independence

Although Caribbean people gained the right to vote, they were still ruled by European governments. The People of the Caribbean did not have a say in the way their countries were led. So, they took action to change this. Beginning with Haiti in 1804 and, continuing throughout the late 1900s, countries in the Caribbean gained their **independence**. This means that they formed their own **governments** and were free from being ruled by other countries.



## Movements for Equal Rights

Because Caribbean people have not always been treated fairly and equally, different groups worked together to defend their rights. This is called a **movement for equal rights** and can include speeches, protests, debates, peace walks, writing books and other activities to help others understand important issues. There have been movements to protect the rights of women, children, workers, poor people, people of different races and religions, and many other groups in society.

Because of the hard work and sacrifices of its people, most Caribbean countries are now independent and have laws to protect their rights and freedom.



PROTECT  
OUR RIGHTS

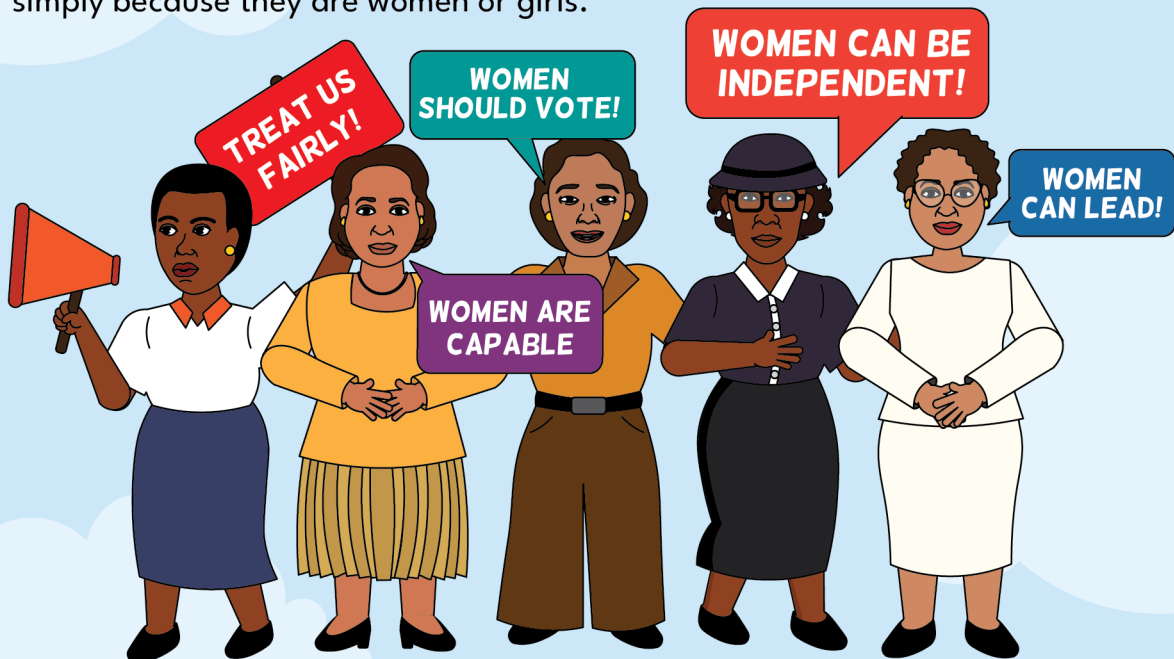
WE SHOULD ALL BE  
TREATED EQUALLY

# Women play an important role in leading the Caribbean.

During **colonial rule** in the Caribbean, many women stepped up as leaders and encouraged people in their communities to seek freedom. Even before this and indeed afterwards, women were leaders in their homes and they made decisions about raising their families and helping their communities.



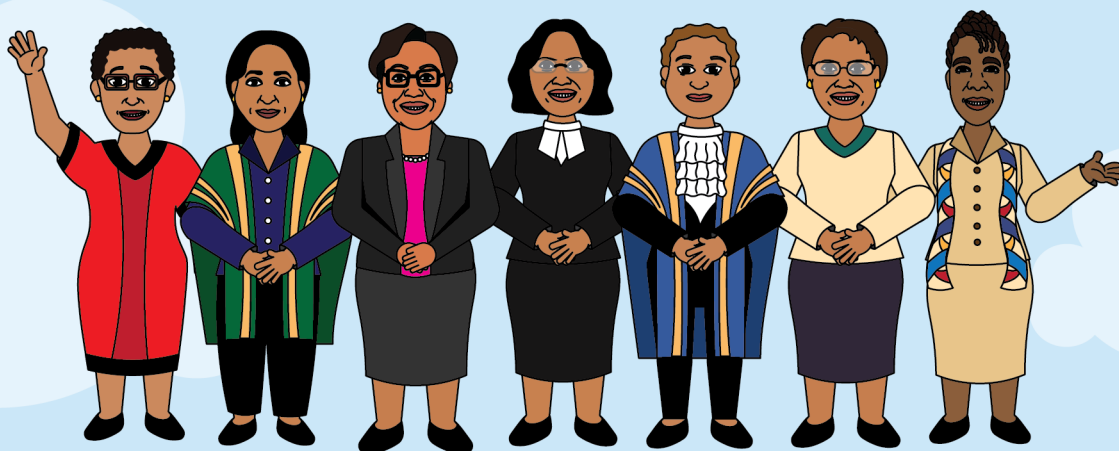
Still, many people thought that only men could be good leaders. They believed that women should be housewives and mothers with limited opportunities for careers outside of the home. Because of this, girls were not given many opportunities to get a formal education. Women who got jobs did not earn much and they still had to take care of their families after work each day. This is a form of **gender discrimination** or **sexism** when people are treated unfairly simply because they are women or girls.



But many Caribbean women knew their worth and they **empowered** one another to be more confident, independent and to learn new skills. They formed important friendships and organisations so that they could have a stronger voice to speak up for **gender equality**. This is when women, men and all people have fair opportunities to succeed in life and equal access to **rights** like education, jobs, healthcare, voting and taking part in **politics**. Gender equality helps everyone and having more women leaders can lead to greater peace and prosperity.



Though these women were ordinary people such as mothers, teachers, scholars, activists, business women, politicians and artists, their compassion for those around them and their strong **sense of justice** made them extraordinary leaders. Now, women and girls have more opportunities than before. We owe much of this progress to our foremothers. As we continue to work towards full gender equality where all women can live free from violence and more women are leaders in parliaments and large organisations, let the shining examples of the women in this book guide our way.



# Caribbean women are Transformational Leaders.

Many Caribbean women are **transformational leaders** who dream of a society where all people are treated fairly regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, religion or abilities. Because some people have more power and privilege than others, they take action to ensure that everyone has fair opportunities. Many transformational leaders are also **feminists** who take action to ensure that women and men are treated equally. Transformational leaders care more about the wellbeing of people and our planet than personal gain. They use any influence and authority they have for the greater good and they share their knowledge with those around them. They motivate others to reach their highest potential, inspire positive change and find new ways of doing things to improve the lives of all.

All people can be transformational leaders.

AIM TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD!

**L**ISTEN well to better understand others.

**E**MPOWERING and help others be the best they can be.

**A**CCOUNTABLE for their actions.

**S**ELF-AWARE about what they think, feel and believe in.

**E**MPATHETIC and care about others.

**D**UTIFUL and carry out their responsibilities.

**R**ESPECTFUL of others.

**L E A D E R S**



THEY ARE PRESIDENTS,  
PRIME MINISTERS AND  
MEMBERS OF GOVERNMENT  
WHO LED THEIR COUNTRIES.

THEY ARE ACTIVISTS AND  
ADVOCATES WHO DEFENDED  
THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS AND  
INSPIRED POSITIVE CHANGE.

THEY ARE MOTHERS AND  
MOTHER FIGURES WHO CARED  
FOR THEIR FAMILIES AND  
COMMUNITIES.

THEY ARE ARTISTS  
WHOSE WORK AND  
CREATIVITY SHAPED  
CARIBBEAN CULTURE.

THEY ARE SCHOLARS,  
WRITERS, AND TEACHERS  
WHO EDUCATED PEOPLE  
AROUND THE WORLD.

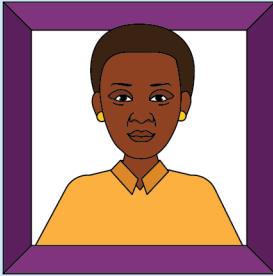
THEY ARE WOMEN WHOSE  
ACHIEVEMENTS OPENED  
NEW DOORS FOR OTHERS  
TO GROW.

**35** Stories of  
Caribbean  
women leaders

# HALL OF HONOUR

## Transformational Leaders

Transformational leaders from the Caribbean inspired positive change in the region and around the world. This Hall of Honour celebrates thirty-six (36) of those leaders who have been committed to making the lives of others better. Flip to their pages to read their stories.



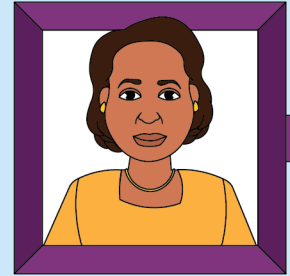
12

**ANDAIYE**  
Guyana



14

**ANNE LIBURD**  
Antigua and Saint  
Kitts and Nevis



16

**AUDREY JEFFERS**  
Trinidad and Tobago



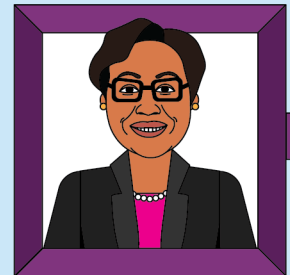
18

**DAME BILLIE MILLER**  
Barbados



20

**CARLA BAKBOORD**  
Suriname



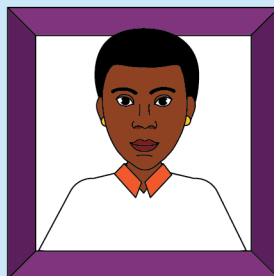
22

**DR. CARLA BARNETT**  
Belize



24

**CRISTINA COC**  
Belize



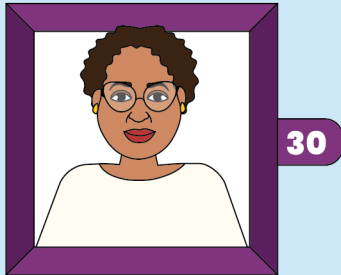
26

**ELMA FRANCOIS**  
Saint Vincent and  
the Grenadines, and  
Trinidad and Tobago

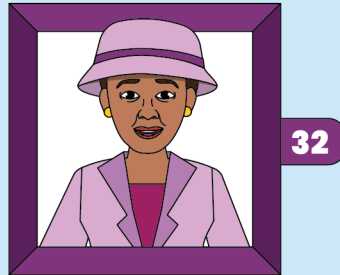


28

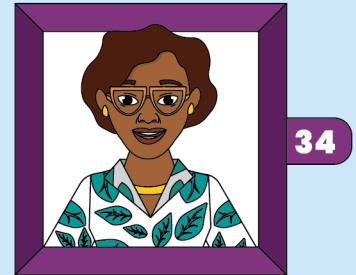
**DR. ERNA BRODBER**  
Jamaica



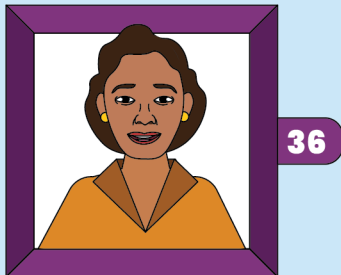
**GEMA  
RAMKEESOON**  
Trinidad and Tobago



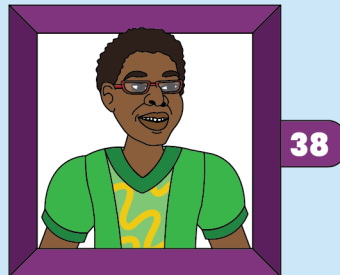
**DAME GEORGIANA  
ROBINSON**  
Antigua and Barbuda



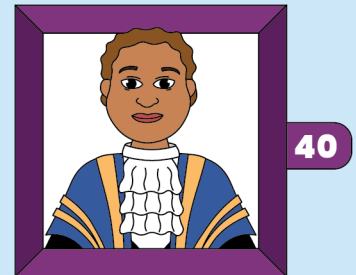
**GERTRUDE PROTAIN**  
Grenada and Saint  
Vincent and the  
Grenadines



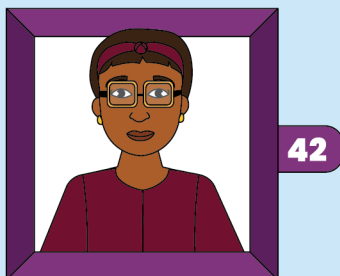
**GWENDOLYN  
LIZARRAGA**  
Belize



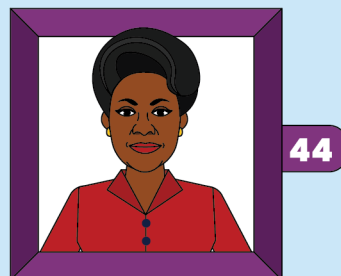
**HAZEL BROWN**  
Trinidad and Tobago



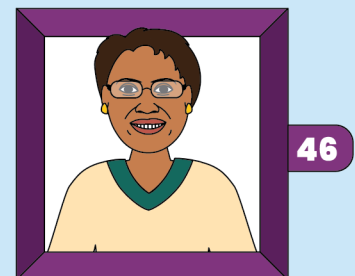
**DR. HILDA ROSEMARY  
HUSBANDS-MATHURIN**  
Saint Lucia



**IONE  
ERLINGER-FORD**  
Saint Lucia



**DAME JANET  
BOSTWICK**  
The Bahamas



**JEAN LA ROSE**  
Guyana

# HALL OF HONOUR

## Transformational Leaders



48

**JOAN FRENCH**  
Jamaica



50

**DAME MAIZIE  
BARKER-WELCH**  
Barbados



52

**MAGDA POLLARD**  
Guyana



54

**MARION BETHEL**  
The Bahamas



56

**MIA MOTTLEY**  
Barbados



24

**MONICA COC  
MAGNUSSON**  
Belize



58

**QUEEN NANNY OF  
THE MAROONS**  
Jamaica



60

**PROFESSOR  
PALOMA MOHAMED**  
Guyana



62

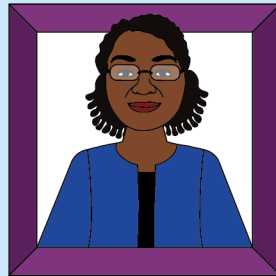
**DR. PEGGY  
ANTROBUS**  
Grenada





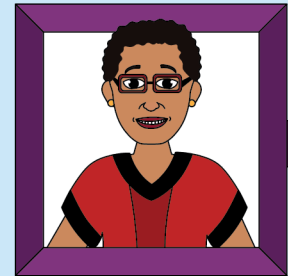
64

**RENE BAPTISTE**  
Saint Vincent and the  
Grenadines



66

**PROFESSOR RHODA REDDOCK**  
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
and Trinidad and Tobago



68

**ROBERTA CLARKE**  
Barbados and  
Dominica



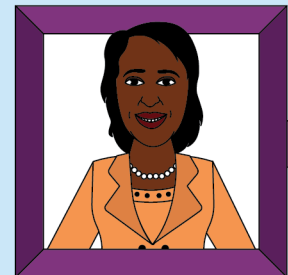
70

**DR. ROSINA  
WILTSHIRE**  
Trinidad and Tobago



72

**DR. SANDRA  
DEAN-PATTERSON**  
The Bahamas



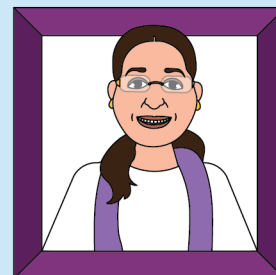
74

**SHEILA ROSEAU**  
Antigua and Barbuda



76

**SHIRLEY PRYCE**  
Jamaica



78

**TINA ALEXANDER**  
Dominica

# Andaiye



Born in Guyana in 1942, Andaiye was an **author**, **politician** and **activist** who defended the rights of poor people, women and children. She also helped create a group called the Red Thread to help women across the Caribbean.

1965 was an important year for the people of Guyana. The country gained **Independence** from England, a new **government** was formed, and across the land, new leaders emerged. One of those leaders was Andaiye. All around her, Andaiye saw the way people were treated differently because of their race, religion and family history. Often, women and girls were treated differently to men and boys. Some groups were even given better opportunities than others. But Andaiye believed that all people should be treated equally. This inspired her to become an activist for **equal rights**.



## DID YOU KNOW?

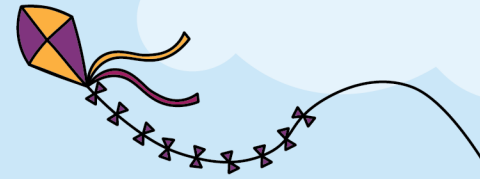
A **right** or **human right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to such as food, education, health care, free speech, and being treated fairly and equally. An **activist** works or organises with others to change unjust conditions.



Andaiye became a leader in a group called the **Working People's Alliance**, which was first started to encourage people of different races to work together in leading the country. There, she defended the rights of women and children, and called on other leaders to think about the issues women face when making decisions, not just in Guyana, but across the Caribbean. Andaiye also helped form a group called the **Red Thread** to create jobs and other opportunities for women.

To help others understand the history of Caribbean people and the importance of their rights, Andaiye wrote many essays about the journeys to freedom and independence. Her book, '**The Point is to Change the World**,' includes some of her writings. Andaiye inspired many and in 1997, she was awarded Guyana's fourth highest national award - the Golden Arrow of Achievement. Andaiye died in 2019.

# Anne Liburd



**Born in Antigua in 1920, Anne Liburd moved to Saint Kitts and Nevis where she became an **activist** who helped women become **empowered**. She led many organisations that motivated women to become leaders in their communities. By doing this, she helped women improve their lives and the lives others, including their families, their communities, and their countries.**

Anne was born to a humble family in Antigua and moved to Saint Kitts after getting married. There, she raised her six children and, at the same time, she made history as a leader who empowered Caribbean women. Anne's passion for helping others led her to join the group of people who defended the rights of workers in Saint Kitts and Nevis. She taught poor women about being good parents, finding jobs and opening their own businesses.

As she continued her journey to motivate women to be independent and to seek better opportunities for themselves, Anne became the first president of a group called the **Caribbean Women's Association (CARIWA)**. This group brought organisations together to help women and girls across the region. She also taught women in politics different ways to communicate better. Anne led the **National Council of Women** in Saint Kitts where she continued to teach women about running their own businesses and becoming leaders.

Anne shared her views at events where governments and activists from across the world agreed on plans to protect and promote the rights of women. She also worked with schools and universities to teach others about the history of Caribbean women and their contributions to society. In 1996, Anne was honoured by the British government and in 2004, she was also honoured with a "Woman of Great Esteem" award for her efforts towards empowering women.



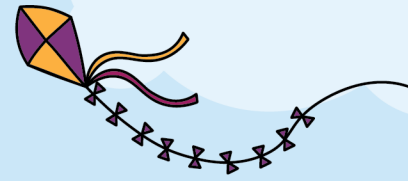
**BASSETERRE  
MARKET**

**WE MUST  
LEARN TO  
EARN!**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Empowering** people is about creating an environment or providing things that can help make them stronger, more confident, and more independent. When people are empowered, they can improve their lives and the lives of their families, their communities, and their countries. **Activists** help people become empowered.

# Audrey Jeffers



**Born in Trinidad and Tobago in 1898, Audrey Jeffers helped pave the way for many Caribbean women to become leaders in society. She empowered women by encouraging them to be more independent and confident. She promoted their rights and worked with the government to improve laws in her country.**

Audrey Jeffers wanted to help others. Upon returning home to Trinidad from her studies in England in 1920, she used her family's home to open a school for needy children. But Audrey soon realised that the children's families needed help as well. So, when she was 23 years old, she created the **Coterie of Social Workers**.

At the time, the Coterie of Social Workers was a group like no other. It was led by women of colour and it supported women of colour. The group helped families, children, and people in need. They also encouraged the government and other organisations to create better opportunities for women and girls. This included better jobs and education, especially for women and girls of colour.

The Coterie of Social Workers became one of the most important organisations for women in Trinidad and Tobago. With Audrey as their leader, they fed children across the country through "Breakfast Sheds." They began Mother's Day celebrations in Trinidad and Tobago. They also encouraged the government to give women the same jobs as men, such as being police officers. Audrey cared about single mothers, the elderly, and the blind. Because of this, she helped open day-care nurseries and homes. Audrey also worked with the government to improve the laws of the land.

For her commitment to helping others, Audrey was honoured by the British government in 1959 and she received one of Trinidad and Tobago's highest awards in 1969, one year after she died. One of Trinidad's most well-known highways as well as the **Audrey Jeffers School for the Deaf** were named in her honour.

An illustration of a large, light blue building with a blue roof and white columns. In the foreground, a woman in a yellow top and striped skirt stands with two children, a girl in an orange dress and a boy in a yellow shirt. To the left, a purple sign reads 'COTERIE OF SOCIAL WORKERS'. In the background, two more women and a child are visible on a green lawn.

## COTERIE OF SOCIAL WORKERS

### DID YOU KNOW?

A **social worker** is someone who is qualified to help people, families and communities with different challenges to improve their lives and wellbeing. The **Coterie of Social Workers** is a special group of women in Trinidad and Tobago who work together to help families and people in need. This group was created by Audrey Jeffers.

# Dame Billie Miller

Born in Barbados in 1944, Dame Billie Miller was the first woman from Barbados to lead her country as a **government minister** and **Deputy Prime Minister**. She also worked with other **governments** and organisations to help people around the world, especially women and girls. This included the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)** and the **United Nations (UN)**.

As a little girl, Dame Billie went to the city with her father to listen to Sir Grantley Adams speak to workers. Sir Grantley Adams was the head of government at the time. Even at that age, she was inspired to lead her country and so she did! At just 25 years old, Dame Billie became one of the first women **lawyers** in Barbados. The direction of her life changed in 1976 when she was invited to become a politician. Although it was the last thing on her mind at the time, Dame Billie was both dutiful and capable. So, she accepted the invitation and won her seat in the elections that year.

Dame Billie was the first woman to become a government minister in Barbados and she made decisions in matters of health, education, culture, trade, tourism, transport, and foreign affairs. In 1994, she became Deputy Prime Minister of Barbados. As a leader, Dame Billie also shared her wisdom with others and became a mentor to many, including Barbados' Prime Minister Mia Mottley.



## DID YOU KNOW?

A **lawyer** is someone who knows the laws of the land and gives advice based on those laws. An **attorney-at-law** is a type of lawyer who defends people in court. An **ambassador** is someone chosen by the government to speak on their behalf in meetings and events with other governments, countries, and global leaders.





### DID YOU KNOW?

The **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)** is a group of governments that work together to build the Caribbean and unite its people. The **United Nations (UN)** includes governments and organisations from around the world that work together for peace, safety, and the wellbeing of people.

Being the hardworking and passionate leader that she was, Dame Billie did not limit her service to Barbados. She cared deeply about the lives of others and worked with organisations such as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the United Nations to help communities in the Caribbean and around the world. In 2018, she became the **Ambassador** for Barbados. For her outstanding service, she received many national and international awards including the Barbados Centennial Award and the Order of the Caribbean Community. In 2003, she was also made a Dame of St. Andrew (DA) of the Order of Barbados.

# Carla Bakboord



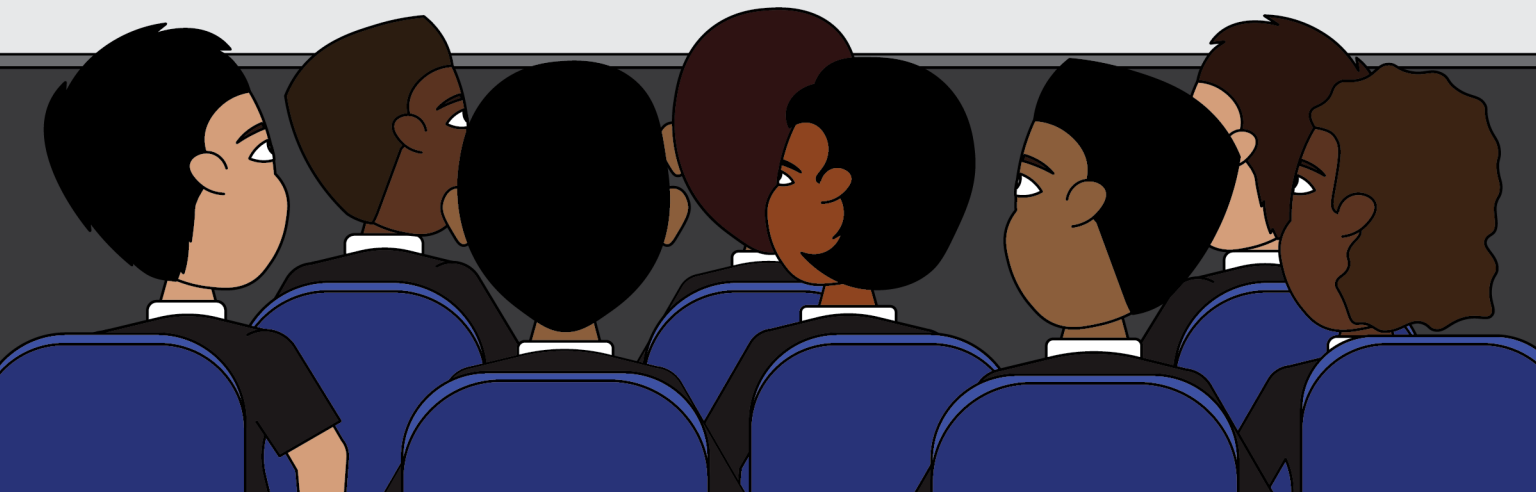
A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to, such as safety and being treated fairly. An **activist** works or organises with others to change unjust conditions. Born in Suriname in 1959, Carla Bakboord is an activist who works to protect the right of women to be safe and treated fairly. She helped create the **Stop Violence Against Women Foundation** and the **Women's Rights Centre** in Suriname to help women in her country.

A life without violence is every woman's right. But sometimes women and girls are mistreated by those around them. As a woman from Suriname, Carla cared about the safety and wellbeing of women in her country. She knew that they deserved to be protected against harm. So, in 1991, Carla helped create an organisation called the **Stop Violence Against Women Foundation**. Along with other activists who cared about the safety of women, Carla worked with the **government** and other organisations to create plans to protect women. They offered counselling to people who experienced violence and they led activities to help communities better understand the harm caused by violence. They knew that women who survived violence should be heard and taken seriously. Because of this, the foundation trained police officers and court workers to better help people.

Carla also helped create another organisation called the **Women's Rights Centre**. There, she educated others about the rights of women and encouraged them to treat women fairly. She led **research** projects, lectures, and training for women and government workers. Carla also motivated people across Suriname to work together to protect women from being harmed. In 2019, Carla was awarded a Golden Gavel Award by the Platform for Politically Active Women, for her work in defending the rights of women.

# WOMEN HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAFETY

This means that women should  
feel safe and protected.



# Dr. Carla Barnett



**Born in Belize, Dr. Carla Barnett is the first woman to lead CARICOM as Secretary-General. Even before to this, she broke barriers by becoming the first female Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Belize. Dr. Barnett was also a politician and supports women and girls in leadership.**

Dr. Carla learned the value of being an independent woman at a young age. Her mother was a homemaker but also one of the best seamstresses she knew. This business helped support her family and showed Dr. Carla that women can earn and manage their own money. It also showed her the important and different roles women play. Just like her mother, women can care for their families and run a successful business at the same time. Dr. Carla wanted to learn more about earning and managing money, not just in her family but across communities and countries. So, she studied **economics** in Jamaica and Canada. But for Dr. Carla, creating wealth was not just about earning money. It was also about creating opportunities for people to grow and be independent so that they can give back to society. Because of this, she also studied **social sciences** at the **University of the West Indies (UWI)** in Jamaica. This allowed Dr. Carla to better help her country.

In 1997, Dr. Carla became the first woman to lead the Central Bank of Belize as Deputy Governor. There, she played a leading role in managing her country's financial and banking services. Then, at a time when her country had many debts, Dr. Carla worked with the **government** to manage its budget and successfully created a plan to grow the **economy**. In 2015, she became a senator and leader in government. Dr. Carla also worked with other organisations to build the Caribbean. These include the **United Nations (UN)** and the **Caribbean Development Bank**. She was also the first woman to lead CARICOM, first as Deputy Secretary-General in 1997, then as Secretary-General in 2021.

Indeed, Dr. Carla achieved great things. For her, women are just as capable as men, and can achieve anything they set their minds to. To encourage Caribbean women and girls to be leaders and more independent, she led the **Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)** in Belize and helped set up the **Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL)** in her country. For her service, Dr. Carla was honoured by the British government and received many other awards.



### DID YOU KNOW?

**Economics** is the study of the economy. The **economy** is the way people spend and earn money. **Social sciences** are the fields of study about human life and behaviour. A **Central Bank** is the national bank of a country. It issues currency and provides financial and banking services for the government, other banks and businesses. The **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)** is a group of governments that work together to build the Caribbean and unite its people. The **Secretary-General** leads CARICOM.

