



GET THE FACTS

It can be hard to know where you are going if you do not know where you've been—so before you can change the world it is important to know all the facts!

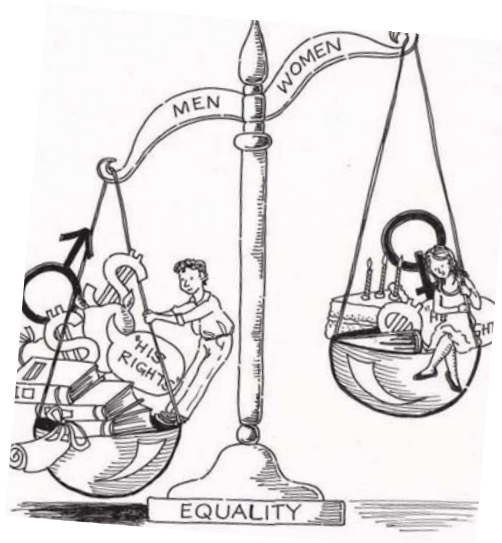
This section of the pack will arm you with relevant information on women in Australia and around the world, so that you can understand important aspects of women's justice and equality.

Use this section to find out more about great women from lots of different fields! What these great women role models have done will inspire you and help you to strive for the best in yourself.

Maybe you can use their stories to make a wide game? How about making a display on women's right to use at your Annual District Meeting or put up at your local library? You could find out more the topic that interests you most and plan a night for your Unit to enjoy?



ARE WOMEN AND MEN EQUAL?



When we ask this question what we really mean is 'if we put everything men have on one end of a scale and everything women have on the other end of a scale—would they balance?'

In recent decades there has been much progress made worldwide on the issue of women's rights but the United Nations says that "nowhere in the world can women claim to have all the same rights and opportunities as men".

In 1979 the United Nations General Assembly accepted The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). The job of the convention is to clearly state what does and does not count as discrimination against women. If a nation chooses to adopt (or use) the convention that means that they are promising to do all they can to stop women being treated unfairly just because they are women.



Did you know? The aim of the United Nations is to bring all nations of the world together to work for peace and development, based on the principles of justice, human dignity and the well-being of all people.

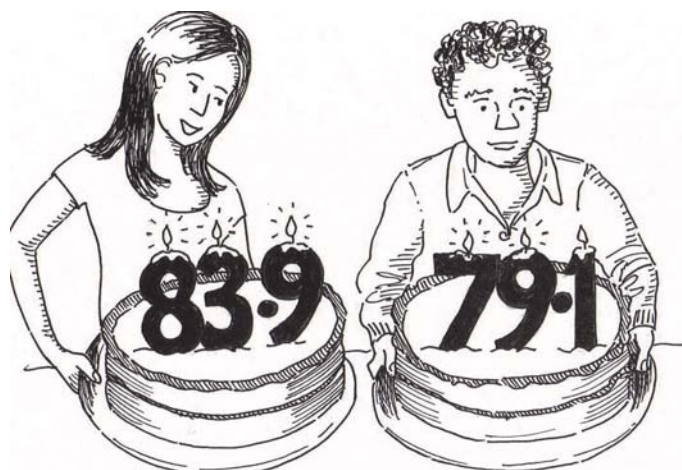
HOW LONG DO WOMEN LIVE?

When it comes to living to the longest– women are the winners! In almost every country of the world women outlive (or live longer than) men by an average of 4 years!

The average age we are expected to live is called ‘Life Expectancy’. Here is the world’s average life expectancy:



You life expectancy changes depending on where you live in the world. Every country has its own life expectancy calculated from the year that you are born. For Australian children born in 1990 the life expectancy is:



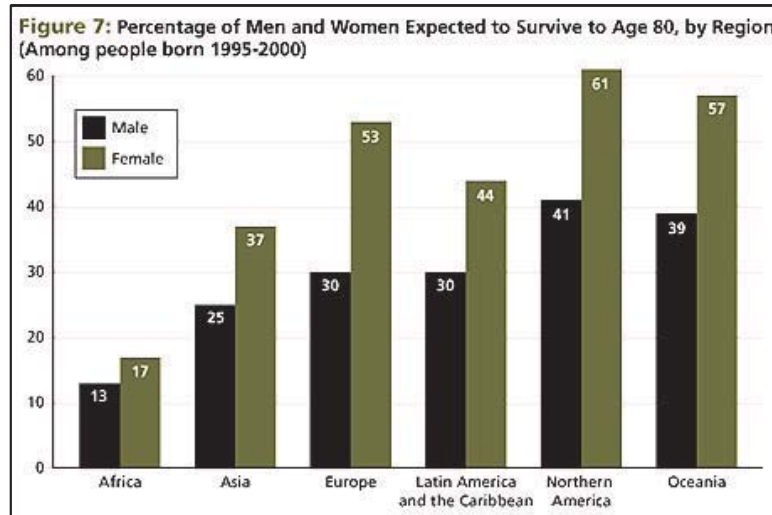
Sadly Indigenous Australians have a much lower life expectancy, for Indigenous children born in 1996 the life expectancy is nearly 20 years less than non Indigenous people.

Did you know? If you ordered every country by their average life expectancy Australia would be equal 6th place with Switzerland.



HOW LONG DO WOMEN LIVE?

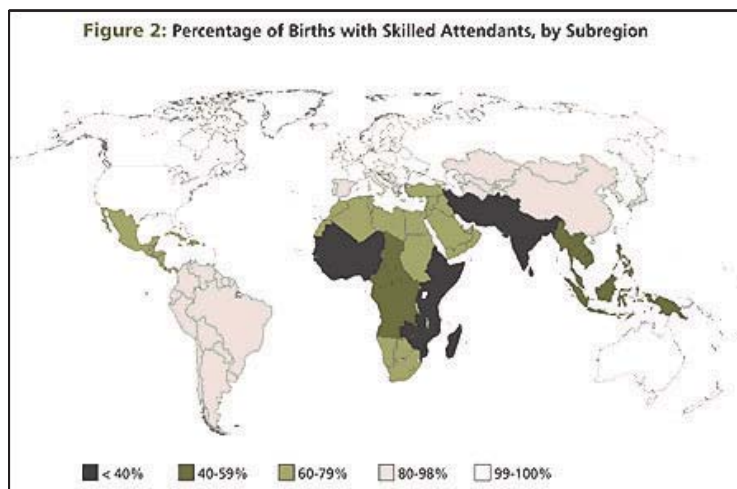
Have a look at this chart– it shows you what percentage of people around the world are expected to live to be 80 years old.



Source: United Nations Population Division. 2000. *World Population Monitoring. 2000: Population, Gender and Development.*

There are lots of reasons people in one part of the world may not live as long as others. In many poorer parts of the world there is no (or very little) access to clean drinking water; no (or very little) access to medical help; and even very small amounts of food available.

Around 600,000 women die every year because of child-birth complications– often in areas where there are very few or no doctors or nurses. Have a look at the countries hit the hardest:



Source: World Health Organisation

Did you know? Life expectancy can be related to how much you earn. Countries with the highest average wages have longer life expectancy!

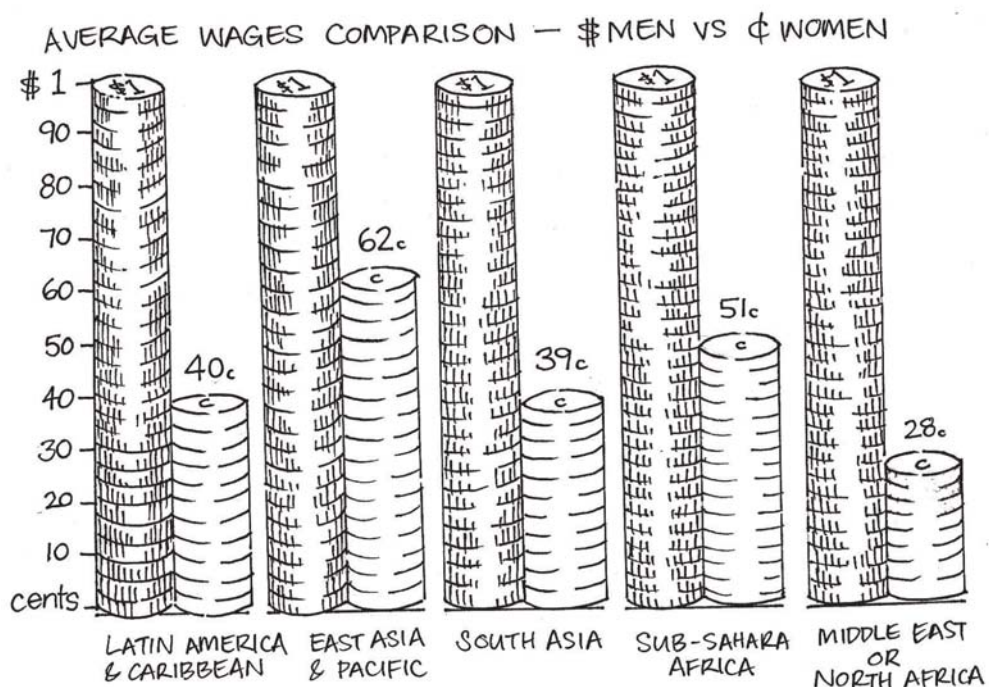
HOW MUCH DO WOMEN EARN?