# Cristina Coc and Monica Coc Magnusson



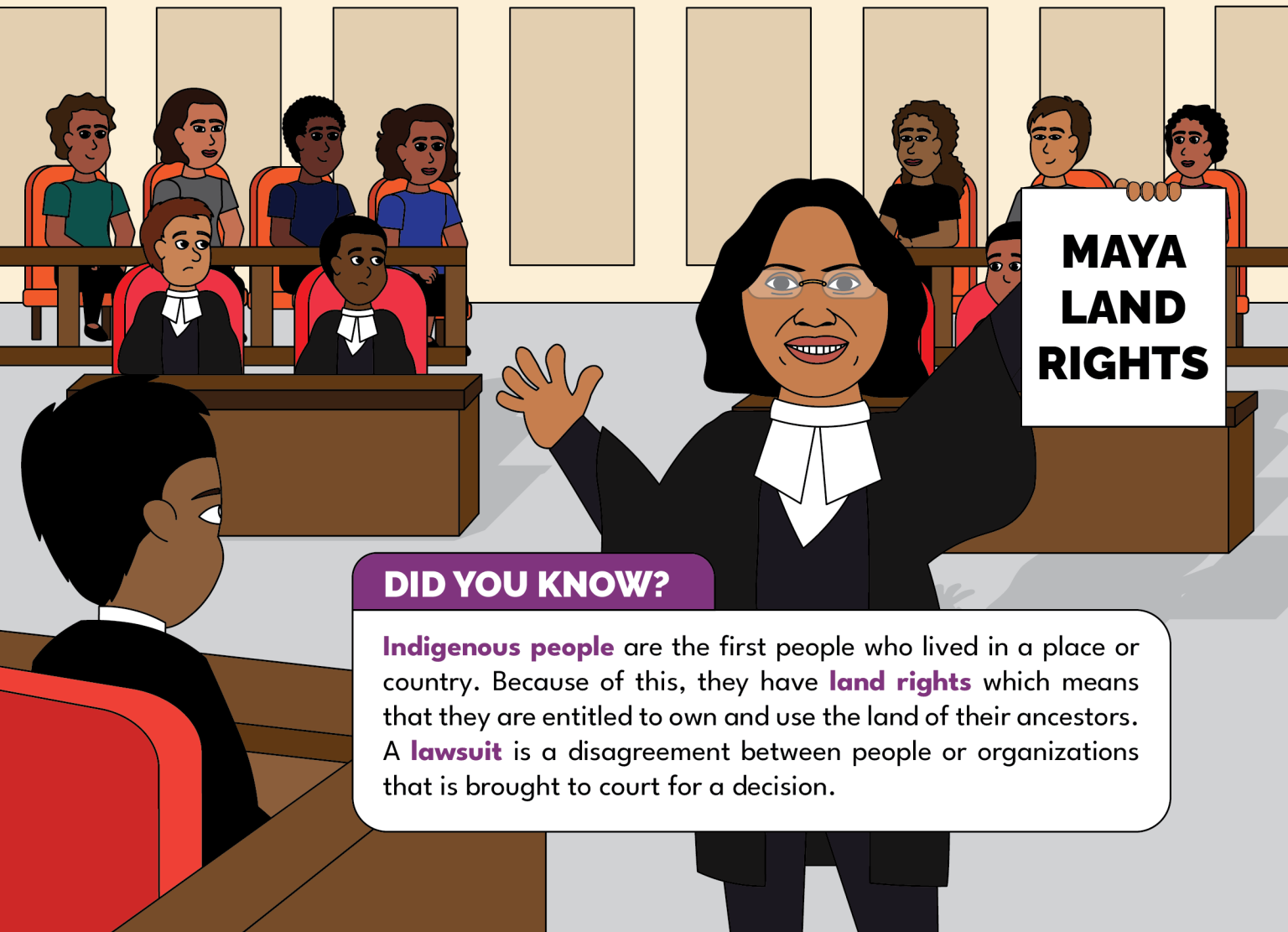
Born in Belize, Cristina Coc and Monica Coc Magnusson defended the land rights of **indigenous people** in Belize. Their bravery and hard work also helped put an end to activities that threatened the environment in Belize.

In the heart of Central America, there lives a group of indigenous people called the **Maya**. Having lived there for centuries, the Maya share a deep connection with their homeland and believe that humans must respect the natural environment and live in harmony with all living things on earth. So, when the **government** of Belize began logging the rainforest and exploring for oil, two brave sisters from the Mayan community - Cristina Coc and Monica Coc Magnusson, quickly sprang into action. Cristina and Monica grew up in the small Mayan village of Laguna in the Toledo District of Belize, where their relatives were Mayan leaders. Because of this, they knew the challenges their community faced in protecting their land.



Monica went on to be the first indigenous woman lawyer from Southern Belize. Cristina became a spokesperson for the group called the **Maya Leaders Alliance**, and they prepared a **lawsuit** against the government to stop drilling for oil. Belizean lawyer, Antoinette Moore, defended them in court and Monica used her legal knowledge to help their case.

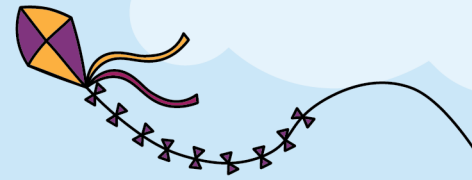
In 2015, the Maya Leaders Alliance scored a historic victory against the government of Belize. It was the first time a group of indigenous people won a case for **indigenous land rights** in the Caribbean. For their achievement, they were awarded the Equator Prize by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**. Since then, both sisters continued to protect the rights of indigenous people in Belize – Monica, through her work as a lawyer, and Cristina, as an activist with the **Julian Cho Society** which she created and named in honour of her late brother-in-law and fellow Mayan activist, Julian Cho.



### DID YOU KNOW?

**Indigenous people** are the first people who lived in a place or country. Because of this, they have **land rights** which means that they are entitled to own and use the land of their ancestors. A **lawsuit** is a disagreement between people or organizations that is brought to court for a decision.

# Elma Francois



**Born in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in 1897, Elma Francois moved to Trinidad and Tobago where she became a labour activist. She defended the rights of workers and poor people and helped form many trade unions.**

In Saint Vincent, there once lived a brave young girl named Elma Francois. Growing up in a poor family, she saw her parents struggle as labourers. Most women and girls on the island stayed at home or worked as servants or cotton pickers. So, when Elma left primary school, she worked with her mother picking cotton. In search of better opportunities, Elma ventured off to Trinidad at the tender age of 22. Although, she found work as helper in the home of a wealthy family in Port of Spain, Elma soon observed that even in Trinidad, there were many homeless, unemployed and underpaid people. She could not turn a blind eye to it.

At a time when people thought that women should be seen and not heard, Elma became a lioness in the crowd as activist for the rights of workers. She was brave, outspoken, and led hunger marches to show how some workers were treated unfairly. She also gave speeches around the capital city to inspire others to stand up for themselves. In 1934, she helped create a group called the **National Unemployed Movement** which stood up against **government** decisions that did not help benefit poor people. The group was renamed the **Negro Welfare Cultural and Social Association** and they formed **trade unions** to defend workers' rights.

In 1937, oil field workers began a **strike** because they were not being paid fairly. When the police tried to arrest the leader of the strike, Tubal Uriah 'Buzz' Butler, riots broke out across the country. Elma was also arrested. Elma was accused of encouraging others to rebel against the government, and she became the first woman in Trinidad and Tobago to be charged and brought to trial for such actions. But she showed great courage and defended herself in court. Elma was found not guilty and after the trial, she continued to be a champion of the people until her death in 1944. In 1987, she was named a National Heroine of Trinidad and Tobago.





**TREAT WORKERS FAIRLY!**

ONLY BY ORGANISED UNITY CAN WE GAIN BETTER CONDITIONS

MY SPEECHES CREATE A FIRE IN THE MINDS OF PEOPLE SO AS TO CHANGE THE CONDITIONS WHICH NOW EXIST

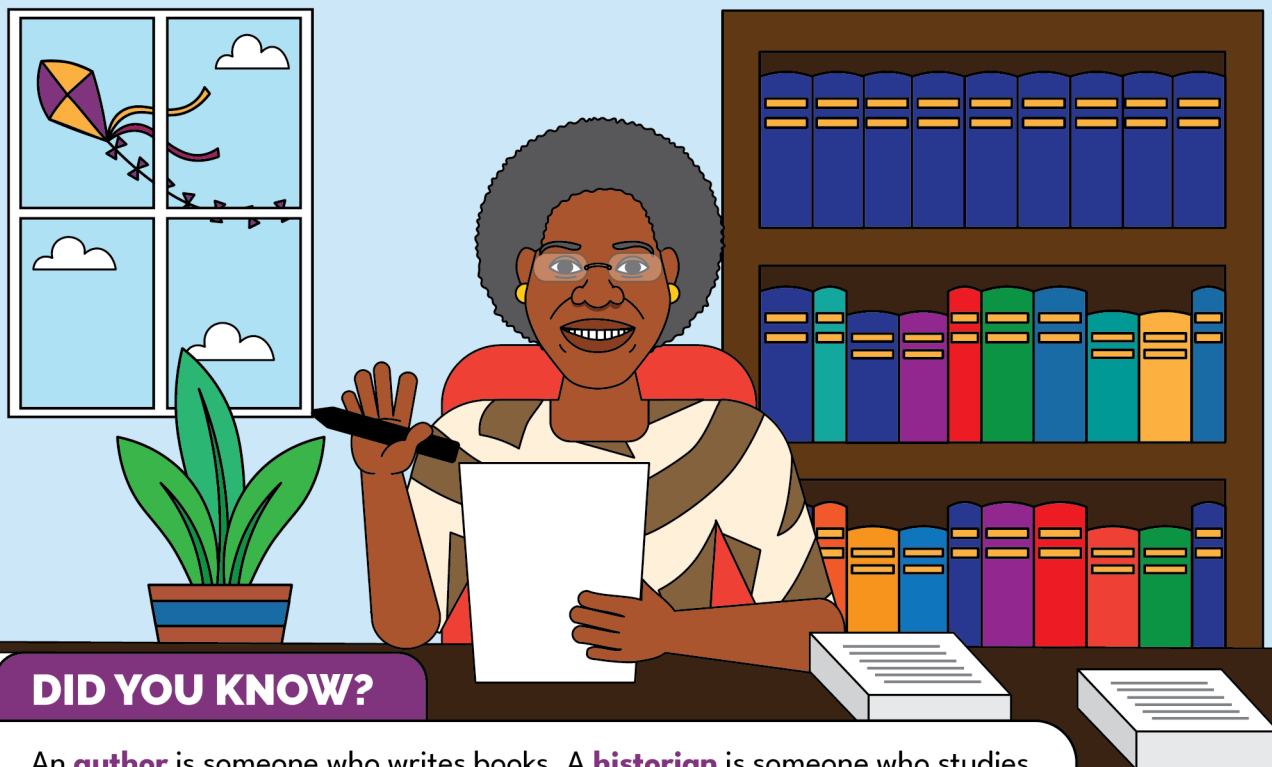
**DID YOU KNOW?**

A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to, such as being treated fairly. A **labour activist** defends the rights of workers and takes action to encourage employers to treat them fairly. A **trade union** is an organisation that helps protect the rights of workers. A **strike** is when people refuse to work because they are unhappy with how they are treated at work.

# Dr. Erna Brodber

Born in Jamaica in 1940, Dr. Erna Brodber is an **author** and **historian** who kept the histories and traditions of her country alive through her books. As a **university lecturer**, she also taught others about Caribbean history.

Since a child, Dr. Erna understood the importance of history. Even still today, she could recall the stories her parents shared about their family's **heritage** and the way those stories affected how she understood the world around her. From her mother's accounts of her grandfather fighting in the Ashanti Wars to her father's lectures about the **government** and slavery, young Erna enjoyed these tales and learnt many lessons of struggle, sacrifice, strength, and perseverance. Indeed, she was inspired and this began her journey towards becoming a Caribbean author and historian.



## DID YOU KNOW?

An **author** is someone who writes books. A **historian** is someone who studies and records history. A **university lecturer** is someone who teaches at university. **Research** is about collecting information about a subject to make new discoveries or to verify facts. A **novel** is a book that tells an imaginary story. **Literature** is a collection of written work that people consider to be art.



While studying history and lecturing at university, Dr. Erna realised that much of Caribbean history was not documented properly. Most stories were passed on by word of mouth and because of this, many details were lost and even changed over time. So, Dr. Erna began visiting elderly people in rural communities in Jamaica to document their stories from the past. By doing this, Dr. Erna helped preserve many histories that may have otherwise been lost.

She wrote many books and articles, and her **research** also inspired her **novels**, **Jane and Louisa Will Soon Come Home**, **Myal: A Novel**, **Louisiana**, **The Rainmaker's Mistake** and **Nothing's Mat**. Today, Dr. Erna's work is used by schools and universities across the world as credible sources of Caribbean history and truth. For her outstanding contributions to Caribbean **literature**, Dr. Erna received many awards such as the Commonwealth Writers' Prize in 1989 and the Musgrave Medal in 1999 from the Institute of Jamaica, the main organisation in Jamaica that promotes and celebrates literature and culture.

# Gema Ramkeesoon



**An activist works to create positive change in society. This can include taking action to ensure that all people are treated equally. Born in Trinidad and Tobago in 1910, Gema Ramkeesoon was a human rights activist who helped disadvantaged people and women become empowered. She took action to end racial discrimination and taught women that they were stronger when they worked together.**

Gema's journey began when she was just a schoolgirl. Her role model was Beatrice Greig, one of the first activists for **women's rights** in Trinidad and Tobago. Beatrice's passion for helping others and supporting women inspired Gema to do the same. After getting married to an Anglican priest, Gema went on to lead the largest group of Anglican women in Trinidad and Tobago. She also joined a group called the **Coterie of Social Workers** which brought women of colour together to help families, children, and people in need access food and shelter.

Gema's service to humanity did not stop there. She led many other groups which accomplished incredible like creating homes for the visually impaired and feeding children in schools. At the **Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)**, Gema encouraged women and girls of all backgrounds to get an education.

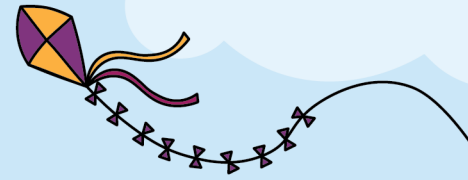
Throughout her journey, Gema's most important message was for women to unite and support each other, regardless of their race, skin colour, or income level. She encouraged women across the Caribbean to work together and led many meetings with other activists and organisations throughout the region. For her efforts, Gema was honoured by the British **government** in 1950, and received the golden Hummingbird Medal from Trinidad and Tobago in 1976. Gema died in 1999 and is remembered as a **feminist** who made a positive difference in her country and across the Caribbean.



### DID YOU KNOW?

A **right** or a **human right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to such as food, an education, health care, free speech, and being treated fairly. A **human rights activist** defends the rights of people by taking action to help them. A **feminist** is someone who believes that women and girls have human rights and should be treated fairly and equally to men and boys. **Racial discrimination** occurs when people are treated unfairly because of their race or the colour of their skin.

# Dame Georgiana Robinson



**Born in Antigua in 1880, Dame Georgiana Robinson opened the first secondary school in her country that welcomed all children, regardless of their race, religion, or family history. Her hard work helped pave the way for all children in Antigua and Barbuda to receive an education.**

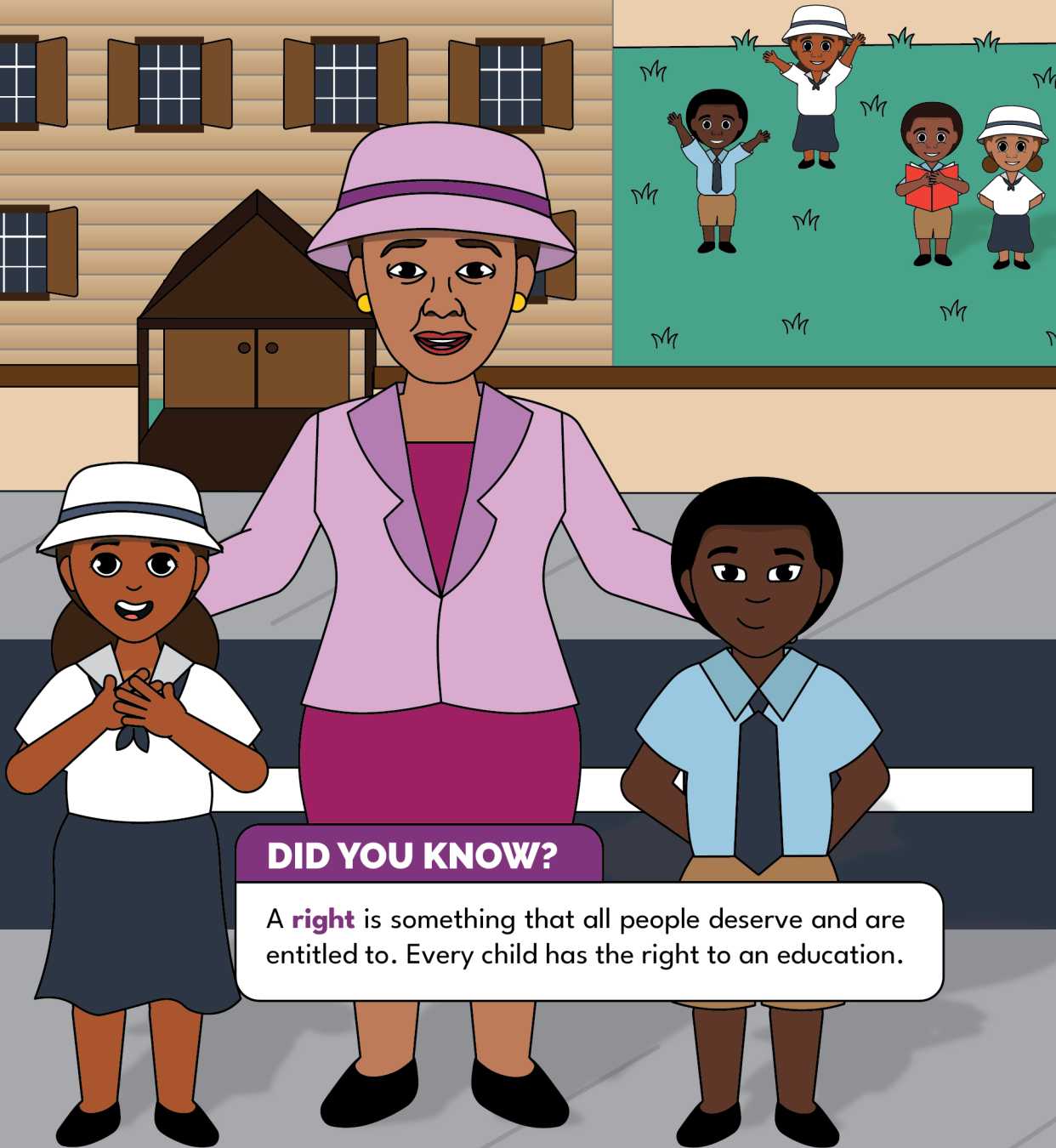
Dame Georgiana attended school abroad. When she returned home at the age of 14, she continued to study and passed her exams. This was a major achievement because Dame Georgiana received what many other black and brown children in her country were not able to – a secondary school education. Often, they were treated unfairly because of their race and the families they came from. Some people thought they did not deserve to go to school. But Dame Georgiana believed that everyone should be treated fairly, and that education was for all. Her brother, Thomas Oliver Robinson, encouraged her to open her very own school. In 1898, that dream became a reality.

At just 18 years old, Dame Georgiana began teaching her siblings and the children of some family friends. Soon after, children began to enrol from across the country and from the wider Caribbean. All children were welcomed, both boys and girls, regardless of their race or religion. Her school was also the first in her country to welcome children whose parents were not married. By accepting all children, Dame Georgiana set the example for others to follow until all children in her country were given the chance to get a secondary school education. She named the school **Thomas Oliver Robinson Memorial**, in honour of her brother.

Dame Georgiana was also a member of many government groups that made decisions to help her country. Because of this, she was able to help communities get access to water. Dame Georgiana also led the first Arts and Cultural Committee in Antigua and her decisions in this group helped Carnival to grow. She died in 1972 and in 2006, she was named a Dame Companion of the Order of the National Hero, an honour given to persons in Antigua and Barbuda for their service to humanity.

A purple rectangular sign with white text that reads "Thomas Oliver Robinson Memorial".

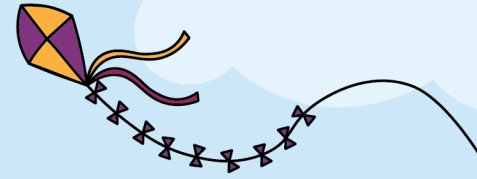
Thomas Oliver  
Robinson Memorial



**DID YOU KNOW?**

A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to. Every child has the right to an education.

# Gertrude Protain



**Born in Saint Vincent in 1914, Gertrude Protain moved to Grenada where she helped create opportunities for hospitality workers. Because of this, tourism in her country grew. She also defended the rights of women in the Caribbean.**

Gertrude Protain was a powerful voice in the movement to **empower** women in Grenada. After moving to the island in 1933, she worked with other women and leaders to protect and promote the rights of women. Gertrude was the first woman to join the council that made laws in Grenada. While there, she focused on creating better opportunities for women to get an education, including scholarships for girls.

Gertrude was also one of the first women to play a major role in shaping tourism in Grenada. She worked with an organisation called the Grenada Board of Tourism and helped create the **Grenada Hotel Association** to unite and improve businesses and people who worked in **hospitality**.

She represented Grenada at many international events and worked at the Ministry of Tourism to educate and train tourism workers, including taxi drivers and street vendors. Through her hard work, Grenada became a popular place for tourists to visit, especially visitors from Carnival cruise ships. This created more jobs across the island and helped businesses get more customers from around the world.

For her service to Grenada, Gertrude received many awards, including the Order of the British Empire, the Grenada Board of Tourism Award, the Grenada Independence Award, and the Grenada Silver Jubilee Certificate of Honour. Gertrude died in 2005.





### DID YOU KNOW?

People who work in **hospitality** welcome guests and visitors to their country and create a friendly environment during their stay. This includes hotel workers, taxi drivers, tour guides, and entertainers. This is a part of **tourism** which is about welcoming, entertaining, and sharing your culture with visitors. A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to such as food, an education, health care, free speech, and being treated fairly. **Empowering** people is about creating an environment or providing things that can help make them stronger, more confident, and more independent. When people are empowered, they can improve their lives and the lives of their families, their communities, and their countries.



# Gwendolyn Lizarraga

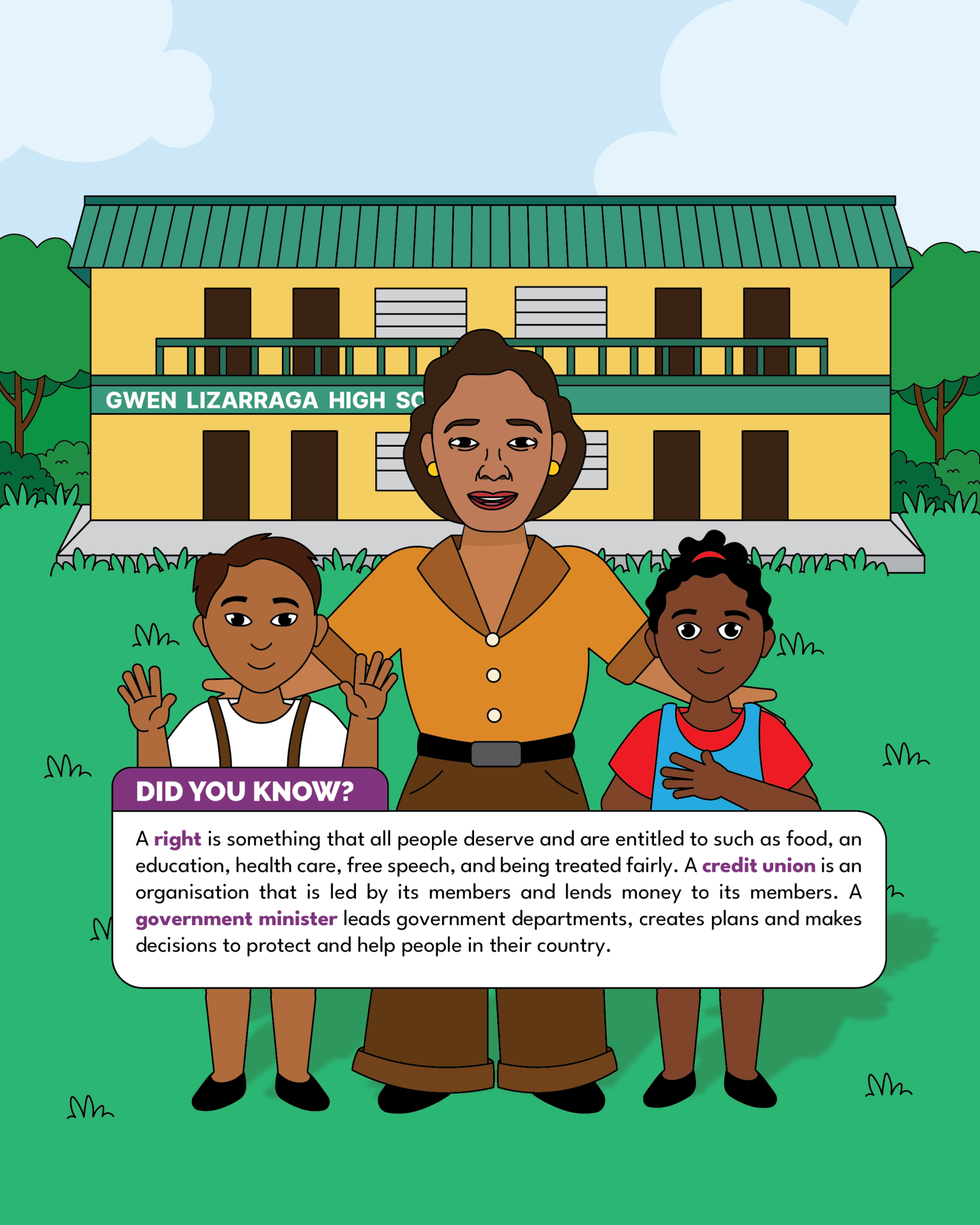


**Born in Belize in 1901, Gwendolyn Lizarraga empowered women and motivated them to be the best that they could be. She was also the first woman in Belize to become a government minister and improved education for children.**

Gwendolyn lived at a time when women were not expected to have jobs outside of the home or to be leaders and decision makers in their community. But Gwendolyn dared to be different.

Her responsibilities as a wife and mother of five children did not stop her from becoming a business owner and government leader. At a time when people needed to own land to vote, Gwendolyn helped many women become landowners so that they would be allowed to vote in Belize's national elections. She also created the **United Women's Group** in Belize and led over 5,000 other members to stand up for the **rights** of women workers. They encouraged leaders to give women fair opportunities to work and earn enough money to support themselves. This included paying women the same salaries as men. They also created a **credit union** to help women save money.

At the age of 60, Gwendolyn competed in her country's national elections for the first time. She was voted into office by the people of Belize and became the first woman in her country to serve as a government minister. In this role, Gwendolyn continued to help her community in many different ways. She led projects to build more homes for families and schools for children. Gwendolyn also worked to make the education system better for children. For her service to her country, Gwendolyn was honoured by the British government. In Belize, the Gwendolyn Lizarraga High School and several streets throughout the country were named after her, like the Madam Liz Avenue and Gwen Lizarraga Street. Gwendolyn died in 1975.



GWEN LIZARRAGA HIGH SCHOOL

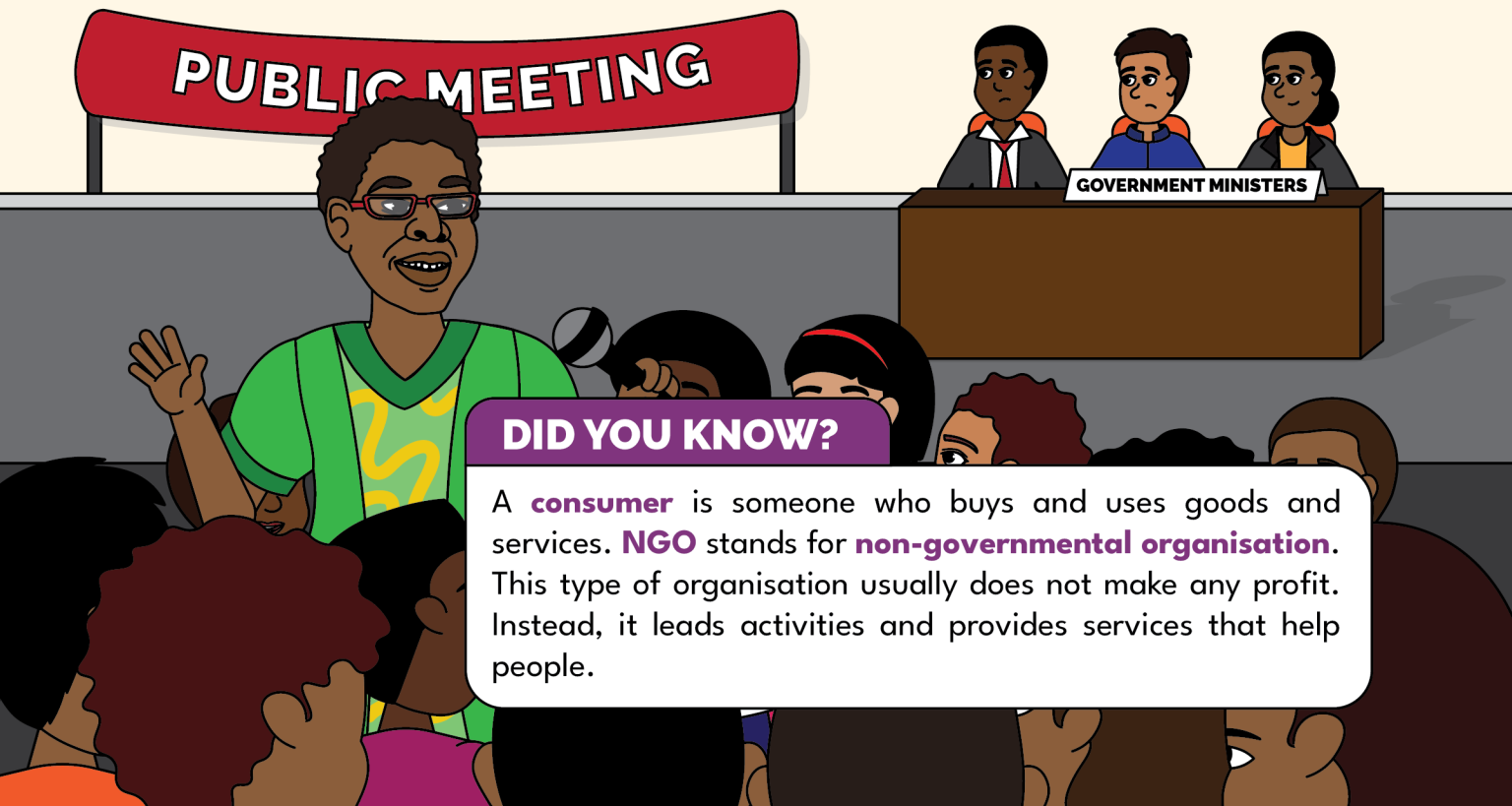
### DID YOU KNOW?

A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to such as food, an education, health care, free speech, and being treated fairly. A **credit union** is an organisation that is led by its members and lends money to its members. A **government minister** leads government departments, creates plans and makes decisions to protect and help people in their country.

# Dr. Hazel Brown

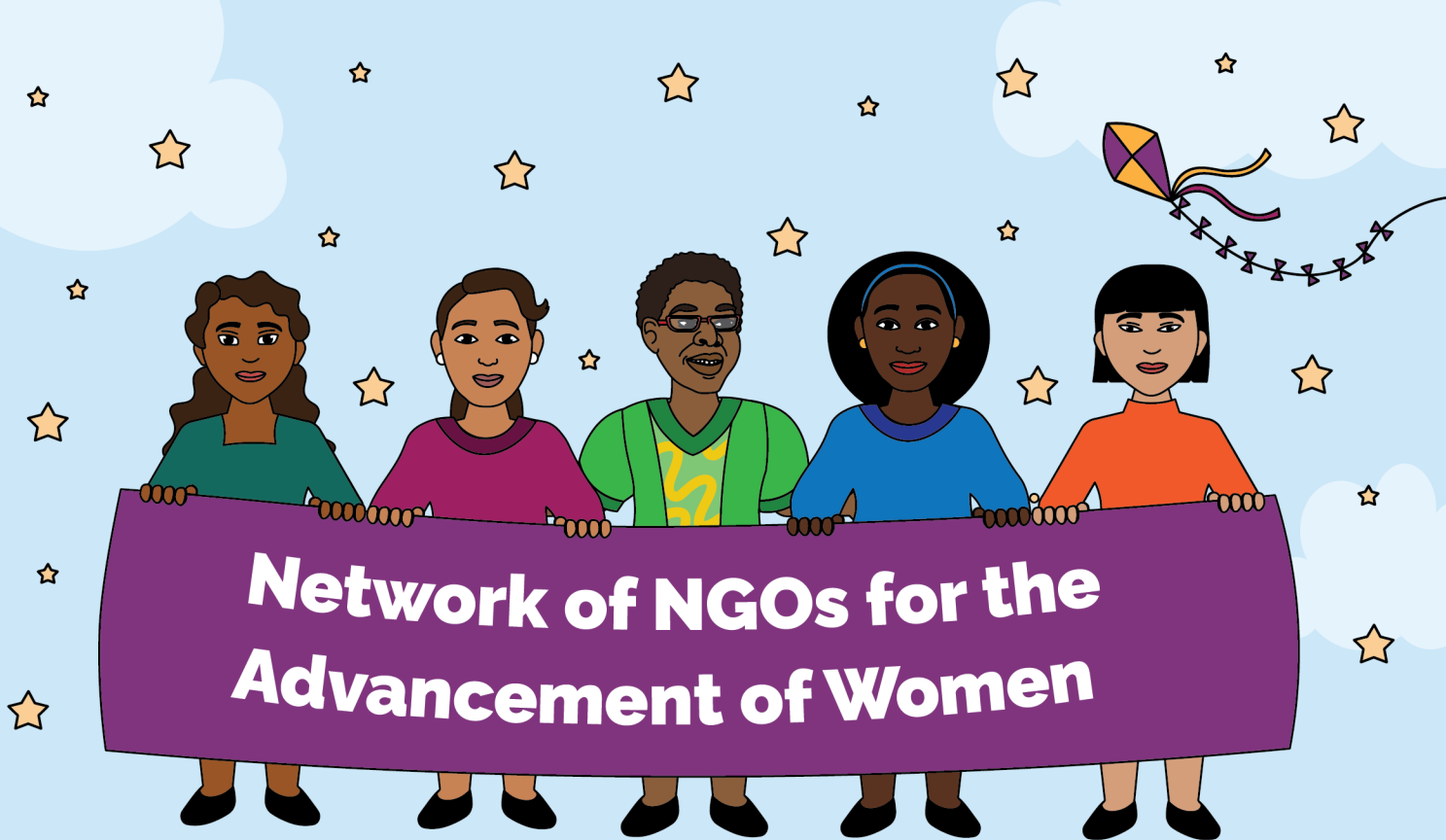
A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to, such as food, free speech, and being treated fairly. Born in Trinidad and Tobago in 1942, Hazel Brown was an **activist** who defended the rights of women, children and **consumers**.

Hazel believed that all voices matter and because of this, the people of a country should have a say in decisions that affect them. This motivated her to become a voice for people whose voices were often unheard, especially women in the Caribbean. In the 1970s, Hazel was among a group of women who defended the rights of women and their families to have proper health care, food, education, jobs, and opportunities to grow. She joined a group called the **Housewives Association of Trinidad and Tobago** and led activities to stop businesses from misleading customers. Hazel called for fair food prices and encouraged businesses to share truthful information about the products they were selling. She was even part of a group that persuaded the government and businesses to stop advertising food products that could harm babies. To protect people who earned low salaries, Hazel also became a member of a government group called the **National Minimum Wages Board** which ensured that workers were not underpaid.



## DID YOU KNOW?

A **consumer** is someone who buys and uses goods and services. **NGO** stands for **non-governmental organisation**. This type of organisation usually does not make any profit. Instead, it leads activities and provides services that help people.



In 1985, she helped form the **Network of NGOs for the Advancement of Women**. This was a group that brought different activists together to help and **empower** women. As its leader, Hazel encouraged other organisations to create more opportunities for women to become leaders in society. This prompted her to create the network's 'Put A Woman' project to prepare women to compete in national elections while helping society to accept women as leaders. Hazel also helped create the **Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWIL)** to support Caribbean women who wanted to enter into **politics** and guide them to be **transformational leaders**.

For over 50 years, Hazel led groups, projects and activities to protect the rights of others. She worked with organisations around the world to create plans and projects to improve lives. The **United Nations (UN)**, the **Commonwealth**, and the **Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)** are a few of those organisations. In 2011 she received Trinidad and Tobago's Medal for the Development of Women (Gold) for her dedication to empowering women. Hazel Brown was also awarded an honorary Doctoral Degree by the University of the West Indies in 2017. Hazel died in 2022.

# Dr. Hilda Rosemary Husbands-Mathurin

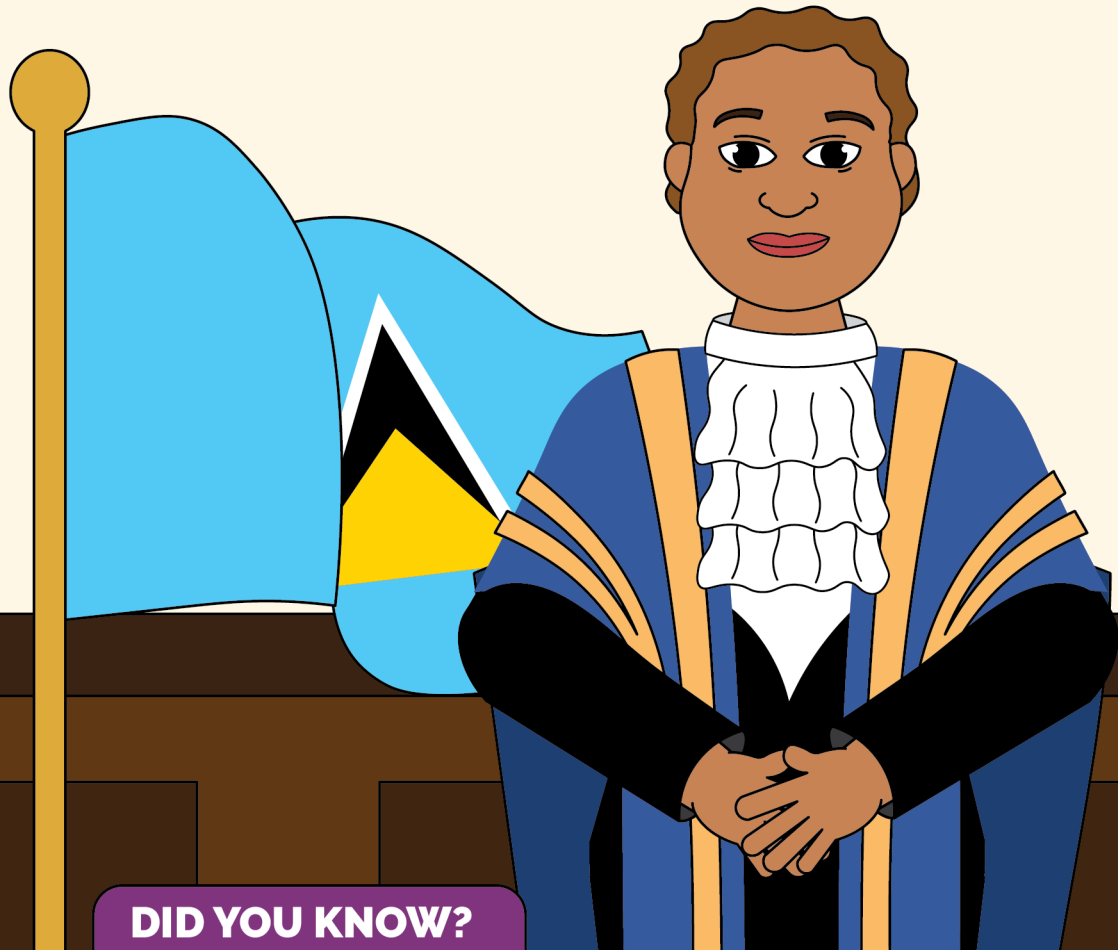
Born in Saint Lucia in 1956, Dr. Hilda Rosemary Husbands-Mathurin was the first woman to become **President of the Senate** in Saint Lucia. She also opened a school for children with learning disabilities, and she helped create the **Parliament of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)**.

Growing up, Dr. Hilda's parents motivated her to be a leader and to put her best foot forward in everything she did. As her father would often say, "**you be the one and take it to excellence!**" They encouraged her to be responsible, hardworking, and to care for those around her. This shaped the extraordinary woman she grew to be and inspired her to help others achieve excellence.



Dr. Hilda started her journey as a teacher and later received a scholarship to study in England. When she returned home in 2000, Dr. Hilda became a senior **lecturer** at the teachers' college in Saint Lucia. At work, she helped other lecturers improve their skills and become better leaders. At home, Dr. Hilda also encouraged her children to be the best that they could be. So, when she found out that one of them had a learning disability, she quickly sprang into action to help him overcome it. Dr. Hilda also wanted to help other families with similar problems. So, in 2006, she opened the **Educare Learning Centre** to help children with learning disabilities in Saint Lucia. She joined charities and opened an organisation called **Moving Mountains** to help families in need.

Dr. Hilda became a leader in her community and was called upon to serve as a **Senator** in 2007. Shortly after, she became the first woman in her country to become President of the Senate. She then became **Speaker of the House** in the Parliament of Saint Lucia in 2009. Dr. Hilda also helped create the Parliament of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and she worked with **Prime Ministers** across the region to create agreements between different countries. In 2017, she became Saint Lucia's Parliamentary Commissioner, a role which gave her responsibility for investigating complaints against the government. For her service to her country and the Caribbean, Dr. Hilda was honoured by the British Government in 2022.



### DID YOU KNOW?

A **Parliament** is part of the government that debates issues and makes laws for a country. The **Speaker of the House** maintains order in Parliament and ensures that it operates smoothly. The **Senate** is a group of people called **senators**, in Parliament, who make laws and meet to discuss plans to improve their country. The **President of the Senate** oversees this group.

# Ione Erlinger-Ford

Born in Saint Lucia, Ione Erlinger-Ford was an **activist** who defended the **rights** of women and worked to end violence against them. She helped pave the way for the Saint Lucia Crisis Centre, the **Family Court**, and the Shelter for Abused Women and Children in Saint Lucia to be opened. She also encouraged the **government** to pass laws to help families and protect people who were experiencing violence.

As the leader of the **Saint Lucia Business and Professional Women's Club**, Ione wanted to improve the lives of women in her country. But she soon realised that many of them were being abused by their partners, their families, and other members of their household. She also realised that many women struggled to support their children on their own. Indeed, these were major problems and Ione was determined to help these women. She listened to their stories and encouraged them to speak up. At the same time, Ione encouraged the government and other organisations to work together to find solutions. In 1986, the government opened a special department to deal with the issues.







lone, together with other women activists, proposed a plan to create a centre that would provide important services for women and children who experienced violence. The plan received overwhelming support and within two years, the **Saint Lucia Crisis Centre** was opened. But lone's work did not stop there. She encouraged the government to pass laws to protect victims of violence, and laws to deal with the payment of child support through the court. lone also gathered support for the creation of the Family Court and the **Shelter for Abused Women and Children**.

Throughout her life, lone spoke up for families in need and for women who were told to remain silent about their painful experiences. She helped them find their own voice by educating them about their rights. Her passion for helping women and families motivated many others in Saint Lucia and the Caribbean to do the same. lone died in 2013.

# Dame Janet Bostwick



**Born in Bahamas in 1939, Dame Janet Bostwick was the first woman to become Attorney General, a Member of Parliament, and Acting Prime Minister in her country. As a leader, Dame Janet used her voice to defend the rights of others, especially women and children.**

Some leaders dedicate their lives to helping others and their passion inspires those around them to do the same. This has certainly been the case with Dame Janet Bostwick, the first woman in the Bahamas to lead her country as acting Prime Minister, the first woman to become Attorney General and a Member of Parliament in the Bahamas' **House of Assembly**, and the first woman to serve as President of the Bahamas Bar Association – the organisation for **attorneys-at-law** in her country. Indeed, Dame Janet achieved many firsts as a woman in the Bahamas. But she is respected as a leader not just because of the many hats she wore, but also because she used her platform to **advocate** for others or speak up on their behalf, especially women and children when their voices were not heard.

Dame Janet encouraged employers to treat women fairly by giving them the same salaries and job opportunities as men. At the time, women could lose their jobs if they became pregnant and had to take time-off from work. So, Dame Janet urged employers to protect the jobs of pregnant women during and after pregnancy and childbirth. She then called upon men to share responsibilities with women in the home for raising their children. Dame Janet was also saddened by violence between family members in the Bahamas. Her determination to change this motivated her to work with the government to change the laws of the land so that people who experienced violence could have better protection and justice.

Dame Janet is great example of a **transformational leader** because her success was driven by her concern for people and desire for them to be treated equally and fairly. She received many awards including the Dame Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in 2019, and the CARICOM Triennial Award for Women for her contributions to the Caribbean.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The **government** is the group of people who lead the country. The **Parliament** is composed of people in government who debate issues and make laws for a country. They often belong to different groups, such as the Senate and the House of Assembly or 'House' for short. A **Member of Parliament** is a member of the House who is voted in by the people of a community to represent them in parliament. The **Attorney General** represents the government in all legal matters and works to improve the laws of the land.

# Jean La Rose

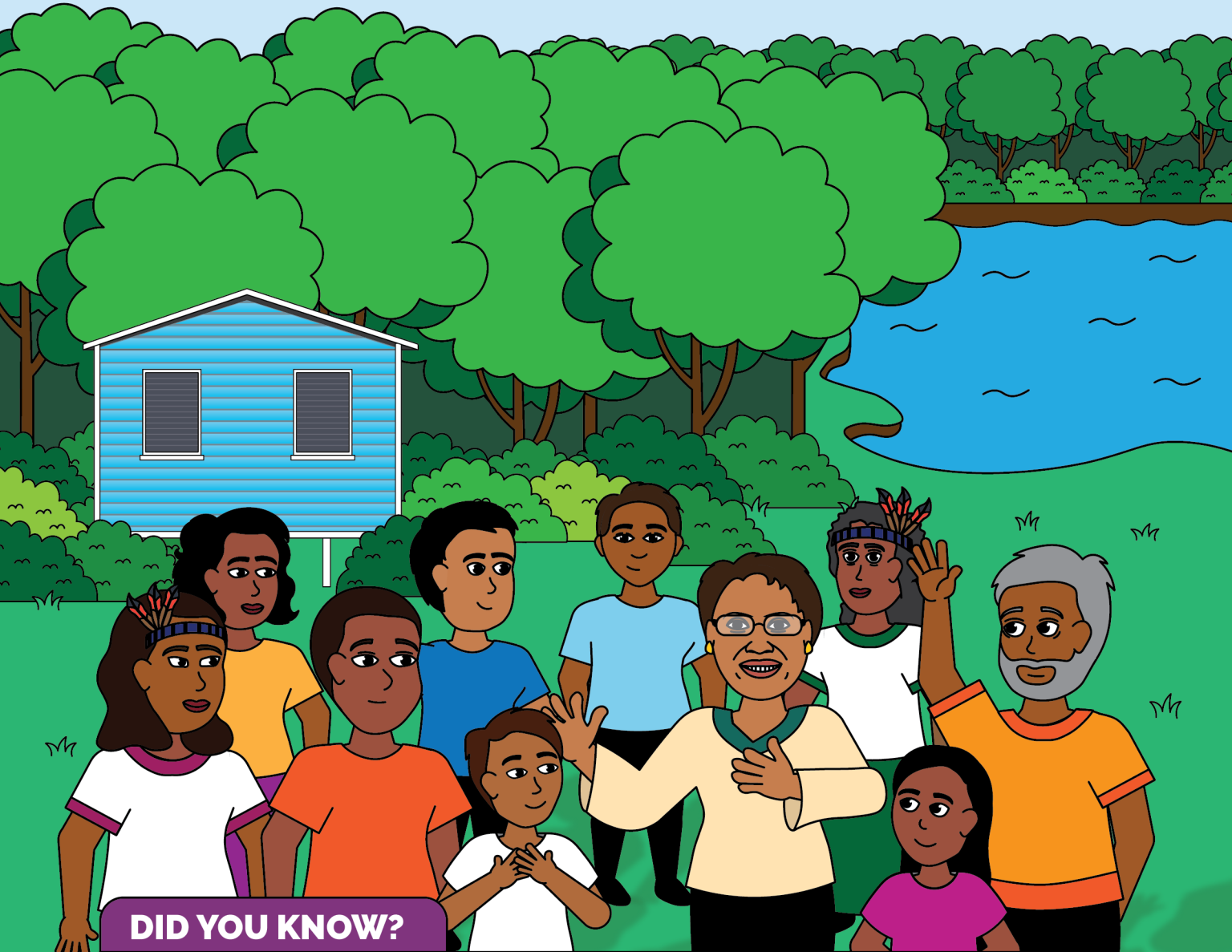


A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to, such as participating in their traditional culture, **heritage** and way of life without **discrimination**. **Indigenous people** are the first people who lived in a place or country. Because of this, they have **land rights** which means that they are entitled to own and use the land of their ancestors. Born in 1962, Jean La Rose is a passionate defender of the rights of Indigenous or Amerindian people in Guyana.

The Amerindians were among the first people to live in the Caribbean and South America. From the Taino tribes of the northern islands to the Lokono people of the southern mainland, the Amerindian community is vast. For centuries, they worked to protect their homeland and this journey continues even today with the hard work and dedication of people like Jean La Rose. While at university in Guyana, Jean learned about laws that protect the rights of indigenous people around the world. But she quickly realised that the laws in her country did not protect Amerindians in the way that they should. As a member of the Amerindian community herself, Jean wanted to make a difference. So, along with other **activists** who shared her passion, Jean travelled to Amerindian communities across Guyana to teach them about their rights.

Jean joined an organisation called the **Amerindian People's Association**. There, she worked to protect the rights of indigenous people, especially their right to own and use the land of their ancestors. For many indigenous people, land is much more than just property. It is an important part of their culture and relationship with one another. Jean brought communities together and organised activities to protect indigenous lands from mining, logging and projects that could harm the environment. Jean also encouraged the government to update the laws of the land to better protect the rights of indigenous people. Through her work, Jean encouraged the government to create a group called the **Indigenous Peoples' Commission**.

The **Indigenous Peoples' Commission** would allow the government to cooperate with indigenous people so that better decisions could be made to improve the wellbeing of indigenous communities. In 2002, Jean received the Goldman Environmental Prize for her commitment to protecting indigenous land rights and the environment.



### DID YOU KNOW?

**Indigenous people** are the first people who lived in a place or country. **Indigenous land rights** means that indigenous people deserve to own and use the land of their ancestors. **Activists** inspire change and defend the rights of others. **Discrimination** occurs when people are treated unfairly because of things like their race or culture. **Heritage** is what someone has inherited from their ancestors, including traditions, languages and property.

# Joan French



**Access to education, safety and being treated fairly are rights that all people deserve and are entitled to. An activist defends the rights of others and takes action to help them. Born in Jamaica in 1934, Joan French spent most of her life defending the rights of women and children around the world. Her work inspired others to follow her example.**

Joan came from a family of teachers in Jamaica. This inspired her passion for helping children in her community to achieve their highest potential. Joan became a teacher and at the same time, she joined a group called the **Sistren Theatre Collective**. Through drama, this group made people more aware about the struggles women faced. By doing this, they motivated people across Jamaica to value, respect, and listen to women. When the organisation that represented teachers began to disagree with the work of the Sistren Theatre Collective, Joan joined an organisation called the **National Union of Democratic Teachers** where she defended the rights of teachers, especially women. While there, she encouraged the government to give teachers paid time-off to study and, for pregnant women teachers, paid time-off to prepare for childbirth.

Joan also helped create a group called the **Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA)**. This group worked with governments and other organisations across the Caribbean to protect and promote the rights of women. Joan lectured at the University of the West Indies as well, and helped her students understand different issues that affect women and girls. Through her work with the **Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC)**, Joan led projects that looked at the needs of Caribbean people so that plans and **policies** could be created to better help them. With the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**, an organisation which helps children across the world, Joan led offices and projects in the Caribbean and Africa. She also helped countries better understand the different issues facing girls and boys so that special plans could be created to help them. In Burkino Faso, she helped create more opportunities for girls to get an education. For her noble service, Joan received awards from SISTREN, CAFRA, PLAN INTERNATIONAL, the Pan-African Organisation of Women, and the **United Nations (UN)**.



**WHAT DO PEOPLE IN THE CARIBBEAN NEED?**

**HOW CAN WE HELP THEM?**

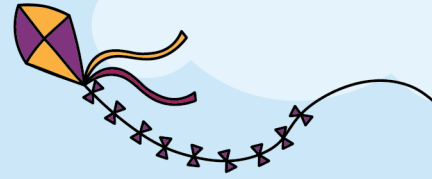
**HOW CAN WE HELP WOMEN  
AND GIRLS?**

**WHAT RESEARCH  
DO WE NEED?**

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** is an organisation in the United Nations that helps children around the world. The **United Nations (UN)** is an organisation of countries and governments from around the world that work together for peace and to ensure the safety and wellbeing of others. The **Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC)** works with organisations across the Caribbean to understand the needs of Caribbean people and help create plans and policies to improve their lives. A **policy** is a set of guidelines that organisations and countries can follow to ensure they are meeting their goals.

# Magda Pollard



**Magda Pollard believed that women and girls are just as capable as men and boys at achieving great things. Born in Guyana in 1931, she became a teacher, author and pioneer for women's rights in the Caribbean.**

Magda's parents, who were both teachers, inspired her love for learning. At school, Magda excelled in her studies and enjoyed singing, learning new skills and taking part in activities such as the Girl Guides. She quickly became a leader among her peers and was motivated to continue her journey in education. This led Magda to become a teacher.

While she enjoyed her first teaching job, Magda wanted to achieve more. So, she went to Scotland to study **nutrition, health science** and **home economics** at university. When she returned home, she became the principal of the Carnegie School of Home Economics. Leading the school gave Magda great joy because she saw the importance of education for young women. It could help them learn new skills, open doors for better opportunities in life, and help them become more independent. Still, Magda knew that more needed to be done.

Magda saw how the work women did in the home was undervalued by society. This included tasks like caring for children, cooking and cleaning. To prove this, Magda conducted research to learn more about their experiences. Her research showed that less women had leadership jobs than men, women were paid less than men, and it was difficult for women to get loans from the bank. It was clear that women and men were not treated equally and Caribbean leaders began to pay more attention to this problem.

In 1979, concerned leaders from many countries met to discuss and find solutions to the **discrimination** that women around the world were facing. They created a document called a **convention** which was a guide that everyone could agree upon and follow to improve the lives of women. It was called the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)**. Caribbean leaders at this meeting signed the convention.



Because of this, their governments now had the great responsibility of putting their promises into action and they turned to Magda for help. Magda worked with the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)** and led the office that was responsible for protecting the rights of women across the region. She worked with many governments to create national plans of action to ensure that women and men were treated equally and fairly. She helped create examples of good laws to protect **women's rights** and governments used these examples as a guide to create national laws in their countries. CARICOM recognised Magda's contributions to the region by presenting her with the Triennial Award for Women. She was one of the first women to receive this honour. She also received many national awards in Guyana, including the Cacique Crown of Honour. Magda died in 2019.



### DID YOU KNOW?

A **convention** is an agreement among countries that outlines how certain things should be dealt with. **Women's rights** are the rights and opportunities that women and girls are entitled to. These rights are equal to men and boys. This includes equal opportunities for jobs, education, health care, and to lead and be heard. **Discrimination** occurs when people are treated unfairly because of things like their gender, age, family history or the colour of their skin.



# Dame Maizie Barker-Welch

**Born in Barbados in 1927, Dame Maizie Baker-Welch has long been a champion for women, their rights, and their growth in society. She is an activist who has given her life to service to her community, her country and the Caribbean.**

Dame Maizie grew up in the countryside of Barbados. Her family was very active in the community and her parents taught her the importance of education and caring for others. Her father was a principal and often taught people in their village for free. Her mother taught her skills like sewing and encouraged her to share her knowledge with others. These lessons inspired Dame Maizie's work as a **politician** and community leader. For her, it was about helping people and communities.

Dame Maizie began her journey as a schoolteacher. She taught Spanish and dress making at schools and even used her skills in playing the piano to help children learn Spanish. She also created groups to teach young people skills like sewing and decorating. In 1986, Dame Maizie won her seat in the Barbados general election. As a **government** leader, she spoke up to help her community and led projects to help women and workers. Dame Maizie also led organisations that defended the rights of others. She was the President of the National Community for Aging and encouraged others to respect and care for the elderly. In support of women, Dame Maizie led organisations that worked to protect their rights. These included the **National Organisation of Women** and the **Business and Professional Women's Club**. Dame Maizie even represented her country at **United Nations (UN)** meetings where leaders from governments around the world gathered to agree on plans to help and **empower** women.

Dame Maizie became a leading voice on issues affecting women not just in Barbados but around the world. She led the **Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)**, an organisation which brings together over 30 Latin American and Caribbean countries to ensure that women are treated fairly, and their rights are protected. At the CIM, she played a major role in creating an agreement between these countries to help end violence against women.