Despite decades of equal opportunities law, women still earn less than men. On average women across the world earn only 3/4 of the wage that men do for doing the same job!



For every dollar a man earns....

- A Latin American or Caribbean woman earns 40c
- An East Asian or Pacific woman earns 62c
- A South Asia woman earns 39c
- A Sub-Saharan African woman earns 51c
- A Middle East or North Africa woman earn 28c



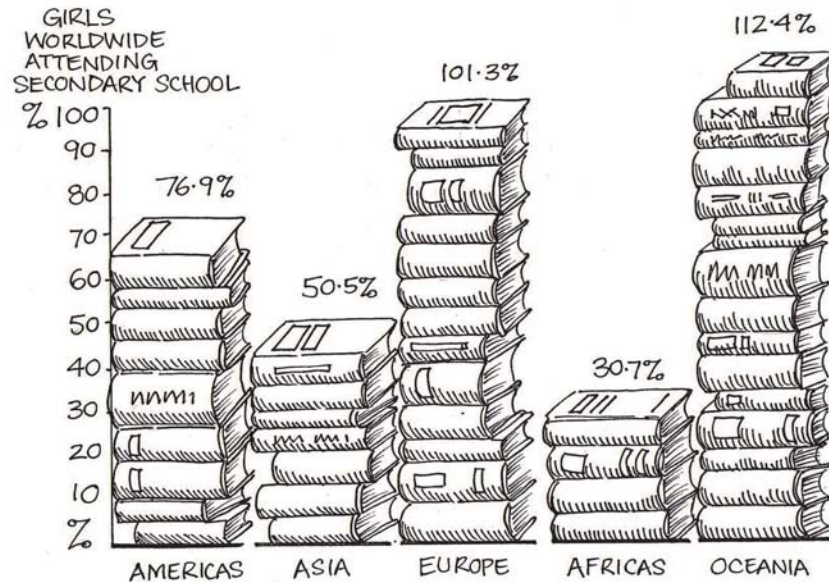
Source: United Nations Development Program, *Human Development Report 2005: International Cooperation at a cross roads : Aid, Trade and Security in an unequal world*, Oxford University Press for UNDP, New York, 2005, Table 25, pages 299-302.

Did you know? The more school you attend the better your chances of getting a higher paying job.



DO ALL GIRLS GET TO GO TO SCHOOL?

Unfortunately not all girls around the world get to go to school. For many girls, going to school is something they can only dream about. Have a look at the difference in the percentage of girls who attend secondary education in different regions of the world:



There are many different reasons why girls might not get to go to school, some of them are listed below:

In the developing world:

- poverty
- distance to school
- children working to support families
- tradition – girls denied education
- lack of qualified teachers
- street children
- refugees
- disabled children
- natural and manmade disasters

In the developed world:

- homelessness
- breakdown of the family unit
- urbanisation
- exclusion from school
- difficulty in recruiting teachers
- families living on the margins of society
- large classes
- substance abuse
- discipline problems

In the year 2000 the United Nations held a 'Millennium Summit'. At this summit the world's leaders agreed on 8 goals to be achieved, in every country of the world, by 2015. Goal number 2 is for every boy and girl in the world to be able to complete primary school.

Source: World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts.