At the CIM, she played a major role in creating an agreement between these countries to help end violence against women. This agreement was called the **Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women**. For her service, Dame Maizie was awarded the Companion of Honour (CHB), and the Barbados Centennial Honour (BCH). In 2014, she was made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) for her work in improving the lives of women, both in her country and around the world. She was also awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws (LLD) by the University of the West Indies that same year.

Today in the year 2023, at the age of 96, Dame Maizie wishes to share with young girls and boys, some advice from the teachings that helped her in her own life: **“love our neighbour as ourselves”** and **“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”** Dame Maizie believes that it is important at every stage of your life, as a young girl or boy, and as an adult, that you try always to make good choices – of your friends, of the company you keep, of the books that you read, and of the things that you do, so that you can always be proud of yourself. She recalls a quote from Dumbledore in the famous Harry Potter series: **“It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.”**

# Marion Bethel

Born in the Bahamas in 1953, Marion Bethel is an **attorney-at-law, writer, filmmaker and activist** who uses her art to educate others about the Caribbean, especially the journey and achievements of Caribbean women.

Leaders can inspire people in many different ways. For Marion Bethel, essays, poetry and film are powerful tools to inspire those around her. While studying to become an attorney-at-law, Marion also began writing her first collection of poems called **Guanahani, My Love**. The poems give readers a magical glimpse into the history and culture of the Caribbean and The Bahamas and are celebrated across the region. Her book won the Casa de Las Americas Prize in 1994, making Marion one of the few Caribbean writers to win this award. Her second book, **Bougainvillea Ringplay**, also received praiseworthy reviews. Through her writing, Marion inspired the work of other Caribbean authors and changed the way many people see her country.





After publishing her books, Marion turned her attention to film. She produced and directed a documentary in 2012 called **Womanish Ways: Freedom, Human Rights & Democracy, The Women's Suffrage Movement in The Bahamas – 1948-1962**. Through this film, Marion shone a light on the struggles Bahamian women faced in their journey to gain the **right** to vote. She also showed the strength and courage of women, their contributions to building the Caribbean, and their power to transform their communities. The documentary received many awards including the 2013 Film Award at the Urban Suburban International Film Festival in Philadelphia. It was also celebrated as a symbol of women's rights, progress, and freedom in the Caribbean.

Marion was an active member of the women's organisation called **Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA)**. This group is instrumental in promoting the rights of women in the Caribbean. For her inspirational work as a writer, filmmaker, **women's rights** activist and human rights **lawyer**, Marion received the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Triennial Award for Women in 2014. She was the first Bahamian to receive this honour. Marion continues to be a champion for women and girls. In 2017, she became an expert member on the **United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**. This Committee holds **governments** accountable for commitments they made to promote, respect and fulfill the human rights of women and girls.

# Mia Mottley



**Born in Barbados in 1965, Mia Mottley was the first woman Prime Minister of Barbados. She also led the way for her country to become a republic. By doing this, Barbados was no longer led by British Kings and Queens. Now, the people of the country can choose their own President. In this new government, Mia Mottley became the first Prime Minister of Barbados.**

Mia's love for Caribbean culture and people runs deep. Even as a little girl, she often took photos to capture Caribbean beauty and enjoyed singing calypso. Mia was also a great debater in school, a talent which matched her choice to study law at university. Mia completed her first **degree** at just 20 years old and not long after, she became a government **senator**. This allowed her to help create laws and plans to improve her country. Mia then became one of the youngest **government ministers** in Barbados and led projects to improve education and job opportunities for young people. In 2001, Mia made history as the first woman in Barbados to become **Attorney General**. In this role, she represented the government in all legal matters and continued to improve the laws of the land. Mia was also a member of many groups that made decisions about her country's security, defence, education, technology, trade, and relationships with other countries.

In 2018, Mia scored a victory like no other at her country's general elections and became the first woman Prime Minister of Barbados. Indeed, this was a major achievement, but Mia was just getting started. She cared about the environment and the wellbeing of others, not just in Barbados but around the world. Because of this, she became a champion for efforts to stop **climate change** and encouraged other global leaders to do the same. Mia also saw the potential of Caribbean people to achieve great things. So, she worked with other leaders to improve relationships between Caribbean countries and, at the same time, she led projects to improve jobs, education, and opportunities for growth in Barbados and across the wider region. In 2021, Mia led the way for Barbados to take control of its leadership by becoming a **republic**. From that moment on, Barbados was no longer led by British Kings and Queens. Instead, the people of the country could choose their own leader. In this new government, Mia Mottley became the first Prime Minister.



# UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE UK 2021

LEADERS MUST NOT  
FAIL THOSE WHO  
ELECT THEM TO  
LEAD

IF OUR EXISTENCE IS  
TO MEAN ANYTHING,  
THEN WE MUST ACT IN  
THE INTEREST OF ALL  
OF OUR PEOPLE.



## DID YOU KNOW?

The **government** is the group of people who lead a country. The **Prime Minister** leads the government. **Climate change** describes changes in the weather and our environment over a long period of time. This includes temperature and rainfall. Climate change can happen naturally, but sometimes human activities like pollution can have bad effects on the weather and environment. Mia has been encouraging world leaders to join together to stop this.

# Queen Nanny of the Jamaican Maroons



During the African slave trade, millions of Africans were taken from their homes and forced to work as slaves. Most of them were taken to the Americas and the Caribbean to work on plantations. Born in Ghana around 1680, Queen Nanny was a fierce leader of a community of people who escaped slavery in Jamaica. They are called the maroons. Through her skill and determination, she led hundreds of people to their freedom.

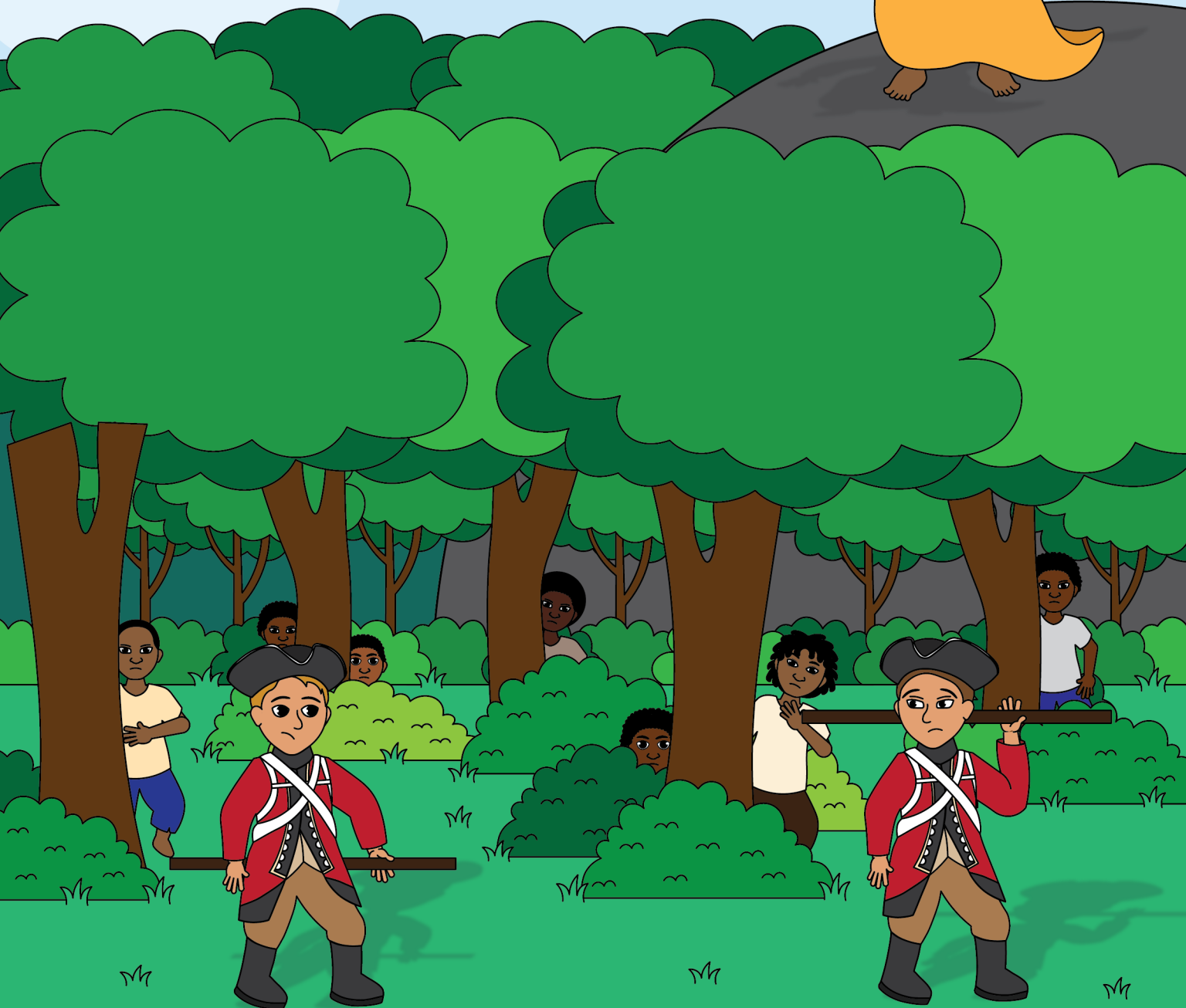
Hundreds of years ago in the Caribbean, there were small communities of people who escaped slavery. They were known as maroons. Many of them spent their lives running from captivity. Others died fighting for their freedom. But deep in the mountains of Jamaica, one fierce maroon led her people to victory. They called her Nanny of the Maroons. Nanny was the leader of a maroon community called Nanny Town. There, she protected her people against slavery, inspired them to fight for their freedom, and encouraged her village to celebrate their African culture. She was also very clever and during the First Maroon War, she trained her warriors to outsmart the British soldiers. Because of this, they won many battles and helped rescue hundreds of enslaved people. They defended the hills where their village stood and set hidden traps for their enemies. Nanny was soon known throughout the land and her troops were even feared by the British.

Although the British destroyed Nanny Town in 1734, they still could not defeat the maroons. Nanny escaped to another maroon settlement with other survivors, and they continued their pursuit for freedom. The maroons declared their independence from the British and in 1739, the British agreed to peace. Five hundred acres of land was given to Nanny and her followers. The village built on that land still exists and is now known as Moore Town or New Nanny Town. Nanny was declared as a Jamaican National Hero in 1975 and a statue was erected in her honour.



## DID YOU KNOW?

During the **African slave trade**, millions of Africans were taken from their homes and forced to work as slaves. Most of them were taken to the Americas and the Caribbean to work on plantations. **Slavery** takes away the rights of others and because of this, it is now against the law.





# Professor Paloma Mohamed

Born in Guyana in 1967, **Professor Paloma Mohammed** is a leader in education, film, and Caribbean culture. She was the first woman to lead the University of Guyana as **Vice-Chancellor** and she also helped create opportunities for **filmmakers** across the region.

At the tender age of 16, Professor Paloma got her first job at a radio station in Guyana. However, her mother insisted that she continue her studies instead. So, Professor Paloma enrolled at the University of Guyana. She also studied at Harvard University and the **University of the West Indies**, before returning to Guyana where she became one of the Caribbean's leading voices in education. At the University of Guyana, Professor Paloma led departments, programmes, **research** projects, and fundraising activities. She also taught students from across the world about culture, human behaviour, and communication. In 2020, Professor Paloma became the first woman and youngest person to lead the university as Vice-Chancellor. She also wrote many books, articles and plays, and her work is used by students across the region.



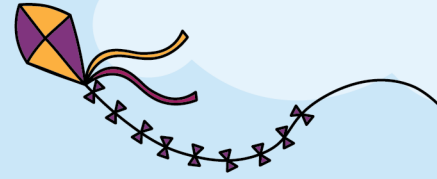
## DID YOU KNOW?

A **professor** is an expert who teaches at a university. A chancellor is a leader of a college or university. The **vice-chancellor** is second in command and oversees students, staff, courses, facilities, and other operations.



Professor Paloma is also a leader in film and television. She produced many films, including the first Guyanese full-length movie, and Guyana’s first children’s talent show for television, called **KIDSTAGE**. Professor Paloma led efforts to create a company called **CineGuyana Inc** to help filmmakers in Guyana. Since then, CINEGuyana has created many jobs for filmmakers and opportunities for their work to be shown around the world. For her inspiring work, Professor Paloma received the Guyana Prize for Literature on three occasions, the City of New York Award for Culture, and she was the first woman to receive the ANSA Caribbean Laureate for Excellence in the Arts and Letters, which is one of the highest awards in the region. In 2014, she was named one of the top five most influential women in the country by the US Embassy in Guyana.


# Dr. Peggy Antrobus



**Women's rights** are **human rights** which all people are entitled to. They include things like being protected by the law and having the same opportunities as men to lead **governments**, large organisations and countries. An **activist** defends human rights and takes action to ensure that all people are treated equally. Born in Grenada in 1935, Dr. Peggy Antrobus is one of the Caribbean's leading activists for **gender equality**. She spent years working with governments and other organisations across the world to help women and girls live with their full rights and freedoms.

In 1974, Dr. Peggy began working with the government of Jamaica to improve the lives of women, especially those who did not have the same opportunities as men to rights like jobs and education. Though the role was new to Dr. Peggy, she gave it her all because she believed that women should be treated fairly and equally. She soon noticed that many projects being put in place across the country only benefitted some people instead of the wider community. So, Dr. Peggy encouraged the government to listen to what all citizens had to say, including women and children. By doing this, the government could better understand their needs and create projects that could truly help them.

Dr. Peggy became a **feminist** which is someone who sees how women and girls have less power in society and takes action to **empower** them. She created the **Women and Development Unit (WAND)** at the **University of the West Indies** to help women through training, **research**, and community activities. Dr. Peggy also helped create the **Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA)** and the **Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)**. These organisations seek to understand and find solutions to the issues affecting the lives of women in the Caribbean and other countries. Dr. Peggy had become a **transformational leader** who gave advice to governments across the region on how to protect and promote women's rights. In 2004, she published her book, **The Global Women's Movement: Origins, Issues and Strategies**. It is one of the best sources of information which documents the challenges, triumphs and brave actions of women around the world.

A cartoon illustration of a woman with dark skin, glasses, and a red shirt, sitting at a desk in a library. She is smiling and holding a pen over a stack of papers. On the desk is a book titled 'The Global Women's Movement: Origins, Issues and Strategies' with a colorful polka-dot cover. To her left is a potted plant with green leaves. Behind her are bookshelves filled with books of various colors. A speech bubble points to her from the left.

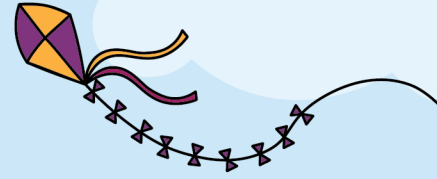
THERE CAN BE NO JUSTICE FOR ANYONE IF THERE ISN'T JUSTICE FOR WOMEN.

The Global Women's Movement: Origins, Issues and Strategies

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Empowering** people is about creating an environment or providing things that can help make them stronger, more confident, and more independent. When people are empowered, they can improve their lives and the lives of their families, their communities, and their countries. **Gender equality** is when women, men, girls, boys and all people enjoy the same rights, opportunities and protections. A **movement** is a group of people who share similar beliefs and work together to achieve the same goals. A **women's movement** is when people work together to ensure that women are treated fairly and equally to men.

# René Baptiste



**Born in Saint Vincent in 1951, René Baptiste was the first woman attorney-at law to be voted into the Parliament of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. She was also the First Speaker of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Assembly.**

1951 was a historic year for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. For the first time, all women and men, regardless of their race, **gender**, or family background, had the equal right to vote. That same year, René was born. Growing up, René understood what it was like to be treated unfairly because of one's family background. She was raised in a single parent home and because of this, many people looked down on her. But her mother taught her to be strong, independent, and to hold her head high regardless of what obstacles she faced. René's mother also taught her the importance of believing in yourself and knowing that you could achieve anything you worked hard for. In time, these lessons shaped the fierce leader René grew to be.

René aimed for excellence in everything she did and in 1976, she became the fifth woman in Saint Vincent and in the Grenadines to become an **attorney-at-law**. René even opened her very own private law firm and later became the President of her country's association for attorneys-at-law. René also worked with the government to create systems for international banks and shipping companies to do business in the Caribbean. Despite her success, many people doubted René's strength as a leader because she was a woman. But René remained focused. She was determined to prove them wrong. René joined a **political party** and before long, she was voted into government by the people of Saint Vincent and in the Grenadines. As a Member of Parliament, she led projects and made decisions on matters of **tourism**, culture, trade, and business. René also listened to the concerns of citizens and created new and modern systems to help them. In 2011, René was honoured by the Queen of England for her service to her country. The next year, she became the first Speaker of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Assembly.



# OECS Assembly

BE THE BEST  
THAT YOU  
CAN BE!

## DID YOU KNOW?

The **Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)** is a group of governments in the eastern part of the Caribbean that work together to achieve a better quality of life for people in their countries. The **OECS Assembly** is made up of representatives from each government who discuss issues between the countries and suggest solutions. The **Speaker of the House** maintains order in Assembly.

# Professor Rhoda Reddock



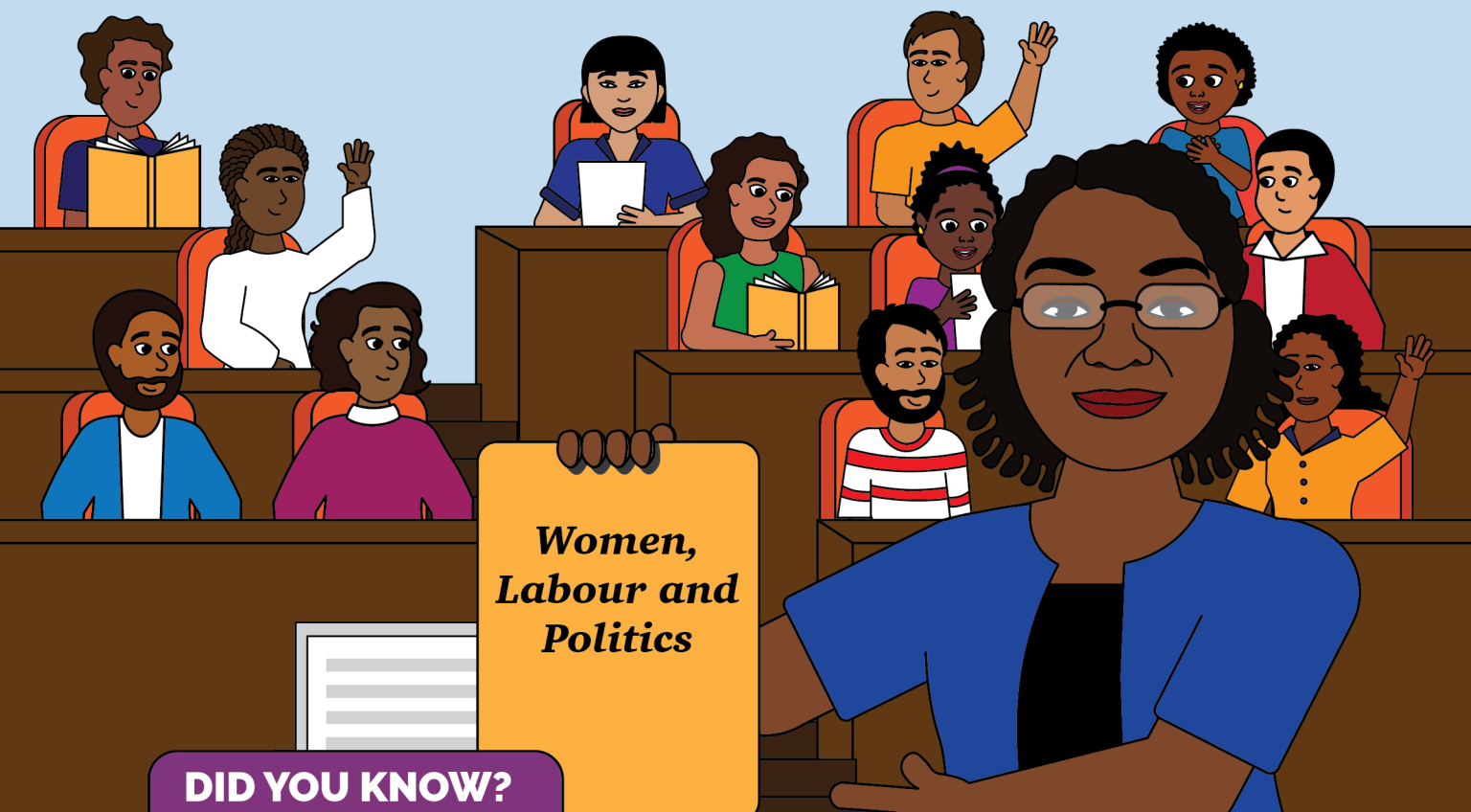
Born in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 1953 to a Trinidadian mother and a Vincentian father, Professor Rhoda Reddock is a leading **author, researcher, university professor and feminist activist** in the Caribbean and internationally. Her **research** helped people around the world better understand women, their history, their rights and the issues they face. She also worked with organisations, **governments**, schools and other groups to educate people and contribute to the **human rights** of women and girls.

Growing up, Rhoda was quite a tomboy and experienced firsthand the **inequalities** faced by women and girls. Her mother was the first to let her know that she should be proud to be a woman, especially when she complained about restrictions of dress and riding outdoors. Rhoda's mother also introduced her to stories of European women who had persevered such as Madame Curie the scientist and Ana Pavlova the ballerina. Most of all, her mother taught her to love reading. Young Rhoda joined the library as soon as she was old enough and continued to love libraries and books all her life. She was also concerned about fairness and **equality** in society and her **feminist** consciousness grew with time. Rhoda studied social sciences to understand the way societies work in order to make a difference. She attended the **University of West Indies (UWI)** in Trinidad and Tobago and in Jamaica. She also studied at the Institute of Social Studies and the University of Amsterdam in The Netherlands where she taught students from many countries. Professor Rhoda helped her students better understand the unique issues women and girls face and how we could work together to improve their lives. She soon realised the need to do the same back home.

In the Caribbean, Professor Rhoda worked with other scholars to create similar programmes. Her hard work helped pave the way for the Institute for Gender and Development Studies at the UWI to be created. Under her leadership, this department led programmes and produced new knowledge that helped people across the region better understand, value and respect women and their contributions to society. It also inspired many future leaders to think about the issues women face before making decisions.



Professor Rhoda wrote many books and articles about women and their history in the Caribbean. She was a founding member of the **Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA)** which promotes women's rights. Professor Rhoda was the first person from Trinidad and Tobago to serve on the **United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)** which holds governments accountable for ensuring **gender equality**. She received many awards for her hard work, including awards from the UWI, the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**, the US Department of State.



### DID YOU KNOW?

Many countries around the world signed an agreement called the **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**. This agreement guides governments on what actions they must take to improve the lives of women in their countries. For example, governments are required to take action to ensure that laws are fair to all, women have equal job opportunities to men, and women can participate in politics and sports. A group of experts keeps track of actions taken by governments and provides recommendations. This group is called the **United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**. A **feminist** is someone who supports women and girls having equal rights to men and boys.

# Roberta Clarke



**“Believe in your own power to make a difference in your world. Accept your responsibility to do your part to make life kinder, easier and more just for others. Nothing changes for the better without effort and determination.”** These are the words of Roberta Clarke. Roberta Clarke is an **activist for social justice and gender equality**.

Roberta’s mother was from Dominica and her father was a Barbadian. Her husband and four (4) children are Trinidadians. As Caribbean people, Roberta believes we should all work together to make our home a fairer and more just place to live. We should all understand the struggles of our ancestors for **equal rights**, freedom and development. Some of Roberta’s most valuable lessons came from her family. From her father’s life she understood that when people cannot stand up by themselves or for themselves, we are all interdependent and must help and support one another. From her mother, she learned that kindness and honesty are the first virtues. Her four (4) siblings showed her the value of friendship, how to resolve conflict, and how to be empathetic and dependable. Her family also encouraged her to be proud of her African ancestry and to value the **diversity** of Caribbean people.

Roberta worked in shops as a teenager where she got a close-up glimpse into the lives of working women. She saw that many of them were raising children by themselves on low wages. Roberta became motivated to study social sciences at the University of the West Indies in Barbados. Her studies gave her a better understanding of the Caribbean and its people. She learned that although a few people had good opportunities for development, many were excluded and lived in poverty. Her studies and her childhood experiences inspired Roberta to dedicate her life to equal rights and development in the Caribbean. Roberta’s first job after finishing her degree was as a **Research Assistant** at the Institute for Social and Economic Research where she worked on the **Women in the Caribbean Project (WICP)**, the first research project of its kind in the region. Roberta was given the opportunity to write about women in politics. Her research findings helped her shape her contribution to the formation of the **Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL)**. Roberta also went on to complete a Master of Arts in Sociology and become a **lawyer**, with a focus on **human rights** law. Roberta spends her time working for gender equality together with women all over the world.

As a lawyer, Roberta represented many women seeking protection from domestic violence. She also worked at **UN Women** in the Caribbean, in Asia and the Pacific, and in East and Southern Africa. She contributed to the development of laws addressing violence against women and has trained judges and court staff so that women get a fair hearing, free from **discrimination**. Roberta has **advocated** for better financial support to low-income households and worked with parliamentarians for laws and policies that promote gender equality and women's **empowerment**. She is an advocate to end all forms of discrimination including against **LGBTI people**. Roberta has learned that everyone can help someone and has been a volunteer and member of many **civil society organisations**. She believes that civil society organisations are vital for holding governments accountable for using resources to help all of society. She was the President of the **Coalition Against Domestic Violence of Trinidad and Tobago (CADV)**. In 2022, Roberta became the Commissioner to a human rights group called the **Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)** where she continues her journey to promote and protect rights of others while inspiring people across the world to do the same.



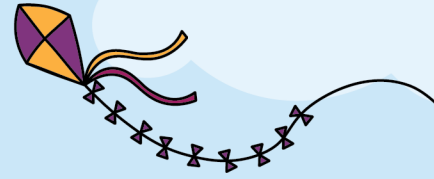
**BELIEVE IN YOUR OWN POWER  
TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE  
WORLD BECAUSE THINGS WILL  
ONLY CHANGE WHEN YOU ARE  
INVOLVED!**

**WE MUST PROTECT  
HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

A **human right** is something that all humans deserve and are entitled to such as food, free speech, and being treated fairly. An **advocate** is someone who speaks up to support a group of people or a purpose they care about, such as human rights. **Diversity** is having or including different people with different family backgrounds, ethnicities and gender. A **researcher** gathers information to better understand a subject or issue, and to learn new facts about how different groups of people are affected.

# Dr. Rosina Wiltshire



**‘Be the change you want to see!’ says Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, a Caribbean scholar who has been on a lifelong journey to improve the world around her. Born in 1946, in Trinidad, Dr. Rosina is a champion for women and led many projects to help them become leaders who could change our societies.**

Dr. Rosina was born right after the end of the Second World War, at a time when stories about peace and freedom could be heard far and wide. **Independence, equal rights** and better opportunities for all were just a few of the many topics people spoke about. Dr. Rosina also knew what it was like to be treated differently because of your race and **sex**, since she was judged unfairly many times as a girl of colour. Her parents, however, reminded her that all human beings are equal and should be treated fairly. They also encouraged her to be independent, become well-educated, and to stand up for what is right. This inspired Dr. Rosina’s longing to make the world around her a better place, especially for women and girls who were not valued, heard, or treated fairly.

After studying in Jamaica, France, and the United States of America, Dr. Rosina became a **university lecturer**. She later worked for the United Nations. Dr. Rosina mentored leaders around the world about **global politics, gender equality**, and ways to improve society.

In Jamaica, she led a survey to uncover the harsh struggles faced by **domestic workers** and used the findings to persuade the government to include them in the law so that they are protected. In South Africa, when **apartheid** was about to end, Dr. Rosina served as an advisor to the new government led by President Nelson Mandela. She travelled across the country to learn about the challenges women faced and what they wished to see in the country’s new **Constitution**. She urged the Mandela team to save at least one third of their positions in **parliament** for women, so their views and opinions could be represented. Dr. Rosina later supported projects to help more women become leaders.



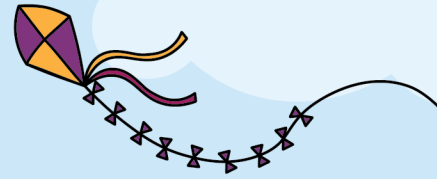
## DID YOU KNOW?

**Gender** is about the roles, responsibilities and behaviours that society determines is appropriate for males and females. **Gender equality** is when women, men, girls, boys and all people enjoy the same rights, opportunities and protections. **Gender justice** is about achieving gender equality and creating a world where people are not limited by ideas about gender. **Apartheid** was a system that forced people of different races to live separately. **Global politics** includes the activities of governments and organisations that influence the way that countries and regions are led around the world.

Dr. Rosina is passionate about caring for nature. She helped write the **Earth Charter** which encourages countries to care for the environment and to create peaceful, fair communities. She met with over a thousand activists from around the world to draft an action plan to protect and conserve the environment. It was called **Women's Action Agenda 21**. They later presented it at the 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Dr. Rosina was a member of an organisation called **Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)** where she worked with other women to create imaginative solutions to problems such as poverty, environmental destruction and gender inequality.

Dr. Rosina was a member of the UN Secretary General's team that led the Fourth World Conference on Women, Development and Peace in Beijing, China in 1995. At this event, **activists** from around the world came together to set goals and create plans to improve education, health care, and other opportunities for women and girls. In 2010, Dr. Wiltshire became the first **Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Advocate for Gender Justice** and has since led research and projects to end violence against women in the Caribbean.

# Dr. Sandra Dean-Patterson



**Born in the Bahamas, Dr. Sandra Dean-Patterson is a psychologist who worked to end violence against women in her country. She created the Bahamas Crisis Centre, which was the Caribbean's first centre for women who experience abuse.**

If something does not exist to help others, why not create it yourself? This was the case with Dr. Sandra Dean-Patterson. She cared about the wellbeing and safety of women in the Bahamas, especially those who suffered violence. So, in 1982, she created the Bahamas Crisis Centre to help them. Dr. Sandra motivated people across the country to work at the centre as volunteers, including **psychologists**, **psychiatrists**, **social workers**, and **attorneys-at-law** who offered counselling to people affected by violence. There were also volunteers who ran the centre's 24-hour hotline, met **victims** and **survivors** at the police station and accompanied them to court if needed. The centre educated communities across the country about the hurt and pain caused by violence, especially between families and couples. This was the first organisation like this in the Caribbean and it inspired other countries to do the same. Today, the centre has grown tremendously and it now helps men and children as well.

Dr. Sandra also encouraged the government to pass laws to help victims and survivors of violence, and she created the Bahamas Council for the Disabled to help people with disabilities. She was the first woman to lead the Bahamas Mental Health Association, and she brought social workers together from across the country to form the Bahamas Association of Social Workers. Dr. Sandra also wrote many books and articles, including a handbook on different types of violence which is used by the Royal Bahamas Police Force. For her efforts in helping others, Dr. Sandra was awarded the Bahamas Order of Merit in 1997, the Bahamian Icon Award for Humanitarianism in 2014, and the United States of America State Department's International Woman of Courage Award in 2011.

## The Bahamas Crisis Centre



### DID YOU KNOW?

A **social worker** is someone who is qualified to help people, families and communities with different challenges to improve their lives and wellbeing. A **psychologist** is someone who studies the human mind, emotions and behaviour to help people with mental and emotional disorders. A **psychiatrist** is a medical doctor who helps people with mental and emotional disorders. Violence or abuse is a serious crime. It is when a person mistreats or causes harm to another person's physical or emotional wellbeing. People who experience violence are called **victims** or **survivors**.

# Sheila Roseau



A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to, such as being treated fairly and equally. An **activist** works or organises with others to change unjust conditions. Born in Antigua and Barbuda in 1957, Sheila Roseau is a champion for the rights and safety of women and children in the Caribbean and beyond.

Sheila was an inquisitive and caring child who listened to the world news on the radio. When she heard stories about war and suffering, she could sense that it was unjust. As her longing for helping others grew, Sheila began having visions about becoming a nurse and teaching nursing. She knew that people could accomplish whatever they set their minds to. So, Sheila set high standards for herself and worked hard to achieve her dream. As she would often say to her cousins and friends, “**Never say I can’t. Always say I’ll try!**” Sheila went off to the United Kingdom. There, she furthered her studies and became a nurse. Though she achieved her dream, she also faced challenges along the way. Many people treated her unfairly because of the colour of her skin. This is called **racial discrimination**. But Sheila held her head high and continued to help those around her. She began to focus on children whose parents and grandparents were from the Caribbean. Many of them did not have families to care for them so Sheila helped find them homes. She also worked on many other projects to improve her community and soon returned home to make a difference in the Caribbean.

For the next 20 years, Sheila led the government department that promotes **equal rights** and opportunities between women and men in Antigua and Barbuda. She also worked with the **government** to pass the country’s first law to punish people who commit **human trafficking**. This crime happens when a person forces or deceives others to do things against their will, such as working without pay. After the law was passed, Sheila encouraged organisations, community groups and the government to protect and help victims of human trafficking and abuse. Sheila received many awards for her efforts, including Antigua and Barbuda’s Commander of the Most Illustrious Order of Merit and the Hero Acting to End Modern Day Slavery Award from former US Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton.



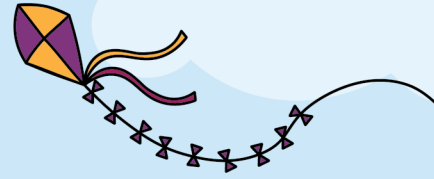
Sheila joined the **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** where she led projects in the Caribbean, Latin America and Namibia to stop violence against women and girls, and to improve their access to health services at every stage of their lives – from childhood to teenage years, adulthood and motherhood. Today, Sheila continues to mentor young women and encourages them to get a good education. She is motivated by seeing how the young women she helps are able to turn their lives around for the better. Sheila started the organization called the **Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL)**. There, she helped others understand that women who are interested in politics should have an equal chance and that all leaders should work to ensure that men and women are treated equally.



### DID YOU KNOW?

The **United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)** is an organisation that works with countries across the world to promote safe childbirth, increase the freedom of women and girls to make decisions that affect their bodies and health, and ensure every young person's potential is fulfilled. **Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL)** is an organisation that provides women and girls with the knowledge and skills to become transformational leaders.

# Shirley Pryce



**Born in Jamaica, Shirley Pryce is known for defending the rights of women and domestic workers in Jamaica and across the Caribbean. Domestic workers include people who are hired to work in people's homes as maids, cooks, gardeners, caretakers and babysitters. Shirley created Jamaica's first trade union to protect them.**

Shirley was a domestic worker for over thirty (30) years and she often faced the harsh reality of not being respected or taken seriously because of her job. Many people did not value her hard work or care about her wellbeing as a worker. But Shirley was determined improve her circumstances and eventually got a scholarship to attend university to study **Social Work**.

Shirley's experiences motivated her to create the first ever domestic workers trade union in Jamaica to help and protect the rights of people who were also in her situation. The union is now called the **Jamaican Household Workers Union** and represents over 50,000 domestic workers. Shirley also created a similar union in Antigua and a Caribbean-wide network. As leader of the **Caribbean Domestic Workers Network**, she taught domestic workers about their rights and encouraged governments across the region to pass laws to protect them. Shirley also worked with the **Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC)** to educate domestic workers about jobs and other opportunities throughout the Caribbean.

Shirley cared about the wellbeing of women. So, she worked with different organisations to support them and protect their rights, including the **United Nations (UN)**. She also became a leading member of the **Association of Women's Organisation of Jamaica (AWOJA)**, and the global human rights organisation called the **Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID)**. For her service to the Caribbean, Shirley received many awards including Jamaica's Badge of Honour and Order of Distinction, as well as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Triennial Award for Women.



DOMESTIC WORKERS  
NEED A CONVENTION

THE UNION MAKES  
US STRONG



### DID YOU KNOW?

A **right** is something that all people deserve and are entitled to, such as being treated fairly. A **trade union** is an organisation that helps protect the rights of workers. **Social Work** is a subject that teaches students how to improve the wellbeing of persons in families and communities.

# Tina Alexander



**Born in England, Tina Alexander moved to Dominica where she created an organisation called Lifeline Ministries to help communities in her country. She works with many different local organisations to improve the quality of life for disadvantaged people, women, and children with disabilities.**

Tina is a **social worker** whose journey began in England where she helped people with mental health challenges. After visiting the Caribbean with her church, she fell in love with the island of Dominica and decided to stay. There, she met her husband, started a family, and began working to help communities across her new home. Tina believes that every person deserves to have good quality food, housing, education, and healthcare, regardless of their age, race, gender or religion. So, she created and continues to lead an organisation called **Lifeline Ministries** to help people whose lives are affected by violence, **discrimination**, disability or difficult circumstances.

Tina's Lifeline Ministries helps people who experience violence by offering them counselling and safe places to live. They train volunteers and police officers to help victims and survivors at police stations and at court. Lifeline Ministries also helped bring together a large group or coalition comprising many other organisations working to protect children and youth in Dominica. When new laws were created to protect victims of violence, this group carried out activities to share information with people in communities and help them understand and accept the new laws. They also encouraged the government to create a **Family Court** to help protect children and victims of violence.

Tina also believes that children have the right to be safe and protected from harm. Her organisation works with other groups to help children learn and grow. They educate children about recycling and how to make beautiful crafts from things that people normally throw away. Tina believes that children who are deaf, blind or use wheelchairs should have equal opportunities to go to school, so she worked with organisations, like the **Dominica Association of Persons with Disabilities (DAPD)**, to offer scholarships for children with illnesses and disabilities. They also created the **Dial A Ride** bus service which helps children with disabilities get safe transportation.

“I am concerned when things are unfair and I stick up for people who experience discrimination,” says Tina. This is clear to see because Tina always rises to the occasion to help people in need. After she realised that the indigenous Kalinago people in Dominica were not receiving good healthcare, she started working with an organisation to help them. When Hurricane Maria happened and most people's houses got badly damaged, she went on boats and helicopters to help rescue people. She helped people with British connections to go and stay with their relatives in the United Kingdom. The Queen of England awarded Tina a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) medal for this work.



### DID YOU KNOW?

A **court** is where disputes between people and organisations are heard so that a decision can be made. The decisions made are based on the law. A **Family Court** is a special court that hears disputes between members of a family.



**ARE THERE MORE  
CARIBBEAN WOMEN  
LEADERS?**

**OF COURSE  
THERE ARE!**



**THEY  
ACHIEVED  
GREAT THINGS**



**THEY  
CREATED NEW  
OPPORTUNITIES**



**THEY OPENED  
NEW DOORS FOR  
US TO GROW**



There are many  
**Caribbean Women Leaders.**  
Let's learn more about some  
them. Flip the page!



# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Trailblazers for Equality and Freedom

A trailblazer is someone who creates positive changes in society. Many women in Caribbean history were trailblazers who defended the **human rights** of their communities against being treated unfairly due to their race, religion, **gender** or poor backgrounds. Although men had more power in society to make decisions and get involved in **politics**, women too had their own views about how their countries should be run. They believed that Caribbean people should have the right to lead their own countries, so they took part in movements to gain **Independence** from the European rulers who limited their freedom. Once the right to vote came into effect in the 1940s and 1950s, women encouraged each other to vote. Their bravery to stand up for what is right paved the way for Caribbean people to be free and set an example for future generations to continue to work towards achieving **equality**.

### Amy Bailey

Amy was an **educator** and **advocate** for **equal rights**. Her work encouraged the **government** to change its laws and improve opportunities for people of colour in Jamaica, especially women.

### Amy Jacques Garvey

Amy was a Jamaican **journalist**, **author** and **activist** who encouraged people of African descent to seek **Independence** and **equal rights**. She also encouraged women of colour to become leaders in society.

### Claudia Vera Jones

Claudia was a Trinidadian **journalist** and **activist** who defended the **rights** of women and people of colour to be treated fairly. She also created a newspaper called the **West Indian Gazette** in Britain to share the voices and views of Caribbean people. In the 1950s, Claudia helped create the **Notting Hill Carnival** to unite them and to promote their culture.





## Elfreda Reyes

Elfreda was an **activist** who defended the **rights** of women, workers and poor people in Belize. She encouraged the **government** to create laws to protect workers' rights and she led activities to **empower** women to vote.



## Elizabeth Hart Thwaites and Anne Hart Gilbert

Born in Antigua, these sisters were two of the first women of African descent to become Caribbean **writers**. They also educated enslaved and free coloured people and encouraged them to seek freedom from **slavery**.



## Flore Bois Gaillard

Flore encouraged African slaves to seek their freedom and led them in a revolt against French rulers in Saint Lucia.



## Leonora Pujadas-McShine

Leonora was a champion for **women's rights** in Trinidad and Tobago. She encouraged them to vote and to become more active in **politics**. She also defended their right to be paid equally to men and to be treated fairly.



## Marie Sainte Dédée Bazile

She was a leader who supported Haiti's **independence** from the French in 1804.



## Sarah Ann Gill

Sarah was the first national heroine of Barbados. In the 1800s, she helped pave the way for people of different religions to practice their faith freely.

# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Ground Breakers

A ground breaker is someone who changes the way things are done, especially by becoming the first person to achieve something. Many Caribbean women are ground breakers whose hard work and achievements created new opportunities for others to grow. For a long time, people thought that women could not lead countries, governments and large organisations. But this slowly began to change when women started speaking up for themselves and their **right** to be heard. They received more opportunities to get a proper education and better jobs. When Caribbean women gained the right to vote in the 1940s and 1950s, they actively used that right to help choose their leaders. Over time, many of them became leaders as well. Between the 1970s and 1990s, leaders around the world came together and decided that having more women leaders would benefit everyone in society. Since then, more Caribbean women have felt empowered to become leaders. Many of them became ground breakers who were the first women to lead governments, countries, and large organisations in the region and around the world. These ground breakers have gone down in history and inspired young girls and boys to dream big, knowing that their dreams are possible.



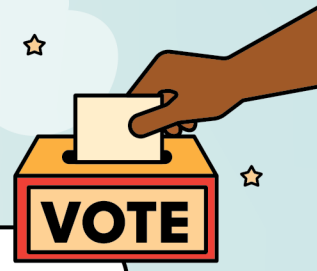
### Dame Constance Mitcham

Dame Constance is a **lawyer** and **politician** who became the first woman to be elected into Parliament in Saint Kitts. She helped pass laws to make women's jobs fairer and more secure and improve children's **rights**. She also took part in talks that led to national **Independence**.

### Justice Desiree Bernard

Justice Desiree is the first woman to become **Chief Justice** of Guyana and a Judge of the **Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ)**. She is also the first woman to lead the **Judiciary** of Guyana as Chancellor.





## Dame Dr. Doris Sands Johnson

She was a Bahamian **politician**, teacher and the first woman in her country to become a **government minister** and **President of the Senate**. She also encouraged the government to allow women to vote and participate in making the country's laws.



## Dame Eugenia Charles

Dame Eugenia was the first woman in Dominica to become a **lawyer** and the first woman in the Caribbean to become **Prime Minister**.



## Eva Sylvester

Eva was born in Petite Martinique – one of the islands which is part of Grenada. She was a **politician** who became the first woman to be elected to the **Legislative Council** in 1952. The Legislative Council is the group of people in the government who makes laws for the country.



## Ertha Pascal-Trouillot

Ertha was the first woman to become **President** of Haiti and the first woman to become a **judge** on the island.



## Heraldine Rock

In 1974, she became the first woman in Saint Lucia to be elected to **Parliament**. As Minister, she created a government office to help women.





## CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS Ground Breakers

### Dame Hilda Bynoe

Dame Hilda was the first woman in Grenada to become **Governor**. She was also a medical doctor who improved health care for many across Grenada, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.

### Ivy Joshua

Ivy was the first woman to become a **Member of Parliament** in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. She defended the **rights** of workers and helped the poor.

### Jacqui Quinn

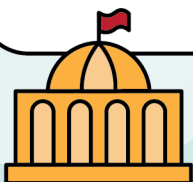
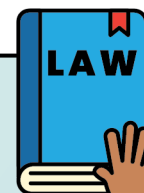
Jacqui is the first woman to be elected to the **Lower House of Parliament** in Antigua and Barbuda.

### Janet Jagan

Janet was the first woman to become both **President** and **Prime Minister** of Guyana. She also opened health clinics, created laws to protect workers, and helped women get better access to **public services**.

### Kamla Persad Bissessar

Kamla is an **attorney-at-law** and the first woman to become **Prime Minister** of Trinidad and Tobago. She is also the first woman of Indian descent to be Prime Minister of a country outside of India.



## Mabel Moir James

Mabel was the first woman to become a **government minister** in Dominica. She defended the **rights** of women to be safe from violence and helped citizens get housing, clean water and other services.



## Baroness Patricia Scotland

Born in Dominica, she is a **lawyer** and the first woman of African descent to become a **Queen's Counsel**. This is one of the highest posts for a lawyer in the United Kingdom. She was also the first woman to become **Commonwealth Secretary-General**.



## Phyllis Shand Allfrey

Phyllis created the first political party in Dominica. She is also an **author** who wrote a famous novel about three Dominican sisters called '**Orchid House**.'



## Portia Simpson-Miller

Born in Jamaica, Portia is a **politician** and the first woman from her country to become **Prime Minister**.



## Rosie Brown

Rosie led the first **government** office in Dominica that was created to protect the **rights** of women. In this role, she created more services for women.



## Sylvanie Burton

A **politician** who became **President** of Dominica in 2023. She is the first woman and first **indigenous person** in this role.



# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Public Service Leaders

The public service is the group of services that all citizens of a country need. These services are managed by the **government** of a country. Different government offices and departments are responsible for public services such as access to schooling and hospitals, transportation, clean water and electricity, and keeping law and order in the country. The public service includes people who work in a country's **parliament, judiciary, government ministries** and offices. Public service leaders also work at international organisations like the **United Nations (UN)** and regional ones like the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)**, to improve the wellbeing of people. Public service leaders make important decisions and create laws and plans that can affect a community, a country or a region. Caribbean women were great public service leaders who worked to improve the quality of life for people, including women, children, persons with disabilities and important groups who are sometimes overlooked.

### Anette Sanford

Anette is a nurse and **politician** who led projects to help the communities in her **indigenous** Kalinago Territory of Dominica.

### Beverley Manley Duncan

Beverley is a leading **advocate** for women and children in Jamaica and encouraged the **government** to give women paid time off for childbirth and pregnancy. This is called **maternity leave**.

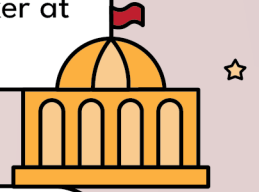
### Catherine Sealys

Catherine helped create and leads an organisation called Raise Your Voice Saint Lucia (RYVSLU) that **empowers** women and children, especially those who experienced violence.



## Ambassador Dessima Williams

Ambassador Dessima is a leader who became the **President of the Senate** in Grenada. She is also an **educator** and has long been decision maker at many organisations in her country and abroad.



## Dame Edna Ermytrude 'Ernie' Bourne

She was a teacher, a **politician** and the first woman to be elected to the **House of Assembly** in Barbados. She spoke up and took action to help poor people in her country get better access to public utilities and she also defended the **rights** of workers. She paved the way for other women like Dame Billie Miller and Senator Elizabeth Thompson to be politicians.



## Ambassador Elizabeth Thompson

She was awarded by the **United Nations (UN)** as “Champion of the Earth” and uses her expert knowledge in **renewable energy** to help her country reduce **climate change**. She is also an **attorney-at-law**, a former **government minister** in Barbados and a **motivational speaker**.



## Faith Marshall Harris

Faith is a Barbadian who uses her knowledge as an **attorney-at-law** and her leadership role at the **United Nations (UN)** to protect the **rights** of children in the Caribbean and around the world.



## Hazel Brandy Williams

Hazel Brandy Williams is a former **government minister** in the Nevis Island Administration who led projects to improve healthcare, communities and to **empower** women and young people.



# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Public Service Leaders



### Dr. Jacinta Higgs

She is a Bahamian **politician** who has led projects to improve the wellbeing of families in the country.



### Joan M. Purcell

Joan is a Grenadian **politician** who organised a group or 'caucus' of women politicians to promote **gender equality** in **Parliament**.



### Ambassador Dr. June Soomer

She is a Saint Lucian who led many organisations and was the first woman to become **Secretary General** of the **Association of Caribbean States (ACS)**. She also represented the **Caribbean Community (CARICOM)** on a global group that promotes the health and wellbeing of African people.

### Margaret Mary 'Annie' Dyer-Howe

She was a businesswoman and **politician** who helped improve the lives of many people in communities across Montserrat. She helped change the rules to allow children in need a fair chance at attending secondary school.



## Muriel Donawa-McDavidson

She is a **politician** who also led projects to **empower** women and to promote their **right** to be treated equally to men. At the age of 25, she became the youngest woman to be elected in any local election in Trinidad and Tobago.

## Muriel Greaves

Muriel was a nurse and businesswoman who cared about improving Barbados. She believed that women should have a greater say in politics and helped create the **political party** that is today led by **Prime Minister**, Mia Mottley. She helped start a women's group in the party so that they could highlight issues affecting women her the country.

## Dame Nita Barrow

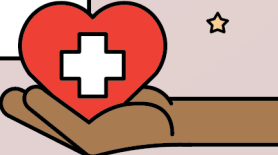
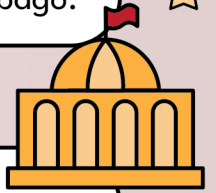
She was the first woman to become **Governor-General** of Barbados. She also created more opportunities for people to get better health care and health care education in the Caribbean, especially women.

## Ambassador Rosalyn Hazelle

She is a former **politician** from Saint Kitts and Nevis who represents the **government** in other countries and **advocates** for women's **empowerment**.

## Dr. Virginia Albert-Poyotte

She is a **government minister** in Saint Lucia who works with fellow leaders to make better decisions that can improve the lives of women and girls. She helped pass the country's law which protects people from **domestic violence**.



# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Social Justice Activists

To have **social justice** is to have a society where everyone, regardless of their differences, has access to the opportunities and material things they need to live a fulfilling life. All people have **human rights**. This includes living without violence, being able to learn and express themselves, being treated fairly at work, and having a safe place to live. But sometimes the decisions that leaders make, our laws, and the way we do things do not allow all people to enjoy their full human rights and freedom. A social justice **activist** is someone who takes action to correct this. Women across the Caribbean worked together to ensure that all people are treated fairly and equally. Many joined **movements** and formed organisations that work to protect the rights of people, including women, children, workers and poor people. They worked with women in **politics** and women who were **researchers** at universities. Some of them were also **feminists** who were aware of the **discrimination** women faced, and spoke up to defend **women's rights**. They **empowered** women to stand up for themselves.



### Aggie Bernard

Aggie was a Jamaican champion of workers whose support helped them get better wages and working conditions in the 1930s.



### Alexandrina Wong

Alexandrina is a nurse from Antigua and Barbuda who created an organisation that provides food, clothing, shelter and counselling for women who experience violence.



### Audrey Christiaan

She is a champion for the recognition of indigenous peoples in Suriname's **Constitution**. She also encouraged the government to consider their views and ways of life, including their care and protection of the environment.



## Beatrice Greig

Beatrice was a **writer** and **activist** who defended the **rights** of Indian women and girls in Trinidad and Tobago, including girls' rights to education and opportunities for women to participate in **politics** and have jobs as leaders.



## Clotil Walcott

Clotil was a champion for the rights of poor people and workers. In 1974, Clotil helped create a **trade union** that defended **domestic workers**.



## Diana Mahabir-Wyatt

Diana is an **advocate** and former **parliamentarian** who helped write new laws in Trinidad and Tobago and encouraged the government to pass them. These laws protected the **rights** and wellbeing of women, children and workers.



## Dorla Bowman

Dorla dedicated her life to promoting peace, **human rights** and **gender equality** in Belize. She is remembered for her work in teaching women about their rights according to the law.



## Immaculata Casimero

She is a community **leader** who created the Wapichan Women's Movement (WWM) which brings indigenous women together to learn about their **human rights, climate change** and their power to speak out against **injustice**.



# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Social Justice Activists



### Iris Adderley

Iris works to protect the **rights** of persons with disabilities and ensures that they have equal opportunities to contribute to society.



### Judith Wedderburn

Judith is a **human rights advocate** for **gender equality** who helped people understand the importance of women leaders in **government** and **politics**.



### Judy Williams

“Sister Judy,” as many Grenadians called her, dedicated her life to improving opportunities for adults, including poor people and those who lived in rural communities. She helped many of them learn skills like reading and writing.



### Karen DeSouza

Karen worked together with Andaiye and others to create the **Red Thread**, an organisation in Guyana that works with women and children to rise above the difficulties in their lives such as **poverty** and **domestic violence**.



### Kerryann Ifill

Kerryann is an advocate for the **rights** of women and people with disabilities. She was the first woman and youngest person to become **President of the Senate** in Barbados.



## Mary Seacole

She was a Jamaican nurse who cared for soldiers in Jamaica and England who fell ill and were injured in war during the mid-1800s.



## Michele Irving

She created the organisation, **Productive Organisation for Women in Action (POWA)** which teaches women in Belize about their **rights** and skills to start their own businesses.



## Nelcia Robinson

Born in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Nelcia is a descendant of African and **indigenous people** called the Garifuna. Nelcia is a **social justice activist** and carried out **research** to improve the lives of women.



## Nesta Patrick

She was a **social worker** and **activist** who created programmes to help people with mental illnesses and inspired many people to do the same.



## Neva Edwards

She is an **educator** who improved pre-school education for children. She was also part of the **Dominica National Council of Women (DNCW)**, where she set up a programme to help women and men who experienced **domestic violence**. Neva was the **Speaker of the House of Assembly** in the 1990s.



## Prodesta Moore

She is a community **activist** who is known in The Bahamas for her outspokenness against laws that **discriminate** against women.


# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Cultural Champions and Creatives

The Caribbean is made up of people from all over the world. From the Caribbean's **first people** to people from Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas, they all settled across the region and brought their native language, food, and culture. They all had their own styles of music, drama, dance, art as well as myths and stories about their homelands. Many women kept their traditions alive by teaching younger generations. They also played important roles in creating new Caribbean traditions such as Carnival. Young women dared to be different and followed their dreams to become artists, even when there were not many jobs in the arts and women were not expected to sing or perform for a living. They became **writers**, poets, painters, **playwrights**, **filmmakers**, fashion designers, costume designers, actors, singers, and musicians. Their work showed the beauty of the region and helped others understand what life in the Caribbean is like. They also used their art to make people aware of important issues.




### Bertha Higgins



She was an artist, musician, teacher and **politician**. She promoted steelband music in Antigua and Barbuda and taught music and art to young people.





### Beryl McBurnie



Beryl is known as “The First Lady of Dance” and her work inspires many local musicians. She opened Trinidad and Tobago’s first theatre, **The Little Carib Theatre**, where she showcased folk art and steelband music.



### Beverly Swasey



She is an actor and dancer who also directed many plays. She is known in Belize for teaching drama and other performing arts. Beverly also served the city of Belmopan as a local **government** official and she created a group for women to work together to improve the lives of people in their city.

## Calypso Rose (born 'McCartha Sandy-Lewis)

In 1978, Rose became the first woman to win the major singing competition in Trinidad and Tobago called “**Calypso King**.” In her honour, the name of the competition was changed to “**Calypso Monarch**” in recognition of women’s talents and **equal rights** to compete.

## Camille Selvon Abrahams

Camille is a world-renowned **animator** who owns a company that creates cartoons and movies. She also started the **Animae Caribe Animation Festival** which is an event where people from companies like Cartoon Network and Pixar can meet and exchange ideas with Caribbean animators. Camille created a university programme to teach young people animation and she believes that all people should have computer skills and devices which can **empower** them to help themselves and their communities.

## Dr. Eastlyn Kate McKenzie

Known for her commitment to preserving Tobago’s dramatic artforms and folk **heritage**, she was a teacher, government leader and **activist** who defended the **rights** of people with disabilities, children and the elderly.

## Edwidge Danticat

Edwidge is a Haitian American **author** who uses writing to describe how women and girls in Haitian society are seen and treated. Her stories also describe Haitian culture and unjust events in Haitian history.

## Eulalie Spence

Born in Nevis, Eulalie wrote many plays, acted and taught drama in England and in the United States of America in the 1920s. Her plays often showed the daily lives of African American characters.

# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Cultural Champions and Creatives



### Dame Gwendolyn Tonge

She is known as “Auntie Gwen” in Antigua and Barbuda for her TV show that taught **home economics**. She also worked with the **government** and helped improve healthcare and education for women, children and the elderly.



### Heather Doram

Heather is an artist, painter, actor, **activist** and **educator**, who is known for designing Antigua and Barbuda’s national costume in 1992.



### Keva Joan Margetson

Keva is an **activist** for culture who organised and created many mas and cultural performance groups. She was also a champion of working women.




### Mahadai Das

Mahadai is a dancer, teacher and writer, best known for her poetry which highlighted the culture and history of Indo-Guyanese people in the Caribbean and their experiences from **Indentureship** to **Independence**.



### Dr. Margaret Gill

She is a writer and visual artist who uses her talents to help others appreciate Caribbean drama and poetry.







## Dr. Merle Hodge

She is a teacher and writer from Trinidad and Tobago who is known as the first black Caribbean **author** of a major novel. Dr. Merle uses fictional stories to discuss real issues about girlhood and life in the Caribbean. Her two most read novels are **Crick Crack, Monkey** and **For the Life of Laetitia**.



## Meta Davis Cumberbatch

“Mother of the Arts” is how most Bahamian people know Meta. She helped organise many events that exposed people to the arts and culture. She also launched a festival to showcase local craft.



## Miss Booty (born ‘Euralis Ethel Therese Bouty’)

Euralis was known as the spirit of Saint Lucia’s Carnival and was the first woman to become president of the Carnival Development Committee.




## Jamaica Kincaid (born ‘Elaine Potter Richardson’)

Born in Antigua, Jamaica Kincaid moved to the United States of America where she became a **writer** for magazines. This included a **feminist** magazine that was started by American **social justice activist**, Gloria Steinem, and the famous magazine, **The New Yorker**. She also wrote many stories and books about **colonialism** and mother-daughter relationships.