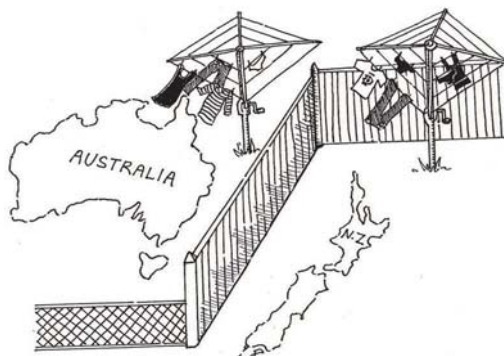
Our Rights, Our Responsibilities 2002-2005. The Right To Learn. Page 3.

Did you know? 87 million of the 130 million children who don't go to school in the world are girls. 24 million are from Sub-Saharan Africa.

WOMEN'S RIGHT TO HAVE A SAY

In most countries around the world it is only in the last 100 years that women have been given the right to have a say in politics!

The right to vote in a political election and the right to stand for parliament is known as "suffrage". To get these rights women all over the world had to fight to prove they should be allowed to!



Our neighbour, New Zealand, lead the race for women's suffrage when they gave women the right to vote in 1893. Australia was also seen as a world leader in women's suffrage, when in 1894 the South Australian government gave women the right to vote and also to stand for parliament– other states soon followed.

Parliament	Right to vote	Right to stand	First elected to lower house	First elected to upper house
Commonwealth	1902	1902	1943, Enid Lyons	1943, Dorothy Tangney
State				
South Australia	1894	1894	1959, Joyce Steele	1959, Jessie Cooper
Western Australia	1899	1920	1921, Edith Cowan	1954, Ruby Hutchison
New South Wales	1902	1918	1925, Millicent Preston-Stanley	1952 (c), Gertrude Melville
Tasmania	1903	1921	1955, Mabel Miller and Amelia Best	1948, Margaret McIntyre
Queensland	1905	1915	1929, Irene Longman	n.a.
Victoria	1908	1923	1933, Millie Peacock	1979, Gracia Baylor, Joan Coxsedge

Did you know? That it wasn't until 1962 that Indigenous women in Australia were given the right to vote.

WHEN DID WOMEN IN OTHER COUNTRIES GET THE RIGHT TO VOTE?

Most countries granted their women the right to vote sometime in the last 100 years. In some countries women have the right to vote in some elections but not others. Some countries have put conditions on which women are allowed to vote. There are even countries where women have no right to vote at all!

Check out when these countries gave women the right to vote:

KENYA
1963

NEW ZEALAND
1893

BOLIVIA
1938

INDIA
1950

CHINA
1949

SWEDEN
1921

FINLAND
1906

AUSTRALIA
1901

MEXICO
1947

GERMANY
1918

GREECE
1952

To see when other countries gained the right to vote, visit:
http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/suffrage/world_when.htm

Did you know? In an 'absolute monarchy' (countries ruled only by a King or Queen) no men or women have the right to vote for their county's Leader.



WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

Australia was a world leader in allowing women to stand for government but it also had the greatest time lag of all western democratic countries between the time women were able to stand and the time a woman was elected to government— 41 years!



The first woman elected to a State government in Australia occurred much earlier, in 1921 when Edith Cowan was elected to the Western Australian Legislative Assembly. The first woman elected to a Victorian government was Millie Peacock, elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1933. It wasn't until 1990 that Victoria had its first female Premier—Joan Kirner!

Around the world this century only 28 women have been elected as the head of State/Government in their country.



The first woman to be elected as Prime Minister of her country was Siramavo Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka. In 1974 Isabel Peron became the first women to be elected as President of her country, Argentina.

In 2008 only 12 countries have democratically elected female leaders:

Argentina, Chile, Finland, India, Ireland, Liberia and The Philippines have female Presidents.

Germany, New Zealand, Mozambique, The Netherlands Antilles, Ukraine and the Aland Islands have female Prime Ministers.

Amazingly, even though there are roughly the same percentage of men and women in the world, women hold only 11.7% of the seats in the world's parliaments! Although, in the last 10 years the percentage of women cabinet ministers has doubled!

Did you know? Of the 185 highest-ranking diplomats to the United Nations, only seven are women.

AUSTRALIA'S WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT

There are currently 38 women members of the Parliament of Victoria: 12 are Legislative Councillors and 26 are Members of the Legislative Assembly. There are even 5 women Ministers in the Cabinet!