## Miss Lou (born ‘Louise Bennett Coverly’)

She is a Jamaican cultural icon who used her talents in poetry and performing to highlight the realities of people in Jamaica. She wrote in the local dialect spoken by Jamaicans.



# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Cultural Champions and Creatives



### Marina Salandy Brown

Marina is a cultural champion and **journalist** from Trinidad and Tobago. She studied in the United Kingdom (UK) where she produced radio shows at the **British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)** and advocated for more people of colour to be hired there. When Marina returned to her home country, she started the **NGC Bocas Lit Fest**, which is an event that celebrates books and authors from the Caribbean.



### Myrna Manzanares

“To become a person of worth, you must know who you are; culture is part of who you are,” says Myrna, a Belizean **activist** who played an important role in preserving the Kriol culture. She also promoted harmony among people of all cultures in Belize.



### Olive Senior

She is a Jamaican **author** renowned for her poems which discuss the lasting effects of **colonialism** on the Caribbean.



### Ophelia Marie

“Dominica’s Lady of Song” who helped make “Cadence-lypso” popular. This is a style of singing from her home country. She writes lyrics that send positive messages about women and family.

## Robin 'Rihanna' Fenty

She is a world-renowned Barbadian who has broken barriers with her music and businesses in beauty and fashion. Rihanna is also an **advocate** for **racial and gender justice** who often raises money for people in need.

## Toto Bissainthe

She is a Haitian actress, singer, songwriter and composer who wrote and performed original music that highlighted the struggles and determination of Haitians.

## Tracy Assing

Inspired by nature and her family **heritage**, Tracy tells stories about the Caribbean and everyday people through writing and filmmaking. "The Amerindians" is a film created by Tracy to show the history and customs of **indigenous people** in Trinidad and Tobago.

## Una Marson

This **journalist**, playwright and poet was the first Jamaican woman to publish her own magazine. She wrote about issues affecting women and worked with international organisations in the 1930s to help end **racial and gender discrimination**. Una also created a fund for children in Jamaica. In 1938, Una Marson became the first black female **broadcaster** to work at the **British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)**.

## Zelma 'Zee' Edgell

Zee was an English **professor**, newspaper **journalist** and **author** from Belize. One of her most popular works is the novel, 'Beka Lamb,' a story from the eyes of a high school girl living during the period when Belizean people were **advocating** for the country's **independence**.

# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Teachers and Knowledge-Makers

Once girls in the Caribbean were allowed to attend school, they seized every opportunity to learn. Education was a pathway for them to get the knowledge and skills needed to find good jobs and earn their own money. After completing primary and secondary school, some young women furthered their studies at universities abroad. But this could only be done by the few who got scholarships and those whose families could afford it. When the **University of the West Indies (UWI)** opened its doors in the late 1940s, more women were able to study there. Women who studied at university were able to learn more about their favourite subject and become specialists in that field. Many of them who studied history, culture, law and social studies became experts and **educators** who passed on their knowledge to others. They carried out **research** to find new information about the Caribbean and they had fresh ideas and views on topics that they wrote about in essays and books. Since the 1970s, **feminists** in the Caribbean worked with other leaders to introduce the topic of **gender** at universities in the region. This created opportunities for students to learn about and research how women, men, girls and boys experience the world differently and the issues that affected them the most.

Many Caribbean women have dedicated their lives to leading research, creating new knowledge and teaching others at universities. They are called 'women in academia' and the most accomplished of them are known as '**scholars**.' The women in academia who focus on gender are often called upon as **experts** to give advice to **governments** and other organisations. Their research about different issues and groups of people help leaders write laws and create plans that are fair to all people.

### Professor Barbara Bailey

She is a Jamaican leader who advised Caribbean **governments** on how to create plans for women and men to be treated equally. She is also a teacher and **researcher** who worked to improve education for all by highlighting the differences in the experiences of girls and boys in school.

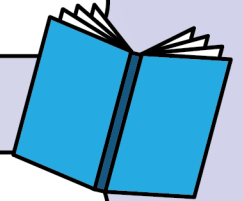
## Professor Bridget Brereton

Professor Bridget is a **historian** who lectured at universities and wrote books that explore the history of the Caribbean and the different ways European rule affected the way Caribbean people interact with each other today, especially people of different races and religions.



## Professor Cynthia Barrow-Giles

Born in Saint Lucia, Professor Cynthia leads departments and projects at the **University of the West Indies (UWI)** that teach people about leading countries, communities and large organisations. She helped improve laws in her country and is known for her writing about **governments**, voting and Caribbean women in **politics**.



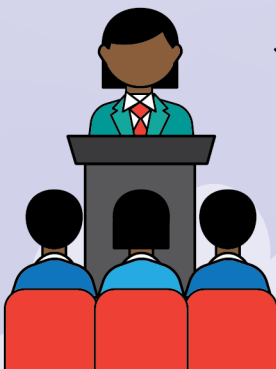
## Professor Elsa Goveia

Professor Elsa was a Guyanese teacher and **author** of Caribbean history. Her work helps us to better understand the journey of Caribbean people and the effects of **slavery**. She was also the first woman to become a **professor** at the University of the West Indies in Barbados.



## Professor Eudine Barriteau

She is a **scholar**, teacher and **activist** for the **right** of women to be treated equally to men. She was also the first person to lead the Centre for Gender and Development Studies at the **University of the West Indies** in Barbados.



# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Teachers and Knowledge-Makers

### Dr. Gabrielle Hosein

She is a Trinbagonian **lecturer** who leads research projects to find out more about the experiences of women in the Caribbean who are of Indian descent. She also leads public discussions to help communities understand the harm caused by violence against women and girls and ways to make our societies safer and more peaceful.

### Dr. Halimah Deshong

Born in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Dr. Halimah is a **feminist** and a **researcher** who studies violence that is committed against people because of their **gender**. She also teaches students about **research** methods that pay attention to the different experiences of men and women. She currently leads the Institute for Gender and Development Studies at the **University of the West Indies (UWI)** in Barbados.

### Dr. Lucille Mathurin Mair

Dr. Lucille was a Jamaican **diplomat** and **activist** for the **rights** of women. A diplomat is someone who represents their country abroad. She advised the **government** on how to create plans and projects that help **empower** women.

### Professor Maureen Warner Lewis

She dedicated her career to **researching** the African languages, traditions, cultures and histories of the Caribbean that can be traced back to Africa.



## Professor Patricia Mohammed

Professor Patricia is a Trinbagonian **scholar**, **activist** and artist who helped introduce ‘**gender**’ as a subject so that university students could learn about the different ways gender affects people and society. She helped create plans to help Caribbean **governments** ensure that women and men are treated equally. Professor Patricia also creates paintings and films which show the lives of Caribbean women.

## Professor Rose-Marie Belle Antoine

Professor Rose-Marie is an **attorney-at-law** who drafted laws to protect the **rights** of workers in the Caribbean. She also worked with leaders across the world to help protect the rights of children and **refugees**. In 2022, she became the Principal of the **University of the West Indies (UWI)** in Trinidad.

## Tracy Robinson

Tracy is an **attorney-at-law** and a law **lecturer** at the **University of the West Indies (UWI)** in Jamaica. She led the **Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)** and helped improve laws in the Caribbean to protect the **rights** of children and the rights of women to be treated equally to men.

## Professor Verene A. Shepherd

Professor Verene is a Jamaican **historian** whose **research** and writing highlighted the important roles of women in Caribbean history. She believes that people of all races should be treated fairly and is an **advocate** for Caribbean countries to be paid by their former European rulers for the losses they suffered through **slavery**. This is a kind of justice called **reparations**.

# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS

## Young Changemakers

Throughout history, brave Caribbean women worked to change laws and culture so that the girls and women of today have more opportunities to learn, work and lead. Despite the challenges they still face, the legacies of our foremothers inspire and **empower** young women to speak up about issues that affect them. They are creating their own solutions and sharing their views. They are educating themselves about their rights and passing this knowledge on to younger girls. They understand that their voices matter and they are proving that a girl is never too young to lead and make a positive difference in the world.



### Amina Doherty

She is a Nigerian-Antiguan who helped create the **Black Feminist Fund** and **FRIDA – The Young Feminist Fund**. Amina is a creative **activist** who brings people and ideas together to create positive change that leads to a more just and equal world.



### Ashlee Burnett

She is a **gender equality activist** from Trinidad and Tobago who created the organisation, **Feminitt Caribbean** which helps young women and girls to take care of themselves and know their **rights** as they go through puberty and grow into adults.



### Ayesha Constable

Ayesha is an **activist** and **scholar** who **researches** the role of youth and **gender** in protecting the environment. She created the organisation, **GirlsCARE** or **Girls for Climate Action for Resilience and Empowerment** which teaches girls how to take action to stop **climate change**.





## Chelsea Foster

In 2013, at just 17 years old, Chelsea created an organization called **Girls of a Feather** which mentors and tutors girls, especially those in disadvantaged circumstances.



## Christine Samwaroo

As a girl, Christine saw the way women were treated unfairly despite the important role they play in society. So, she created an organisation called **The Breadfruit Collective**, where she and other youth educate people and encourage their **government** to have greater respect for women and nature, and to create more opportunities for women to help solve the **climate crisis**.



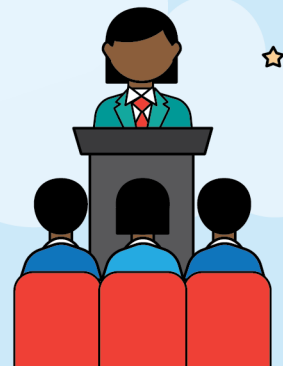
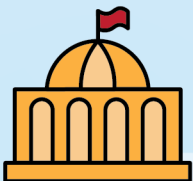
## Firhaana Bulbulia

She is a community **activist** who created an organisation to help Muslim women and girls in Barbados access an education and jobs. Firhaana also uses her voice to stand up for the **rights** of children to be safe and protected and enjoy a good quality of life.



## Kristal Ambrose

Kristal is dedicated to protecting the **marine environment**. The **Bahamas Plastic Movement (BPM)** is an organization she created to help people understand the harm caused by plastic **pollution** in the Bahamas and beyond.





# CARIBBEAN WOMEN LEADERS Young Changemakers



## Lakeyia Joseph

In 2022, Lakeyia became the youngest **Member of Parliament** in Dominica's history. Even before this, Lakeyia wanted to improve the lives of the less fortunate in her country, so she created a charity called **Golden Opportunities** which donates clothes and school supplies to children from poor families.



## Madison Pearl Edwards

At only 12 years old, she spoke up at a **UNESCO** meeting about the importance of protecting Belize's Barrier Reef and the harm that could be caused by drilling for oil in the ocean. Madison cares deeply for nature and continues to use her voice to inspire others to care for the environment.




## Maria Marshall

In 2021, at just 12 years old, this Barbadian became **UNICEF's** youngest Youth Advocate in the Eastern Caribbean. Maria was chosen for this role because of her outspokenness about the **rights** of children and our responsibility to protect the environment. Maria's message is, "**We only have one environment, and we must protect it.**"




## Michelle Alexander

Having experienced abuse as a child, Michelle found the strength within her to keep studying and believing in herself. She became an **activist** and business professional who speaks to people and groups around the world about ways to create better societies that are free from violence. She is an inspiration to many and even wrote a book about her life, called **Helpless Cries: A young girl's memoir of struggle, courage and renewal in her abusive world.**



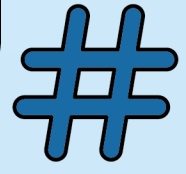
## Phylicia Alexander

She is a teacher and **activist** who created the organisation, **RedRootSVG Inc.** that provides opportunities for women in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to learn life skills. Through her organisation, Phylcia also raises funds and encourages others to help their communities.




## Ronelle King

After her own experiences of being harassed on the street, Ronelle started a movement online using the hashtag **#lifeinleggings**. It empowered women from around the Caribbean and the world to share their experiences of violence and support one another.



## Sarah-Anne Gresham

She is a **feminist activist, scholar** and **educator** from Antigua and Barbuda. She helped create the organisation, **Intersect Antigua**, which helps people across the Caribbean connect with one another to support **human rights** and share their art, stories and essays.



# Activities!

Let's have some fun! These activities will help you remember what you have learned. Before you begin, here are some tips to help you along the way.

## Read the instructions.

Read the instructions for each activity carefully. They will help you understand what you need to do and where you can find the information you need.

## Use the glossary.

The **glossary** has a full list of words from this book and their meanings. It is also organised alphabetically.

## Read the stories.

Many of the answers you need can be found throughout the stories and descriptions of the women leaders mentioned in this book. Read them carefully and you will find the answers you need.



LET'S  
GO!



# Word Search Puzzle

Do you remember the **seven (7) qualities of transformational leaders**? Look at the kite on page 6 and you will find them. When you find those seven (7) words on page 6, point them out with your finger or circle them in the word puzzle below.

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_



Words are hidden straight across, downwards and diagonally.

Can you say, in your own words, what these **seven (7) qualities** mean?  
What are some other qualities you think transformational leaders should have?

# Fill in the blanks

Many transformational leaders defended the human rights of communities around the world so that all people can be treated fairly and equally. Let's take a closer look at this. Fill in the blanks to complete the sentences. The glossary can help you!

- 1 Many transformational leaders are **F\_ M I \_ \_ \_ T S** or people who are aware of gender discrimination and sexism, and take action to increase equality between women and men.
- 2 **G\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ E Q \_ \_ \_ \_ \_** is when women, men and all people can live free from violence, have fair opportunities to succeed in life, and equally access **R\_ \_ \_ \_ S** like education, employment, healthcare, as well as the ability to vote and take part in politics.
- 3 **S\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ J\_ \_ \_ \_ \_** is when all people have access to fair and equal rights, the things they need and opportunities, regardless of their gender, age, family history, religion or the colour of their skin. Many transformational leaders work hard to achieve this.
- 4 Transformational leaders seek to **E\_ \_ \_ \_ \_** themselves and others. This is about creating an environment or providing people with the means to help make them stronger, more confident and more independent.
- 5 A **M\_ \_ \_ \_ \_** is a group of people who share similar beliefs and work together to achieve the same goals. Many transformational leaders participate in these to advocate for the rights of women and common issues they care about.

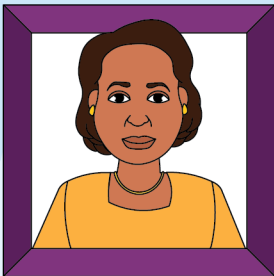
**What other kinds of actions did transformational leaders take?**

# Who am I?

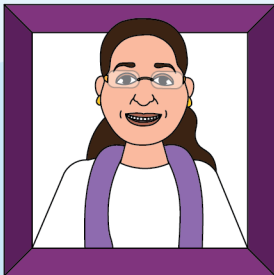
Do you know the names of the transformational women leaders shown below? Read the clue next to each picture and see if you remember the name of the leader. When you think you know the answer, say it out loud or write it in the space provided. **HINT:** Go back to the thirty-five (35) stories in the book to jog your memory.



-----  
I am the first Bahamian to receive the CARICOM Triennial Award for Women for my work to promote women's rights in the region. I am also an attorney-at-law, author and filmmaker who made a documentary showing the strength, courage and contributions of Caribbean women.



-----  
I created a group called the Coterie of Social Workers which started out by feeding poor children at breakfast sheds. In my country of Trinidad and Tobago, there is a highway and a school for the deaf in my name.

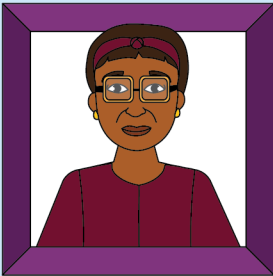


-----  
My organization, Lifeline Ministries, helps to improve the quality of life for disadvantaged people, women and children with disabilities in Dominica.





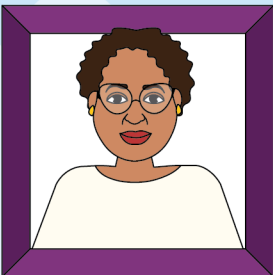
-----  
My research showed how women faced discrimination such as unequal pay and access to loans, and I worked with CARICOM leaders to create national plans of action to increase gender equality. When I was younger I studied home economics and taught the subject to women in school.



-----  
I am an activist for women's rights and my work helped to establish a crisis centre, family court and shelter for women and children in my country, Saint Lucia.



-----  
Through my work with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), I led projects in the Caribbean, Latin America and Namibia to stop violence against women and girls, and to improve their access to health services at every stage of their lives.



-----  
My message to women is that they are stronger when they work together and empower one another, regardless of their race or skin colour.

# Who am I?



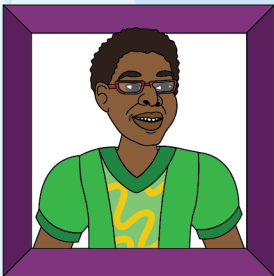
-----  
I am a Bahamian psychologist who opened the first crisis centre in the Caribbean to offer services like counselling to women.



-----  
I was leader of the National Council of Women in Saint Kitts where I taught women how to open and run their own businesses.



-----  
In the 1700s, I led the Maroon community in Jamaica to defend themselves against the British and stand up for their freedom.



-----  
I advocated for the rights of consumers and fair wages for people. I created the Network of NGOs for the Advancement of Women, which supported women to become leaders.



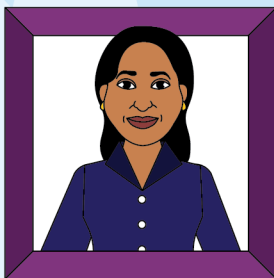
-----  
I helped women and girls in Belize to become empowered by improving the education system and promoting equal pay for women and men. In Belize, there is a high school named after me.



-----  
I am a lawyer who became the first female government minister in Barbados.



-----  
I played a major role in creating an agreement between countries to help end violence against women. It was called the **Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women.**



-----  
I am a filmmaker and leader in education who teaches students across the world about culture, human behaviour and communication. I am the youngest person and first woman to lead the University of Guyana as Vice-Chancellor.

# What did I achieve?

How much about these transformational women leaders do you remember? Fill in the blanks below to complete the sentences about each leader. **HINT:** Go back to the thirty-five (35) stories in the book to jog your memory.



**CRISTINA COC**



**MONICA COC  
MAGNUSSON**

We helped defend and secure the **L \_ \_ \_ R \_ \_ \_ \_ \_** of indigenous Mayan people in Belize.



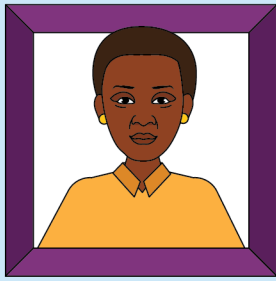
**PROFESSOR  
RHODA REDDOCK**

I am a university professor, feminist author and researcher who became the first person from Trinidad and Tobago to serve on The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, known as the **C \_ \_ \_ \_ COMMITTEE**. This is a group of experts that keeps track of actions taken by governments to improve the lives of women.



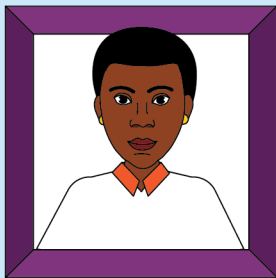
**DR. HILDA ROSEMARY  
HUSBANDS-MATHURIN**

I am the first woman to become President of the Senate in Saint Lucia. I also helped to create the Parliament of the **ORGANISATION OF E \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ S \_ \_ \_ \_ \_** (OECS) which allows governments from the region to work together to achieve a better quality of life for people in their countries.



**ANDAIYE**

I formed an organisation called the **R\_ \_ T\_ \_ \_ \_ \_** to create jobs and other opportunities for women.



**ELMA FRANCOIS**



**SHIRLEY PRYCE**

We are labour activists who spoke out against unfair working conditions and helped form **TRADE U\_ \_ \_ \_ \_** to defend the rights of workers.



**DR. CARLA BARNETT**

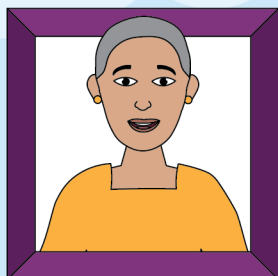
I am the Secretary-General of **C\_ \_ \_ \_ \_**, a group of governments that work together to build the Caribbean and unite its people.



**MIA MOTTLEY**

I am the first woman Prime Minister of Barbados and I am known for being a champion for efforts to stop climate change in the Caribbean. Under my leadership, Barbados became a **R\_ \_ \_ \_ \_**, a form of government where a country is led by its own people instead of a foreign king or queen.

# What did I achieve?



**JOAN FRENCH**



**DR. PEGGY  
ANTROBUS**



**PROFESSOR  
RHODA REDDOCK**

We cooperated with other women activists to create an organisation called the **CARIBBEAN ASSOCIATION FOR F \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ R \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ AND A \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ (CAFRA)**, which works with governments and other groups in the Caribbean to protect and promote the rights of women.



**DR. ROSINA WILTSHIRE**

I helped write the **E \_ \_ \_ CHARTER** which encourages countries to care for the environment and to create peaceful and fair communities.



**ROBERTA CLARKE**

I am a social scientist and lawyer who became the Commissioner to a group called the **INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON H \_ \_ \_ \_ R \_ \_ \_ \_**, an organization in the OAS that promotes and protects the human rights of people in the Americas.

# Where am I from?

Each clue describes a different leader from this book. Can you figure out who they are? When you know the answer, say it out loud or write it down. Do you know where each of these women are from? Circle the right country from the three (3) choices (**A**, **B** or **C**) or say it out loud.

I helped create the Stop Violence Against Women Foundation which offered support such as counselling to women and educated police officers on how to help people.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

- A** Saint Kitts and Nevis      **B** The Bahamas      **C** Suriname

I opened the Thomas Oliver Robinson Memorial school to give children from all backgrounds an opportunity to get an education.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

- A** Saint Lucia      **B** Antigua and Barbuda      **C** Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

I was both a politician and author. I created the first political party in my country and I also wrote a novel about three sisters called 'Orchid House.'

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

- A** Dominica      **B** Belize      **C** Guyana

# Where am I from?

In the 1800s, I helped pave the way for people of different religions to practice their faith freely. I am the first national heroine of my country.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

**A** Saint Kitts and Nevis

**B** Haiti

**C** Barbados

Most people remember me for starting the Notting Hill Carnival, but I am also a journalist and activist who defended the rights of women and people of colour to be treated fairly.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

**A** Trinidad and Tobago

**B** Dominica

**C** Grenada

I was born in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines but I made this other Caribbean country my home, where I helped to make decisions about laws and created scholarships for girls. I also taught people working in tourism and hospitality new skills and helped them grow their businesses.

I am \_\_\_\_\_.

I am from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and:

**A** Grenada

**B** Jamaica

**C** Trinidad and Tobago



I broke many barriers by becoming the first woman Member of Parliament, Attorney General and Acting Prime Minister of my country. I used my power for positive change by encouraging employers to treat women fairly in the workplace and I worked with my government to change the laws to better protect people from violence.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

**A** The Bahamas

**B** Trinidad and Tobago

**C** Jamaica

I taught the people of indigenous communities in my country about their rights. I created the Amerindian People's Association which works to protect indigenous lands, and I also cooperate with the government to help leaders make better decisions for indigenous communities.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

**A** Belize

**B** Guyana

**C** Grenada

I was a businesswoman and politician who improved the lives of people in communities. One of my achievements was helping to change the rules to allow children in need in my country to have a fair chance at attending secondary school.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

**A** Jamaica

**B** Dominica

**C** Montserrat

# Where am I from?

I was the first woman attorney-at-law to be voting into the Parliament of my country. I was also the first Speaker of the OECS Assembly.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

- A** Saint Lucia      **B** Saint Vincent and the Grenadines      **C** Suriname

I am a Professor at the University of the West Indies where I teach people about leadership and I write about governments, voting and Caribbean women in politics. I also helped to improve laws in my country.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

- A** The Bahamas      **B** Trinidad and Tobago      **C** Saint Lucia

I worked to preserve Kriol culture in my country and encouraged people of all backgrounds in my land to live in harmony. I believe that culture is a part of who you are.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

- A** Trinidad and Tobago      **B** Belize      **C** Guyana

I was a trailblazing leader who supported my country's independence from the French in 1804.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

**A** Montserrat

**B** Haiti

**C** Suriname

I am a lawyer and politician who became the first woman to be elected into Parliament in my country. I helped pass laws to make women's jobs fairer and more secure and improve children's rights. I also took part in talks that led to my country's Independence.

I am \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from:

**A** Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

**B** Saint Kitts and Nevis

**C** Saint Lucia

## How did transformational leaders help their communities?

Fill in the blanks to complete the story about how women leaders contributed to the Caribbean. Say the words out loud or write them in.

Caribbean women leaders were trailblazers who defended the **H**\_\_\_\_\_ **R**\_\_\_\_\_ of their communities against mistreatment due to their race, religion, gender or poor backgrounds. They were champions for freedom and equality among people. One example is **A**\_\_ **JACQUES G**\_\_\_\_\_ from Jamaica who encouraged people of African descent to seek national Independence and equal rights. Once the right to vote came into effect in the mid-1900s in the Caribbean, women too were able to vote. It is called adult or universal **S**\_\_\_\_\_ when all adult citizens can vote in their country's elections. **E L**\_\_\_\_\_ **R E**\_\_\_\_\_ was an activist from Belize who encouraged women to vote.

As women became more empowered, many of them went on to become groundbreakers – the first women to lead in their government or head an organisation. One example is Mabel Moir James who became the first woman government minister in the country of \_\_\_\_\_ **A**. Another groundbreaker is **J**\_\_\_\_\_ **J**\_\_\_\_\_ who was the first woman to serve as both President and Prime Minister of Guyana. Both women used their roles to support women's rights and help people in their countries get better access to public services that all citizens need, such as schooling, hospital services and clean water. Public service leaders make decisions that affect communities and countries. They include people like Dame **N**\_\_\_\_\_ **B**\_\_\_\_\_, the first Governor-General of Barbados who improved health care in the Caribbean.

Despite the hard work of these women, there was still injustice in society. So many Caribbean women formed their own organisations and movements to improve the lives of people in their communities. These women are social justice **A C** \_\_\_\_\_, persons who believe in social justice and take action against inequality and unfairness. They can be described as **A D** \_\_\_\_\_ **S** who spoke up for the rights of different groups of disadvantaged people in society or championed a purpose they care about. For example, Aggie Bernard from Jamaica and Clotil Walcott from Trinidad and Tobago advocated for the rights of **W** \_\_\_\_\_ **S** in their countries. Audrey Christiaan championed the rights of **I** \_\_\_\_\_ **P** \_\_\_\_\_ in Suriname and others like **I** \_\_\_\_\_ Adderley and Kerryann Ifill advocated for the rights of **P** \_\_\_\_\_ with **D** \_\_\_\_\_. **S** \_\_\_\_\_ **W** \_\_\_\_\_ is about improving the wellbeing of people, families and communities. Many people like Shirley Pryce and Nesta Patrick were **S** \_\_\_\_\_ **W** \_\_\_\_\_.

Young people in the Caribbean are also social justice activists and advocates for different causes. Many of them speak out about the importance of protecting the environment and take action to stop climate change. This includes activists like Maria Marshall, and several others like \_\_\_\_\_. They are proof that no one is too young to be a leader.

Creative women such as writers, filmmakers and artists used their craft to advocate for positive change in society. For example, the author named Edwidge Danticat used her writing to tell stories about the culture, history and life of people in the country of \_\_\_\_\_. **I. MISS** \_\_\_\_\_ from Jamaica used poetry to highlight the realities of people in Jamaica. Women like **MISS B** \_\_\_\_\_ from Saint Lucia and Keva Joan Margetson from \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ helped to enhance arts and culture in their countries.

These remarkable contributions were possible because women became more empowered. One of the main ways they did this was by seizing the opportunities they had to get a good education and find better jobs. Some women attained a high level of education and became experts or **S C H** \_\_\_\_\_ in different subjects. Women such as Dr. Halimah Deshong from **SAINT** \_\_\_\_\_ **AND THE** \_\_\_\_\_ and Jamaican Professor **V**\_\_\_\_\_ **A. SHEPHERD** continue to work with universities where they educate students. Their work also involves gathering information to better understand different issues and learn new facts about how different groups of people are affected. This is called **R** \_\_\_\_\_. The women in academia in this book created new knowledge in areas such as law, history, economics, politics and **S O** \_\_\_\_\_ **S C** \_\_\_\_\_, which are the fields of study about human life and behaviour.

Some women in academia are also feminists. Their work helps students and leaders to understand how people with different backgrounds and characteristics experience the world differently and how we can all make better decisions to improve **E Q** \_\_\_\_\_ among people. One example is Professor **P A T** \_\_\_\_\_ **M** \_\_\_\_\_ from Trinidad and Tobago who played an important role in introducing gender as a subject at universities in the Caribbean. Transformational women leaders from the Caribbean had many different professions and skills, but the one thing they had in common was that they were all advocates for human rights and social justice.

## What new words did you learn from this book?

Get a piece of paper or notebook and make a list of all the new words you learnt from this book. In your own words, say or write down what each word means.

---

---

---

## Which Caribbean women leaders inspired you?

Who are the women leaders in this book that you most admire? What qualities or achievements do they have that inspire you? Think about these questions and fill in the spaces below. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers.

I feel most inspired by the stories about \_\_\_\_\_.

They achieved things such as \_\_\_\_\_.

Their contributions were important to society because \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

They possessed qualities of \_\_\_\_\_

which I admire. These women leaders motivate me to learn more about \_\_\_\_\_ and to work hard to \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.

I would like to help my community/country by \_\_\_\_\_. My voice matters and I can be a leader too.

# Glossary

## Academia

Academia is the part of society that has to do with education, teaching, learning and the activities that are promoted by schools. It describes education at a higher level and the activities of scholars from institutions like universities. These activities can involve studying or teaching subjects at an advanced level, writing essays and doing research to find new information about an issue or subject. 'Academic' is an adjective used to describe any activity in the field of academia. Scholars, teachers and knowledge-makers in the field of academia are sometimes called 'academics.'

## Accountable

Being responsible and able to provide answers to a person, group or organisation to explain your actions.

## Act

An Act is a written law that is passed by Parliament. Examples are a Minimum Wages Act and Maternity Leave Act. Every country has their own Acts.

## Activist

Activists inspire change and defend the rights of people. They work or organise with others to change unjust conditions. This can include trying to make the government change its laws, or inspiring people to change the way they think or the things they do. Activists also help people become empowered by encouraging them to be more independent and confident. By doing this, they help them improve their lives and the lives of others, including their families, their communities and their countries.



## Adult suffrage

Adult suffrage is the right of all adults in a country to vote in elections regardless of their race, gender, wealth, and family history. Adult suffrage is also called universal suffrage.

## Advocate

Advocates speak up to defend the rights of people or to support a purpose they care about.

## African Slave Trade

During the African slave trade, millions of Africans were taken from their homes and forced to work as slaves. Most of them were taken to the Americas and the Caribbean to work on plantations. Slavery takes away the rights of others and because of this, it is now against the law.

## Ambassador

An ambassador is someone chosen by the government to speak on their behalf in meetings and events with other governments, organisations and global leaders. An ambassador is the official representative of a country and they voice the decisions of the government they represent.

## Animator

An animator is someone who uses digital technology to create moving scenes or cartoon films from still images, photos, drawings or puppets. They work in the field of Animation.

## Apartheid

Apartheid was a system that forced people of different races to live separately.

## Association

An association is a group of people or organisations that come together for a common purpose.

## Attorney-at-law

An attorney-at-law is a type of lawyer who defends people in court.

## Attorney General

An Attorney General is one of the highest positions in government. An Attorney General represents the government in all legal matters and works to improve the laws of the land.

## Author

An author is someone who writes books.

## Bar Association

A bar association is the professional organization for lawyers and attorneys-at-law in a country or region.

## BBC

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) is a radio and television company that is owned by the British government.

## Broadcaster

A broadcaster is a person whose job is to present radio or television shows or programmes.

## CAFRA

CAFRA stands for Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action. This is an organization that supports the rights of women and their growth in the Caribbean.

## Called to the Bar

Called to the Bar means that a person is qualified as a lawyer and has completed the training needed to practice law in a particular country.

## Captivity

Captivity is being trapped or confined. A person who is in captivity has limited access to their rights and freedoms.

## CCJ

The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) is a court where disagreements between people from different CARICOM countries are heard so that decisions can be made. Also, if a person from CARICOM is unhappy with a decision made by a court in their country, they can make a request for the Caribbean Court of Justice to hear about the matter and make a final decision.

## CPDC

CPDC stands for Caribbean Policy Development Centre. It is an organisation that works with many non-governmental organisations (NGOs) across the Caribbean to understand the needs of Caribbean people and support the creation of plans and policies to improve their lives.

## CARICOM

CARICOM stands for Caribbean Community. It is an organisation that helps Caribbean countries work together and carry out projects to improve the lives of their citizens. CARICOM is led by the Secretary-General.

## CEDAW

CEDAW stands for **The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women**. This is an agreement which guides governments on what actions they must take to improve the lives of women in their countries. For example, governments are required to take action to ensure that laws are fair to all, women have equal job opportunities to men, and women can participate in politics and sports. A group of experts keeps track of actions taken by governments and provides recommendations. This group is called the CEDAW Committee or the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

## Central Bank

A Central Bank is the national bank of a country. It issues currency and provides financial and banking services for the government, other banks and businesses.

## Chief Justice

A Chief Justice is a judge who holds the highest position in a court of law.

## Civil right

A civil right is something all citizens of a country deserve and are entitled to, such as food, an education, health care, free speech, and being treated fairly. A civil rights activist promotes and defends the civil rights of others.

## Civil rights movement

A civil rights movement occurs when a group of people come together and use different activities to promote equal rights and the fair treatment of persons who face discrimination. These activities can include speeches, protests, debates, peace walks, writing books and newspaper articles, and many other activities that can help people become aware of important issues.

## Civil society organisation

Organisations such as community groups, labour unions and charitable organisations that advocate for various human rights and social causes. Civil society organisations are separate from government organisations and they often hold governments accountable for their actions and duties to society.

## CIWiL

Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL) is an organisation that provides women and girls with the knowledge and skills to become transformational leaders.

## Chancellor

A chancellor is a leader of a college or university. The vice-chancellor is the second in command and oversees students, staff, course, facilities and other operations.

## Climate change

Climate change describes changes in the weather and our environment over a long period of time. This includes rainfall and temperature, especially rises in temperature. Climate change can happen naturally, but sometimes human activities like pollution add too much carbon dioxide to the atmosphere and this has bad effects on the weather and environment.

## Climate crisis

The climate crisis describes the current situation around the world where climate change continues to have harmful effects on people, animals and the environment. In the Caribbean, it is causing very hot weather and natural disasters like hurricanes and floods. Though climate change affects everyone differently, the climate crisis shows that people need work together to care for the earth and end pollution.

## Colonisation

Colonisation occurs when one country takes control of another country and sends its people to settle there. The country that is taken over is called a colony. This system is called colonialism

## Commonwealth

The Commonwealth is a group of over 50 countries that were ruled by the British Empire. The Commonwealth Secretariat is an organisation that helps these countries work together and carry out projects to improve the lives of their citizens. The Commonwealth Secretary-General leads the Commonwealth Secretariat.

## Constitution

The constitution of a country is a set of written rules and laws that guides leaders on how the country should be governed.

## Consumer

A consumer is someone who buys and uses goods and services.

## Convention

A convention is an agreement among countries that outlines how certain things should be dealt with.

## Coterie of Social Workers

The Coterie of Social Workers is a group in Trinidad and Tobago that was formed by Audrey Jeffers to help families and people in need. 'Coterie' is a word meaning a small group of people who share common interests.

## Court

A court is where disagreements between people and organisations are heard so that a decision can be made. The decisions made are based on the law.

## Credit union

A credit union is an organisation that is led by its members and lends money to its members.

## Crisis centre

A crisis centre is a facility where people can go to get help for a particular problem. This includes victims and survivors of violence.

## DAWN

Development Alternatives for Women in a New Era (DAWN) is a network of women activists and scholars from many different parts of the world. They believe that when leaders are making decisions that affect people around the world, they must consider the needs and views of poor or disadvantaged women who are sometimes excluded. This includes women living in regions such as Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Pacific and the Caribbean. DAWN gives women from these countries the opportunity to work together to advocate for a better world. This world they envision is one where leaders are not motivated by greed but instead, they work with citizens to end violence and poverty, to ensure that all people are treated fairly, and that the environment is respected.

## Deputy

Deputy is used to describe jobs that are second in command to the chief leader or head of an organisation.

## Development

Development occurs when the leaders in a country take actions to make the things people need like clean water, food and housing available to all. But development does not stop there. It involves improving education, employment, health care, transport, trade, agriculture, science and technology. Sustainable development occurs when leaders make decisions about development that put human life, future generations, nature and peace first.

## Discrimination

Discrimination occurs when a person or group of people are treated unfairly because of things like their gender, age, family history, religion or the colour of their skin.

## Doctorate

A doctorate is the highest award a student can achieve at university.

## Domestic Violence

Domestic violence includes violence between couples, families, and persons living in the same household.

## Domestic Workers

Domestic workers are people who work in the household, and their duties can include babysitting, taking care of elderly or sick family members, cleaning, cooking, laundry and ironing, gardening, shopping for food and other errands.

## Economics

Economics is the study of the economy.

## Economy

The economy is the way people spend and earn money.

## Educator

An educator is a teacher or person who has a job in education. An educator can be someone at a primary school, a high school or even a lecturer or professor at university.

## Election

An election occurs when the people of a country vote to choose someone to be their political leader or representative in government.

## Empathy

Empathy is being aware and understanding of people's feelings and emotions. Empathetic persons listen well to others when they are speaking and show them support, care and compassion.

## Empowerment

Empowerment is about creating an environment or providing people with the means that can help make them stronger, more confident, and more independent. When people are empowered, they can improve their lives and the lives of their families, their communities, and their countries.

## Equal rights

Equal rights is about ensuring that all people are treated fairly, regardless of their race, skin colour, religion, gender, family history or abilities.

## Equal rights movement

A movement for equal rights occurs when a group of people work together to defend and protect the rights of people to be treated fairly and equally to everyone else. The group also leads many activities to help people understand why equal rights are important. These activities can include speeches, protests, debates, peace walks, writing books and others.



## Family court

A court is where disagreements between people and organisations are heard so that a decision can be made. The decisions made are based on the law. A Family Court is a special court that hears disputes between members of a family.

## Filmmaker

A filmmaker is someone who creates movies.

## First People

First people are also called 'indigenous people'. They are the people who lived in a place or country before other groups arrived there. There are many different groups and communities of first people across the Caribbean and the world. They have different beliefs, languages, lands and traditions. This is why sometimes, the plural term 'first peoples' is used when speaking about more than one group.

## Feminist

A feminist is a someone who supports equal rights for women. Feminists encourage people to treat women and girls fairly and equally to men and boys.

## Gender

Gender is about the roles, responsibilities and behaviours that society determines are suitable for men and women. Ideas about gender vary across different countries, societies and periods in time. This includes our ideas about how men should behave compared to women or what types of jobs women can or cannot have. These ideas affect the rights and freedoms of people in both positive and negative ways. Understanding gender and how it affects people helps us to see where there is gender equality or inequality. Gender is often confused with sex. Sex is about biology and the differences in human bodies which make people male or female whereas gender is about society's ideas about what it should mean to be male or female.

## Gender discrimination

Gender discrimination occurs when people are treated unfairly, excluded or denied opportunities because of their sex and society's ideas about gender. Usually women and girls experience gender discrimination more often than men and boys.

## Gender equality

Gender equality is when women, men, girls, boys and all people enjoy the same rights, opportunities and protections. This includes being able to live free from violence, have fair opportunities to succeed in life, and equal access to rights like education, employment, healthcare, as well as the ability to vote and take part in politics. To achieve gender equality, society must change any ideas about gender that limit the rights and freedom of people.

## Gender justice

Gender justice is about achieving gender equality so that women, men, girls, boys and all people have access to their rights and freedoms. It is about creating a world where people are not limited by ideas about gender. Gender justice is when masculinity (qualities expected from men and boys) and femininity (qualities expected of women and girls) are equally valued.

## Global politics

Global politics includes the activities of governments or the people who try to influence the way countries and regions are led around the world.

## Governor

A governor is the chief leader or head of an organisation.

## Governor-General

A Governor-General is a someone who represents the King or Queen as the leader of a country which is still ruled by another country in Europe. In the year 2023, there are still Governor-Generals in Caribbean countries such as Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. Usually, when a country becomes a Republic, the Governor-General is replaced by a President.

## Government

A government is the group of people who lead a country. In many countries, the government is led by a Prime Minister.

## Government ministers

Government ministers are leaders in government. They report to the Prime Minister and lead government departments, create plans, and make decisions to protect and help people in their country.

## Ground breaker

A ground breaker is a person who is among the first to create or achieve something. Their accomplishments open doors for more people to follow.

## Health science

Health science is the study of the health and the wellbeing of humans.

## Heritage

Heritage is what someone has inherited from their ancestors, including traditions, languages and property.

## Historian

A historian is a person who studies and records history.

## Home economics

Home economics is a subject about how to run a home well.

## Hospitality

People who work in hospitality welcome guests and visitors to their country and create a friendly environment during their stay.

## House of Assembly

The House of Assembly is a group of people in Parliament who meet to discuss and make laws. It is sometimes called “The House” for short. The Speaker of the House oversees the House of Assembly.

## Human right

A human right is something that all humans deserve and are entitled to such as food, free speech, and being treated fairly. There are many documents and agreements which describe what our human rights are. They set standards for how people should act in order to respect one another. The **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)** is a document which outlines the human rights of all people. The **Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)** is an agreement which describes the rights of women and girls. The **Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)** is an agreement which describes the rights of children.

## Human rights activist

A human rights activist defends the rights of people by taking action to help them.

## Human trafficking

Human Trafficking is a crime which happens when a person manipulates or forces others to do things against their will. It is a form of slavery.

## Indentureship

When slavery ended, the indentureship system was created to replace it. Workers from Asia were brought to the Caribbean to work on plantations.

## Independence

When a country gains independence, the people of that country form their own government and become free from being ruled by other countries.

## Indigenous people

Indigenous people are the first people who lived in a place or country. There are many different groups and communities of indigenous people across the Caribbean and world. They have different languages, lands and traditions. This is why sometimes, the plural term 'indigenous peoples' is used when speaking about more than one group.

## Indigenous land rights

Indigenous land rights means that indigenous people deserve to own, use and control the land of their ancestors.

## Injustice

Injustice is when people are not treated fairly or equally, and their rights are not respected.

## Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights is an organisation in the OAS that promotes and protects the human rights of people in the Americas.

## Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women

The **Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women** is an agreement signed by countries in the Americas. It says that violence against women is a crime and it holds governments accountable for taking actions to end violence against women.

## Inter-American Development Bank

The Inter-American Development Bank is an organisation that works with governments and other organisations to build the region and improve the lives of its people.

## Journalist

A journalist is someone who writes stories for newspapers, magazines or television and radio programmes.

## Judge

A judge hears disagreements between people in a court and make decisions.

## Judiciary

The judiciary is the includes all the country's courts of law and judges.

## Justice

Justice is when people are treated fairly and their rights are respected. This includes a person's right to be treated equally to everyone else.

## Labour activist

A labour activist defends the rights of workers and takes action to encourage employers to treat them fairly.

## Lawsuit

A lawsuit is a disagreement between people or organisations that is brought to court for a decision.

## LGBTI people

LGBTI stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex, a diverse community of people.

## Leader

A leader is someone who makes decisions and takes actions that affect people. This can include their family, a group, a community, an organisation, and even a country. But being a good leader is not just about being in-charge or having power. It is about using your power to help others and motivating them to do the same.

## Legislative Council

The legislative council was the group of people during the British Empire who would meet to discuss and make laws. When Caribbean countries gained independence and formed their own parliaments, the Legislative Council was replaced by the House of Assembly or National Assembly.

## Lifeline Ministries

Lifeline Ministries is an organisation in Dominica that was created by Tina Alexander to help children, families, and people in need, especially from poor communities.

## Maternity leave

Maternity leave is the time off from work that a woman can take before and after giving birth to or adopting a child. The laws of a country will state the amount of time she is allowed to take and whether she is paid during that time. Every country has different laws on maternity leave. Some countries also offer paternity leave for fathers.

## Mayor

A mayor is a member of government who leads a city or town.

## Member of Parliament

A Member of Parliament is a member of the government whom people in a community have voted for to represent them in parliament. This person debates issues and make the laws for a country.

## Minimum wage

Minimum wage is the lowest amount of money that a worker can be paid. Every country has their own minimum wage laws. Having a minimum wage can protect workers against low pay, unfair treatment and discrimination in the workplace.

## Motivational speaker

A motivational speaker shares their wisdom, personal stories and lessons they learned to inspire people to improve their lives.

## Movement

A movement is a group of people who share similar beliefs and work together to achieve the same goals.

## NGC Bocas Lit Fest

The NGC Bocas Lit Fest is a yearly festival held in Trinidad and Tobago which showcases books and celebrates authors, writers and poets from the Caribbean.

## NGO

NGO stands for non-governmental organisation. This type of organisation usually does not make any profit. Instead, NGOs focus on activities and services that help people and society.

## Nutrition

Nutrition is mainly about food and eating healthy.

## OECS

The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) is a group of governments in the eastern part of the Caribbean that work together to achieve a better quality of life for people in their countries.

## OECS Assembly

The OECS Assembly is made up of representatives from each government within the OECS. Members of the Assembly meet to discuss issues between countries and suggest solutions.

## Parliament

Parliament is part of the government. It includes people called parliamentarians who debate issues and make the laws for a country. Parliaments in the Caribbean are often divided into two sections – the Senate and the House of Assembly or National Assembly. Some countries have only a House of Assembly or National Assembly.

## Pioneer

A pioneer is a person who is among the first to create or achieve something.

## Policy

A policy is a set of guidelines that organisations or countries can follow to ensure they are meeting their goals.



## Politics

Politics includes the activities of the government or the people who try to influence the way a country is led.

## Politician

A politician is a person whose job is in politics.

## Political party

A political party is a group of people that work together to influence the government. If a political party wins an election, they become in charge of the government.

## Poverty

Poverty is when people do not have enough money and the basic things they need to survive and live well. This includes food, clothing and shelter.

## President of the Senate

The President of the Senate oversees the Senate which is a group of people in Parliament who meet to discuss and make laws.

## Prime Minister

A Prime Minister leads the government. The government is the group of people who lead a country.

## Privilege

Persons are said to have privilege in society when their family background, ethnicity, nationality, wealth or other qualities give them an advantage over other groups of people. People who have privilege often face less obstacles to accessing their human rights to things like education, jobs and being treated fairly.

## Professor

A professor is an expert who teaches at a university.

## Psychologist

A psychologist is someone who studies the human mind, emotions, and behaviour to help people with mental and emotional disorders.

## Psychiatrist

A psychiatrist is a medical doctor who helps people with mental and emotional disorders.

## Queen's Counsel

A Queen's Counsel is the title given to a lawyer in the United Kingdom (UK) when they are appointed by the Queen. It is one of the highest positions a lawyer in the UK can hold and it is awarded to those persons with many years of experience and excellence in law. When there is a King instead of a Queen, the position is called 'King's Counsel.'

## Reparations

Reparations is a form of justice that occurs when the governments of countries that colonised other countries and enslaved people take action to repair the harm that was caused. This can include apologising and repaying the losses suffered by many generations of people. Repayment can happen in different ways. It can be paid using money or by helping countries that were past colonies.

## Republic

A republic is a form of government where a country is led by its people and not a foreign king or queen.

## Researcher

A researcher is someone who gathers information to better understand a subject or issue, and to learn new facts about how different groups of people are affected. This process and the information gathered is called 'research.'

## Right

A right is something that every person deserves and is entitled to. This includes food, education, health care, free speech, and being treated fairly. In this book, we use 'right' to mean the same thing as 'human right.'

## Scholar

A scholar is a person who has done advanced study in a special field or subject.

## Scholarship

A scholarship is an award that helps to pay for a student's education. Scholarship can also mean the academic work and research done by people on a subject.

## Self-aware

A person who is self-aware understands their own feelings, thoughts, values and why they behave the way they do.

## Senate

The Senate is a group of people in Parliament who meet to discuss and make laws. The President of the Senate oversees this group.

## Senator

A senator is a leader in government who helps create laws and plans to improve their country.

## Sense of justice

When people have a sense of justice, it means they understand what is right and wrong, and what the rights of people are.

## Sex

Sex is about biology and the differences in human bodies, where people are categorised as either male, female or intersex based on biological differences in organs, hormones and genes.

## Sexism

This is a belief that men and women are not equal and that one group is better than the other.

## Slavery

Slavery occurs when one human being owns another. The African slave trade was a system where millions of Africans were taken from their homes and forced to work as slaves. Slavery takes away the rights of people and because of this, it is against the law.

## Social justice

Social justice is when all people have access to fair and equal rights, the things they need and opportunities, regardless of their gender, age, family history, religion or the colour of their skin.

## Social justice activist

A social justice activist believes in social justice and takes action to defend the rights of people who are being treated unfairly. They encourage people to change the things they do or believe, especially when their actions cause harm. Many social justice activists take action to end things like racial discrimination and the climate crisis.

## Social sciences

Social sciences are the fields of study about human life and behaviour.

## Social work

Social work is about improving the wellbeing of people, families and communities.

## Social worker

A social worker is someone who is qualified to help people, families and communities with different challenges to improve their lives and wellbeing.

## Speaker of the House

The Speaker of the House maintains order in Parliament and takes the lead in ensuring that it operates smoothly.

## Strike

A strike is when people refuse to work because they are unhappy with how they are treated at work.

## Suffrage

Suffrage is the right to vote in elections.

## Tourism

Tourism is about welcoming, entertaining, and sharing your culture with visitors.

## Trade Union

A trade union is an organisation that helps protect the rights of workers.

## Trailblazer

A trailblazer is someone who is among the first people to believe in something or take action which creates a positive change in society.

## Transformational leader

Being a transformational leader starts with becoming more aware about what you feel and believe in and how you treat people and the environment. It involves learning to be respectful and empathetic or caring towards people. Transformational leaders listen to people to understand their unique experiences and needs, and they use their power to support equal rights for all people. They create positive changes in society and empower people to be the best they can be. Their achievements open new doors for people to grow.

## UNICEF

UNICEF stands for United Nations Children's Fund. It is an organisation in the United Nations that helps children around the world.

## United Nations

The United Nations (UN) is an organisation of countries and governments from around the world that work together for peace and to ensure the safety and wellbeing of others.

## UNDP

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is an organisation in the United Nations. It works with countries around the world to help them develop, meet the needs of citizens, and end poverty.

## UNESCO

UNESCO stands for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. It is an organisation in the United Nations that helps people of different cultures around the world to connect with one another and exchange ideas on how to improve education, science and peace in all societies.

## UNFPA

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is an organisation in the United Nations. It works with people across the world to promote safe childbirth, increase the freedom of women and girls to make decisions that affect their bodies and health, and ensure every young person's potential is fulfilled.

## UN Women

UN Women is an organisation in the United Nations that helps women and girls around the world.

## University of the West Indies (UWI)

The University of the West Indies is one of the oldest and largest institutions in the Caribbean that provides education to students after they leave high school or secondary school. The university has locations in Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda and other islands.

## Welfare

Welfare is health, happiness and safety. It is when people can access their rights to things like food, healthcare and other services that they need to live well.

## Wellbeing

Wellbeing is when people feel safe, comfortable, healthy and happy.

## Women's movement

A women's movement is when people work together to ensure that women are treated fairly and equally to men.

## Women's Resource and Outreach Centre

Women's Resource and Outreach Centre is an organisation that supports women's rights and helps communities in Jamaica.

## Women's rights

Women's rights are the rights and opportunities that women and girls are entitled to. These rights are equal to men and boys. This includes equal opportunities for jobs, education, health care, and to lead and be heard.

## Women's suffrage

Women's suffrage is the right of women to vote in elections.

## Writer

A writer is a person who creates stories, essays or other types of written content.

# Sources

## Books, Journals, Magazines and Online Articles

A Tribute to Elsa V. Goveia. (1984). Caribbean Quarterly, 30(3/4), 2–6.

Abraham, K. (2004). Erna Brodber. Bomb Magazine.

Aldred, L. (2021). The fight for Women’s Rights and Linnette Vassell, inextricably linked. The Jamaica Gleaner. <https://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/endorsed/20210502/fight-womens-rights-and-linnette-vassell-inextricably-linked>

Alexander, Michelle et. al (2017) Helpless Cries: A young girl’s memoir of struggle, courage and renewal in her abusive world. Kindle edition. ISBN: 9769591319.

Alfred, L. (2021). A practical application to brilliance – The Erna Brodber story. The Jamaica Gleaner.

Amaryah, A. (2022) Rebel Women: The Caribbean Rebellions Led By Women. <https://travelnoire.com/rebel-women-the-caribbean-rebellions-led-by-women>

ANSA McAL Foundation (2015). Dr. Paloma Mohamed. The Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence. <http://ansacaribbeanawards.com/laureates/dr-paloma-mohamed/>

Atlas, N. (2022). Eulalie Spence, Playwright of the Harlem Renaissance Era. <https://www.literaryladiesguide.com/author-biography/eulalie-spence-playwright-of-the-harlem-renaissance-era/>



Babb, K. C. (2011). *Warrior with a Gentle Touch: Dame Nita Barrow*. Women in Caribbean Politics. Edited by Cynthia Barrow-Giles.

Bahamas Press (2018). THE QUEEN announces Hon. Janet Gwennett Bostwick as a Dame in her New Years Honour List! <https://www.bahamaspress.com/the-queen-announces-hon-janet-gwennett-bostwick-as-a-dame-in-her-new-years-honour-list/>

Baird Rattini, K. (2021). Meet Antigua Artist Heather Doram. <https://www.yachtingmagazine.com/story/cruising-and-chartering/island-icon-heather-doram/>

Balutansky, K. M. (1989). We Are All Activists: An Interview With Merle Hodge. *Callaloo*, 41, 651–662.

Barriteau, V. E. (2003). “Constructing a conceptual framework for developing women’s transformational leadership in the Caribbean.” *Social and Economic Studies*, 52(4), 5–48. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/27865352>

Barrow-Giles, C.(2011). *Women in Caribbean Politics*. ISBN 978-976-637-083-1, Ian Randle Publishers. Kindle Edition.

Belize City, Belize: National Institute of Culture and History (2013). *Heroes and Benefactors*.

Belize Living Heritage (n.d.). Myrna Manzanares. <https://www.belizelivingheritage.org/myrna-manzanares/>

Besson, G. (2011). Elma Francois. <http://caribbeanhistoryarchives.blogspot.com/2011/08/elma-francois.html>

Breaking Belize News (2023). Belmopan City Council unveils portraits of resilient women on International Women’s Day. <https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2023/03/08/belmopan-city-council-unveils-portraits-of-resilient-women-on-international-womens-day/>

Brereton, B. (2021). “Lenora: activist for women in politics.” Against the Status Quo – Women of Trinidad and Tobago. <https://showcasetrinbagonianwomen.wordpress.com/politics/lenora-pujadas-mcshine/>

Brief Biography of Hazel Brown (2016). University of the West Indies. [https://uwispace.sta.uwi.edu/dspace/bitstream/handle/2139/44890/HazelL\\_Brown002.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://uwispace.sta.uwi.edu/dspace/bitstream/handle/2139/44890/HazelL_Brown002.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y)

Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development (n.d.) The Honourable Ms. Mia Mottley <https://www.broadbandcommission.org/commissioner/mia-mottley/>

Cadet, A. (2021). Still Going Strong....30 Years Later. The Tribune. <http://www.tribune242.com/news/2012/aug/28/still-going-strong30-years-later/>

Cain, M. (1999). Interview Column: Mrs. Gema Ramkeesoon. OPRéP Newsletter. St. Augustine, Trinidad: University of the West Indies (37): 5–10. ISSN 1013-1531. [https://web.archive.org/web/20161011145214/http://www.mainlib.uwi.tt/divisions/wi/collmain/oprepweb/oprep\\_jun99.pdf](https://web.archive.org/web/20161011145214/http://www.mainlib.uwi.tt/divisions/wi/collmain/oprepweb/oprep_jun99.pdf)

Caribbean Association of Home Economists Inc. (n.d.). In Memory of Dame Gwendolyn Tonge. <https://caribbeanhomeeconomist.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Dame-Gwendolyn-Tonge.pdf>

Caribbean National Weekly (n.d.). Calypso Rose – Trinidad & Tobago’s Most prominent Female Music Ambassador. <https://www.caribbeannationalweekly.com/entertainment/calypso-rose-trinidad-tobagos-most-prominent-female-music-ambassador/>

Caribbean Studies Association (2021). <https://www.caribbeanstudiesassociation.org/rhoda-reddock-2/>

Caribbean Tales Worldwide. Womanish Ways, Freedom, Human Rights & Democracy <https://caribbeantales-worldwide.com/movies/womanish-ways-freedom-human-rights-democracy/>

Caroo, K. (2019). International Women's Day: Revisiting the Past. <https://stluciarstar.com/international-womens-day-revisiting-the-past/>

Central American Disruption (2022). #8M: 9 Central American Women That Inspire Our Liberation Struggle. <https://centralamericandisruption.org/blog/8m-central-american-women>

Channel 5 Belize (2022). Belizean Dorla Bowman Given Commonwealth "Point of Light" Award. <https://edition.channel5belize.com/archives/233785>

Channel 5 Belize (2022). Zee Edgell Memorialized Fifteen Months after Death Due to COVID. <https://edition.channel5belize.com/archives/232670>

Climate Home News (2021). Mia Mottley: the 'fearless' leader pushing a global settlement for the climate frontlines. <https://www.climatechangenews.com/2021/11/18/mia-mottley-fearless-leader-pushing-global-settlement-climate-frontlines/>

Daily Express (1991). The 90 Most Prominent Women in Trinidad and Tobago. ISBN No. 976-608-020-8.

Dhillon, G., ed. (2015). Professor Rhoda Reddock: The Struggle Continues "Working for Social Justice and Gender Equity". Kreol Magazine. <https://kreolmagazine.com/culture/features/professor-rhoda-reddock-the-struggle-continues-working-for-social-justice-and-gender-equity/#.YzH8wuzMK3I>

Dignity Memorial (2020). Zelma Inez Edgell. <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/st-louis-mo/zelma-edgell-9962271>

Disabled Peoples' International North America and the Caribbean, Inc. Tina Alexander. <https://dpinorthamericacaribbean.org/team/tina-alexander/>

Dominica News Online (2010). Official funeral for the late Mable Moir James, former Member of the House of Assembly. <https://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/news/general/official-funeral-for-the-late-mable-moir-james-former-member-of-the-house-of-assembly/>

Dominica News Online (2014). Phenomenal Caribbean Women Symposium gearing up. <https://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/news/phenomenal-caribbean-symposium-gearing/>

Domnitjen Magazine (n.d.). Ophelia Marie. Vol. 3, Issue 3. [https://domnitjen.com/profiles/profile\\_marieo.html](https://domnitjen.com/profiles/profile_marieo.html)

ECLAC, Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean (2007). Women's political participation and gender parity in decision-making at all levels in the Caribbean. <https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/38382/GenderDialogue15.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>

Eyewitness News (2019). Queen Elizabeth II recognizes Bahamian volunteer with Commonwealth Points of Light award. <https://ewnews.com/queen-elizabeth-ii-recognizes-bahamian-volunteer-with-commonwealth-points-of-light-award>

Fanfair, R. (2019). Remembering Elsa Goveia, a legend in her time. <https://www.ronfanfair.com/home/2019/7/12/remembering-elsa-goveia-a-legend-in-her-time>

Fearless Politics: The Life and Times of Hazel Brown. Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. <http://www.news.gov.tt/content/fearless-politics-life-and-times-hazel-brown#.Yylz4ezMK3I>

Fehskens, E. (2017). Nanny of the Maroons. Peoples of the Historical Slave Trade. <https://enslaved.org/fullStory/16-23-126814/>

Fish, Jennifer N., “My Mother Was a Kitchen Girl”: Mobilizing Strategies Among Domestic Workers’, *Domestic Workers of the World Unite! A Global Movement for Dignity and Human Rights* (New York, NY, 2017; online edn, NYU Press Scholarship Online, 18 Jan. 2018), <https://doi.org/10.18574/nyu/9781479848676.003.0005>

Fraser, Z. (2019). Andaiye, revolutionary rights activist, dies at 77. Starbroek News.

Gibson, J. (2013). Iris Adderley: Tireless advocate for people with disabilities. <http://www.tribune242.com/news/2013/oct/22/iris-adderley-tireless-advocate-people-disabilitie/>

Gibson, J. (2013). Meta-Davis Cumberbatch's legacy lives on. <http://www.tribune242.com/news/2013/jun/18/meta-davis-cumberbatchs-legacy-lives-on/>

Global Frontier (2020). Celebrating Paloma Mohamed Martin: 11th Vice Chancellor of University of Guyana. <https://www.globalonefrontier.org/blog/celebrating-paloma-mohamed-martin-11th-vice-chancellor-of-university-of-guyana>

GoAbroad.com (2014). CELA Belize Staff Interview with Cristina Coc. <https://www.goabroad.com/interviews/cristina-coc-program-coordinator-toledo-district>

Goldman Environmental Prize: Jean La Rose. <https://web.archive.org/web/20120207153728/http://www.goldmanprize.org/node/122>

Gottlieb, K. (2011). Queen Nanny of the Jamaican Maroons: A Study of Women's Leadership in the Caribbean. *Women in Caribbean Politics*. Edited by Cynthia Barrow-Giles.

Grenada Broadcasting Network (2022). Judy Williams Remembered. <https://gbn.gd/judy-williams-remembered/>

Haiti Observer (2013). Ertha Pascal-Trouillot – The Haitian woman president. <http://www.haitiobserver.com/blog/ertha-pascal-trouillot-the-haitian-woman-president.html>

Hanna-Ewers, D. (2013). *Great Women in Bahamian History: Bahamian Women Pioneers*. AuthorHouse. pp. 56–57. ISBN 9781477292495.

Inter-American Convention on The Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence Against Women “Convention Of Belem Do Para” <https://www.oas.org/juridico/english/treaties/a-61.html>

Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (2021). Celebrating The 111th Anniversary Of The Birth Of Aggie Bernard. <https://jcdc.gov.jm/news/celebrating-111th-anniversary-birth-aggie-bernard>

Jones Jr., Royston. GET A BIGGER TABLE: Women United founder says more participation needed on gender-based law reform forum. <https://ewnews.com/get-a-bigger-table-women-united-founder-says-more-participation-needed-on-gender-based-law-reform-forum>

Kaieteur News (2014). Untiring advocate for indigenous rights and environmental integrity. <https://www.kaieteurnews.com/2014/05/18/untiring-advocate-for-indigenous-rights-and-environmental-integrity/>

Kaieteur News (2019). APA: 28 years of fighting for Indigenous People's rights. <https://www.kaieteurnews.com/2019/03/04/apa-28-years-of-fighting-for-indigenous-peoples-rights/>

Kaieteur News (2019). Prominent Women's Right Activist Magda Pollard Dies. <https://www.kaieteurnews.com/2019/05/10/prominent-womens-right-activist-magda-pollard-dies/>

Kendy (2022). OAS award for Dame Maizie Barker-Welch. Nation News. <https://www.nationnews.com/2022/03/12/oas-award-dame-maizie-barker-welch/>

Khan, N. (2012). Profiles - Heroes, Pioneers and Role Models of Trinidad and Tobago.

Kwaku (2021). Claudia Jones: The Myth Buster. <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/civil-rights-movement/claudia-jones-the-myth-buster/>

Lavann, T (2015). Nellie Robinson. ABS - Antigua/Barbuda Broadcasting Services. <https://abstvradio.com/nellie-robinson/>

Lewis, E. (2021). Jamaican gender activist Linnette Vassell tells older women: "Step out of fear". Petchary's Blog. <https://petchary.wordpress.com/2021/08/23/jamaican-gender-activist-linnette-vassell-tells-older-women-step-out-of-fear/>

Liberated Souls (n.d.). Marie Sainte Dédée Bazile: Honor Our Leaders in Death. <https://liberatedsouls.org/home-page/marie-sainte-dedee-bazile-honor-our-leaders-in-death/>

Lightfoot, N. J. (2011). “The Hart Sisters of Antigua: Evangelical Activism and “Respectable” Public Politics in the Era of Black Atlantic Slavery.” Conference: 125th Annual Meeting American Historical Association. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/267516106\\_The\\_Hart\\_Sisters\\_of\\_Antigua\\_Evangelical\\_Activism\\_and\\_Respectable\\_Public\\_Politics\\_in\\_the\\_Era\\_of\\_Black\\_Atlantic\\_Slavery](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/267516106_The_Hart_Sisters_of_Antigua_Evangelical_Activism_and_Respectable_Public_Politics_in_the_Era_of_Black_Atlantic_Slavery)

Loop Barbados News (2022). Did you know these facts about Dame Billie Miller? <https://barbados.loopnews.com/content/did-you-know-these-facts-about-dame-billie-miller>

Loop News (2022). “UTech honours unsung humanitarian heroes at 3rd Annual Ubuntu Awards”. <https://jamaica.loopnews.com/index.php/content/utech-honours-unsung-humanitarian-heroes-3rd-annual-ubuntu-awards>

Lowery, T., Banjo, F. and Lenfant Al Zouheiri, L. (2023). 8 Mic Drop Moments From Prime Minister of Barbados Mia Mottley. Global Citizen. <https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/prime-minister-barbados-mia-mottley-climate/>

Macpherson, A. (2007). From Colony to Nation: Women Activists and the Gendering of Politics in Belize, 1912-1982. pp. 171-173. ISBN 978-0-8032-0626-7.

Maynard, O. C. (1971). The Briarend Pattern: The Story of Audrey Jeffers O.B.E. and the Coterie of Social Workers.

Mohammed, P. (2000). The Future of Feminism in the Caribbean. *Feminist Review*, 64, 116-119. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/1395707>

Mohammed, P. (2016). Women’s/Feminist Activism in the Caribbean. *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of Gender and Sexuality Studies*. DOI:10.1002/9781118663219.wbegss412

Msemo, M. (2018). Nellie Robinson, the Antiguan hero who brought secondary education to black children on the island. Face2Face Africa.

Moxey, E. (2011). U.S. Ambassador Avant Presents Award to Dr. Sandra Dean Patterson for Advancing and Protecting Women's Rights throughout The Bahamas. The Bahamas Weekly. [http://www.thebahamasweekly.com/publish/international/U\\_S\\_Ambassador\\_Avant\\_Presents\\_Award\\_to\\_Dr\\_Sandra\\_Dean\\_Patterson\\_for\\_Advancing\\_and\\_Protecting\\_Women\\_s\\_Rights\\_throughout\\_The\\_Bahamas\\_printer.shtml](http://www.thebahamasweekly.com/publish/international/U_S_Ambassador_Avant_Presents_Award_to_Dr_Sandra_Dean_Patterson_for_Advancing_and_Protecting_Women_s_Rights_throughout_The_Bahamas_printer.shtml)

News Room (2019). Magda Pollard: A trailblazer for women's rights. <https://newsroom.gy/2019/05/10/magda-pollard-a-trailblazer-for-womens-rights/>

Okonjo-Iweala, N. (2022). The 100 Most Influential People Of 2022: Mia Mottley. Time Magazine. <https://time.com/collection/100-most-influential-people-2022/6177695/mia-mottley/>

Organization of American States. Suriname Country Report 2017. Fourteenth Meeting of the Committee of Experts (CEVI). <https://www.oas.org/es/mesecvi/docs/FinalReport2017-Suriname.pdf>

Onslow, S. (2015). Interview with Billie Miller. Institute of Commonwealth Studies. <https://commonwealthoralhistories.org/2017/interview-with-billie-miller/>

Peace is Loud (n.d.) Marion Bethel: Bahamian Attorney, Social Activist & Writer. <https://peaceisloud.org/speaker/marion-bethel/>

Peepal Tree Press (n.d.) Marion Bethel. <https://www.peepaltreepress.com/authors/marion-bethel>

People's United Party (n.d.). A Brief History of the Founder: Madam Gwendolyn Margurite Lizarraga. <https://web.archive.org/web/20151002130252/http://www.pup.org.bz/party-organs/united-womens-group/>



Peter, J. (2017). Saint Lucia appoints new parliamentary commissioner. Saint Lucia Government Information System. <https://www.govt.lc/news/saint-lucia-appoints-new-parliamentary-commissioner>

Phillips, M. (2023). Review: In Eulalie Spence's Harlem, the 1920s Come to Life. <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/20/theater/shes-got-harlem-on-her-mind-review.html>

Pinsky, S. (1996). Hodge, Merle. <https://scholarblogs.emory.edu/postcolonialstudies/2014/06/10/hodge-merle/>

Points of Light (n.d.). The Bahamas Crisis Centre, Commonwealth Point of Light 120. Sandra Dean-Patterson. <https://www.pointsoflight.gov.uk/the-bahamas-crisis-centre/>

Poon Affat, K. (2005). The Book of People: A Brief Look at Trinidad and Tobago through their Lives.

Powell, D. (1984). The Role of Women in the Caribbean. *Social and Economic Studies*, 33(2), 97-122. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/27862073>

Ramsay, R. (2022). UG's 1st female Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Paloma Mohamed Martin, is a 'Special Person'. *Kaieteur News*. <https://www.kaieteurnewsonline.com/2022/04/03/ugs-1st-female-vice-chancellor-prof-paloma-mohamed-martin-is-a-special-person/>

Reddock, R. (2007). Diversity, Difference and Caribbean Feminism: The Challenge of Anti-Racism. *Caribbean Review of Gender Studies*. St. Augustine, Trinidad: University of the West Indies (1): 1-24. ISSN 1995-1108.

Reddock, R. (2008). Clotel Walcott 1925 - 2007 - A Tribute. *Caribbean Review of Gender Studies*. Issue 2, p1-7. 7p: <https://sta.uwi.edu/crgs/september2008/journals/RhodaReddock.pdf>

Reddock, R. (2013). Diversity, Difference and Caribbean Feminism: The Challenge of Anti-Racism. [https://sta.uwi.edu/crgs/april2007/journals/Diversity-Feb\\_2007.pdf](https://sta.uwi.edu/crgs/april2007/journals/Diversity-Feb_2007.pdf)

Repeating Islands (2011). Sheila Roseau Awarded For Fighting Human Trafficking <https://repeatingislands.com/2011/06/29/sheila-roseau-awarded-for-fighting-human-trafficking/>

Robinson, N. (n.d.). Elma Francois – from Domestic Worker to national heroine. <https://thevincentian.com/elma-francois-from-domestic-worker-to-national-heroine-p15071-112.htm>

Rowell, C. H. (1988). An Interview With Olive Senior. *Callaloo*, 36, 480–490.

Rowley, M., & Antrobus, P. (2007). Feminist Visions for Women in a New Era: An Interview with Peggy Antrobus. *Feminist Studies*, 33(1), 64–87.

Samuel, P. (2015). Put your bucket down. A Conversation with Erna Brodber. *SX Salon: A Small Axe Literary Platform*. <http://smallaxe.net/sxsalon/interviews/put-your-bucket-down>

Small, E. (2012). Advancing the cause of women. *The Trinidad Express*. [https://web.archive.org/web/20121016160014/http://www.trinidadexpress.com/woman-magazine/Advancing\\_the\\_cause\\_of\\_women-169005016.html](https://web.archive.org/web/20121016160014/http://www.trinidadexpress.com/woman-magazine/Advancing_the_cause_of_women-169005016.html)

Schmeitz, M. (2006). Two steps forward, one step backward: addressing Violence against Women in Suriname. *Caribbean Quarterly*, 52(2/3), 66–82. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40654562>

Sheldrick, M. (2022). Mia Mottley, The Leader Disrupting Global Financial Institutions In The Name Of People And The Planet. *Forbes Magazine*. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/globalcitizen/2022/06/07/mia-mottley-the-leader-disrupting-global-financial-institutions-in-the-name-of-people-and-planet/?sh=2a758f926d31>

Shepherd, V., ed. (1999). *Women in Caribbean History*. Ian Randle Publishers. ISBN 976-8123-64-8

Soares, J. (2009). “Forever Indebted to Women”: Annstory. *Caribbean Quarterly*, 55(4), 9–14. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40655092>

Springer, J. (2016). We Bajans – Dame Billie Antoinette Miller. Barbados Government Information Service. <https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/blog/we-bajans-dame-billie-antoinette-miller/>

St. Kitts and Nevis Information Service (2022). St. Kitts and Nevis has a rich and storied history on the advancement of women and gender equality. <https://www.sknis.gov.kn/2022/03/16/st-kitts-and-nevis-has-a-rich-and-storied-history-on-the-advancement-of-women-and-gender-equality/>

Stange, M. Z., Oyster, C. K., & Sloan, J. E. (Eds.) (2011). Encyclopaedia of women in today's world. (Vols. 1-4). SAGE Publications, Inc., <https://dx.doi.org/10.4135/9781412995962>

Starbroek News (2019). Women and gender equality activist Magda Pollard passes away. <https://www.stabroeknews.com/2019/05/10/news/guyana/women-and-gender-equality-activist-magda-pollard-passes-away/>

Suriname Herald (2019). Carla Bakboord and Asha Mungra receive Golden Gavel Award. <https://www.srherald.com/suriname/2019/03/04/carla-bakboord-en-asha-mungra-ontvangen-golden-gavel-award/>

Tate, S. A. (2017). The Governmentality of Black Beauty Shame: Discourse, Iconicity and Resistance. London, England: Palgrave Macmillan UK. ISBN 978-1-137-52258-0.

The Associated Press (1994). Toto Bissainthe, Actress and Singer, 60. <https://www.nytimes.com/1994/06/09/obituaries/toto-bissainthe-actress-and-singer-60.html>

The British Council (n.d.). Jamaica Kincaid. <https://literature.britishcouncil.org/writer/jamaica-kincaid>

The Guardian (n.d.). Beryl McBurnie. <https://www.theguardian.com/news/2000/apr/29/guardianobituaries1>

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (2018). The 12-year-old Belizean girl who spoke up at the World Heritage Committee meeting – interview. <https://www.iucn.org/news/iucn-42whc/201807/12-year-old-belizean-girl-who-spoke-world-heritage-committee-meeting-%E2%80%93-interview>

The San Pedro Sun (2008). Our Belize Community - Cristina Coc. Vol. 18, No. 2 <https://ambergriscaye.com/sanpedrosun/old/08-024.html>

The Vincentian (2018). Grooming Of Female Parliamentarians. <https://thevincentian.com/grooming-of-female-parliamentarians-p14891-112.htm>  
The Voice Publishing (2023). St. Lucian Carnival: Nothing Sweeter Than That. <https://thevoiceslu.com/2023/08/st-lucian-carnival-nothing-sweeter-than-that/>

The Voice (2022). Dr. Hilda Rosemarie Husbands-Mathurin Appointed Parliamentary Commissioner. <https://thevoiceslu.com/2022/04/husbands-mathurin-appointed-parliamentary-commissioner/>

The Voice (2018). Ione Erlinger-Ford Was A Shoulder To Lean On In Times Of Crisis! <https://thevoiceslu.com/2018/04/ione-erlinger-ford-was-a-shoulder-to-lean-on-in-times-of-crisis/>

Virtue, Erica (2022). The broadcaster who became a force to be reckoned with. <https://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/lead-stories/20220320/broadcaster-who-became-force-be-reckoned>

Trinidad and Tobago Guardian (2022). Gender and consumer rights activist, Hazel Brown, passes. <https://guardian.co.tt/news/gender-and-consumer-rights-activist-hazel-brown-passes-6.2.1548909.67b9d7728e>

U.S. Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report Heroes. Sheila Roseau Antigua and Barbuda, Class of 2011. <http://www.tipheroes.org/sheila-roseau/>

United For A Fair Economy (N.D.) Shirley Pryce: UFE Ambassador. [https://www.faireconomy.org/shirley\\_pryce\\_ufe\\_ambassador](https://www.faireconomy.org/shirley_pryce_ufe_ambassador)

University of Guyana (n.d.). About The Senior Lecturer: Prof. Paloma Mohamed <https://fhs.uog.edu.gy/staff/prof-paloma-mohamed#:~:text=Paloma%20Mohamed%20is%20a%20behavioral,life%20are%20implicated%20in%20change>.

University of the West Indies (n.d.) Linnette Vassell. <https://www.mona.uwi.edu/notices/monaconf/profiles/vassell.htm>

University of the West Indies (n.d.) Linnette Vassell. <https://www.mona.uwi.edu/notices/monaacademicconference/Profiles/vassell.htm>

University of the West Indies: Institute for Gender and Development Studies (2013). Honoree: Gema Ramkeesoon. <https://web.archive.org/web/20161011144840/https://sta.uwi.edu/igds/20thanniversary/gemaramkeesoon.asp>

University of the West Indies. [https://sta.uwi.edu/conferences/15/fearlesspolitics/documents/Insert\\_HBConf\\_OpeningCerProgramme.pdf](https://sta.uwi.edu/conferences/15/fearlesspolitics/documents/Insert_HBConf_OpeningCerProgramme.pdf)

UNWOMEN (n.d.). From where I stand: “I slept in the dog house because I wanted to go to school”. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2017/4/from-where-i-stand-shirley-pryce>

UNWOMEN (n.d.). World Conferences on Women. <https://www.unwomen.org/en/how-we-work/intergovernmental-support/world-conferences-on-women>

Virtue, E. (2004). Joan French: The ‘girls’ education lady’. Jamaica Observer. <https://www.jamaicaobserver.com/all-woman/joan-french-the-girls-education-lady/>

Williams-Pulfer, Kim, One Eleuthera Foundation. Dame Dr Doris Johnson should inspire us all. <http://www.tribune242.com/news/2022/nov/18/dame-dr-doris-johnson-should-inspire-us-all/>

World Council of Churches (2018). Linette Vassel: “We need to examine power more deeply as women”. <https://www.oikoumene.org/news/linette-vassel-we-need-to-examine-power-more-deeply-as-women>

ZNS Bahamas (n.d.) Remarks on the Right Hon. Dame Janet G. Bostwick's 40th Election Anniversary. <https://znsbahamas.com/remarks-on-the-right-hon-dame-janet-g-bostwicks-40th-election-anniversary/>

## **Interviews and Podcasts**

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Part 1 February 2015:  
<https://youtu.be/-6SqVulKmsk>

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Part 2 February 2015:  
<https://youtu.be/JDAbkW9Uj6Y>

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Part 3 February 2015:  
<https://youtu.be/sUFQp8wkhWs>

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Part 4 February 2015:  
[https://youtu.be/i6PENn\\_xJJc](https://youtu.be/i6PENn_xJJc)

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Part 6 February 2015:  
<https://youtu.be/7anZBL9mVFI>

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Part 7 February 2015:  
<https://youtu.be/HOh1gvJ6PKE>

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Part 9 February 2015:  
<https://youtu.be/2Aq-H3yRiJc>

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Part 10 February 2015:  
<https://youtu.be/cZAiObii9kE>

Asha Kambon in conversation with Hazel Brown — Fearless Politics:  
<https://youtu.be/nGKnUaVNeOg>

Guyana Learning Channel (2014). Reflections: Ms Magda Pollard. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GqAIDupAZoc>

IGDS Conversations 2013 — Professor Rhoda Reddock: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2VbPBwIG8R4>

Janice Sutherland (2018). Phenomenal Woman Ep:030 - Dr. Rosina Wiltshire - Focus On Your Goal, Not The Detractors. This Woman Can. <https://thiswomancann.podbean.com/e/phenomenal-woman-ep030-dr-rosina-wiltshire-focus-on-your-goal-not-the-detractors/>

Maria Marshall Earth Day 2022 Video. Little Thoughts On Big Matters. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEhQA5XupP8>

Phenomenal Women of 2021- Dr Paloma Mohamed Martin  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CLIHBJH-UtY>

The Journal Directorate of Gender Affairs, Sheila Roseau:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-PMKCjxmFO>

The Weekly Gleaner (2021). Rosina Wiltshire, Shaping History. <http://go-jamaica.com/supplement/pdf/Gleaner-NA/Easter-Edition/38/#zoom=z>

We Bajans - Dame Maizie Barker-Welch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9udszjmB07o>

Women in leadership: Dr. Carla Barnett, first woman to be appointed Secretary-General of CARICOM: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P6MV6DZ5qO8>

## **Websites and Social Media**

ANDAIYE 1942-2019: [andaiye1942-2019.com](http://andaiye1942-2019.com)

Association of Black Women Historians: [abwh.org](http://abwh.org)

Association for Women's Rights in Development: [awid.org](http://awid.org)

Bahamas Crisis Centre: [bahamascrisiscentre.com](http://bahamascrisiscentre.com)

Baptiste & Co: [baptistecolawfirm.com](http://baptistecolawfirm.com)

Barbados.org: [barbados.org/people](http://barbados.org/people)

Barbados Government Information Services (GIS): [gisbarbados.gov.bb](http://gisbarbados.gov.bb)

Barbados Parliament: [barbadosparliament.com](http://barbadosparliament.com)

Black Past: [blackpast.org](http://blackpast.org)

Britannica Kids: [kids.britannica.com](http://kids.britannica.com)

Britannica: [britannica.com](http://britannica.com)

Cambridge Dictionary: [dictionary.cambridge.org](http://dictionary.cambridge.org)

Camille Selvon: [camilleselvon.com](http://camilleselvon.com)

Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ): [ccj.org](http://ccj.org)

Caribbean Journal: [caribjournal.com](http://caribjournal.com)

Caribbean Literary Heritage: [caribbeanliteraryheritage.com](http://caribbeanliteraryheritage.com)

CARICOM Secretariat: [caricom.org](http://caricom.org)

Collins Dictionary: [collinsdictionary.com](http://collinsdictionary.com)

Commonwealth Community Heritage: [commonwealth-community-heritage.net](http://commonwealth-community-heritage.net)

Commonwealth Lawyer Association: [commonwealthlawyers.com](http://commonwealthlawyers.com)

Commonwealth Secretariat: [thecommonwealth.org](http://thecommonwealth.org)

Cultural Survival Quarterly Magazine: [culturalsurvival.org](http://culturalsurvival.org)

Edwidge Danticat: [edwidedanticat.com](http://edwidedanticat.com)



Elsa V. Goveia: [elsagoveia.wordpress.com](http://elsagoveia.wordpress.com)

Forest Peoples Programme: [forestpeoples.org](http://forestpeoples.org)

Global Fund for Women: [globalfundforwomen.org](http://globalfundforwomen.org)

Government of Barbados: [gov.bb](http://gov.bb)

Government Information Service Dominica: [news.gov.dm](http://news.gov.dm)

Grenada Cultural Foundation: [grenadaculturalfoundation.gd](http://grenadaculturalfoundation.gd)

Grenada Hotel and Tourism Association (GHTA): [ghta.org/the-association](http://ghta.org/the-association)

[iamgrenada.com](http://iamgrenada.com): [iamgrenada.com](http://iamgrenada.com)

Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), Nita Barrow Unit, Cave Hill, Barbados: [cavehill.uwi.edu/gender/home.aspx](http://cavehill.uwi.edu/gender/home.aspx)

Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago: [sta.uwi.edu/igds/](http://sta.uwi.edu/igds/)

Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), Mona Unit, Jamaica: [mona.uwi.edu/igds/](http://mona.uwi.edu/igds/)

Lifeline International: [lifelinenetwork.org](http://lifelinenetwork.org)

Jamaica Information Service: [jis.gov.jm](http://jis.gov.jm)

Joan French: [livingtheshadow.com.jm](http://livingtheshadow.com.jm)

Knowledge Walk Institute: [caribbeanelections.com](http://caribbeanelections.com)

Kristal Ambrose: [kristalambrose.com](http://kristalambrose.com)

Museum of Antigua and Barbuda: [facebook.com/ABMuseum](https://facebook.com/ABMuseum)

National Library of Jamaica: [nlj.gov.jm](http://nlj.gov.jm)

National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago: [nationaltrust.tt](http://nationaltrust.tt)

Network of NGOs of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women:  
2020.networkngott.com

NGO Caribbean Development Foundation: [ngocaribbean.org](http://ngocaribbean.org)

NIHERST: [icons.niherst.gov.tt](http://icons.niherst.gov.tt)

One Young World: [oneyoungworld.com](http://oneyoungworld.com)

Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago: [ttparliament.org](http://ttparliament.org)

Prince Clause Fund for Culture and Development: [princeclausfund.org](http://princeclausfund.org)

ResearchGate: [researchgate.net](http://researchgate.net)

Royal Society of Literature: [original.rsliterature.org](http://original.rsliterature.org)

Saint Lucia Crisis Centre: [slucrisiscentre.wordpress.com](http://slucrisiscentre.wordpress.com)

Slavery and Remembrance: [slaveryandremembrance.org](http://slaveryandremembrance.org)

The Breadfruit Collective: [thebreadfruitcollectivegy.com](http://thebreadfruitcollectivegy.com)

The Dialogue Leadership for the Americas: [thedialogue.org](http://thedialogue.org)

The Poetry Archive: [poetryarchive.org](http://poetryarchive.org)

The Queen's Young Leaders: [queensyoungleaders.com](http://queensyoungleaders.com)

TOR Memorial School: [facebook.com/TOR-Memorial-School](https://facebook.com/TOR-Memorial-School)

Tracy Assing: [tracyassing.com](http://tracyassing.com)

United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF): [unicef.org](http://unicef.org)

University of Arizona, College of Social and Behavioural Science Human Rights Practice: [humanrightspractice.arizona.edu](http://humanrightspractice.arizona.edu)

University of the West Indies: [www.uwi.edu](http://www.uwi.edu)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Champions of the Earth Award: [unep.org/championsofearth](http://unep.org/championsofearth)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA): [unfpa.org](http://unfpa.org)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Namibia: [namibia.unfpa.org](http://namibia.unfpa.org)

United Women’s Group: [unitedwomensgroup.com](http://unitedwomensgroup.com)

University of Guyana: [fhs.uog.edu.gy](http://fhs.uog.edu.gy)

University of the West Indies: [uwi.edu](http://uwi.edu)

University of the West Indies, Mona Campus: [mona.uwi.edu](http://mona.uwi.edu)

University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus: [sta.uwi.edu](http://sta.uwi.edu)

UN Women Caribbean: [caribbean.unwomen.org](http://caribbean.unwomen.org)

UWI Today, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus: [sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday](http://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday)

World Economic Forum: [weforum.org](http://weforum.org)

Women’s Resource and Outreach Centre (WROC): [wrocjamaica.com](http://wrocjamaica.com)

Women’s Right Centre, Suriname: [wrccuriname.org](http://wrccuriname.org)



**CIWIL**

Caribbean Women in Leadership