The Australian Federal Government has 67 female members: 40 are from The House of Representatives (out of 150 possible spaces) and 27 are from The Senate (out of a possible 76 spaces).

ANDREA COOTE MP

I was a Girl Guide - from the 1st Balwyn Guides in the early 1960s. At that time the Girls from Yooralla were in our group. Many of these girls had been born with severe physical disabilities and the most impressionable thing I remember is their enormous courage and determination - they were inspiring and I will never forget their attitude to life - they were simply amazing.

- MP member for the Southern Metropolitan Region

JOANNE DUNCAN MP

I was a Brownie and a Girl Guide and I really enjoyed my time there and learnt a load of skills that I suspect to this day I would still not know if not for the Guides. Also the experiences I had on camps and other activities we did were unique for me and although I have been on many camps since then, they remain very positive experiences. Certainly being part of that movement taught me to be prepared to stand up and take a lead role in activities, and to have the confidence to do that.

- MP Member for Macedon

WENDY LOVELL MP

The Girl Guides was my first introduction into community service and leadership. My years in Guides gave me the opportunity to learn the satisfaction gained from being able to serve your community and to assist others. It was the grounding for my future roles as a Junior Councillor and involvement with service clubs such as Rotaract and Rotary. All of these things including my years as a Guide have contributed to shaping the person I am today and were certainly instrumental in leading me to a career as a community advocate and representative in the Victorian Parliament.

- Member for Northern Victoria Region - Deputy Leader Liberal Party (Legislative Council)

- Shadow Minister for Housing- - Shadow Minister for Country Victoria

- Shadow Minister for Children & Early Childhood Development

- Shadow Minister for Women's Affairs

Did you know? Victoria's Parliament was the first in the world to approve the use of the secret ballot for elections. It was used to elect the first Victorian Parliament in 1856.



AUSTRALIA'S WOMEN ADVENTURERS

In the time of the suffragists and the first Girl Guides, adventuring was seen as an activity 'for the boys'- despite this, Australia has been home to many wonderful women adventurers who have pushed the limits and become an inspiration for people all over the world.

Adventuring in the Antarctic:

Antarctica was once a place that only men adventured to but now the men working at the Antarctic research station are almost outnumbered by the women! One of the first Australian women to set foot on the Antarctic mainland was Elizabeth Chipman. Elizabeth Started off working for the



Antarctic Division of the Department of Science in Melbourne as a typist, information officer and scientific administrator. She visited the Australian Antarctic Divisions' permanent base on Macquarie Island during not one, not two but three summers between 1966 and 1976! She was the first woman member of the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions (ANARE).

Adventuring in the air:

Most of the early major flying records in Australia were set by men. This was partly because, at the time, women were not encouraged to take up dangerous jobs like flying. Lores Bonney was born in South Africa in 1897 but married and settled in



Australia. In 1931 Lores became the first women to fly around Australia. In 1933 Lores created a record by flying 1600km in just one day! To follow up that record she became the first woman to fly solo from Australia to England and from Australia to South Africa!

Did you know? Today there are approximately 2000 women pilots in Australia.

Adventuring in the mountains:

Brigitte Muir was the first person to do what no other Australian had ever done – climb what's known as the Seven Summits – the highest mountain on each continent of the globe. When Brigitte conquered Mount Everest back in 1997, she also became the first Australian to reach the summit (very top) of that mountain!



Adventuring in the seas and oceans:

Susie Maroney is an Australian marathon swimmer. She is very famous for swimming very long distances in the open ocean and sea. She has set many records including:

- Youngest person to cross the English Channel (age 16) in 1990.
- Fastest double English Channel Crossing in 1991 (age 17).
- The first person to swim the 180km Florida Straits from Cuba to the United States on 12th May 1997 (age 22).
- The longest distance ever swum without flippers on open seas (197km). The swim was from Mexico to Cuba in June 1998 and took 38 hours and 33 minutes (age 23).
- Swimming 160km from Jamaica to Cuba in 1999 (age 25).



Did you know? Susie Maroney was a Girl Guide! Susie says:

“My happy times as a Guide would not have been possible without the wonderful and generous volunteer Leaders that we had in our area. I will be forever grateful for their time and enthusiasm in making a time in my childhood very special and rewarding.”

Source: <http://www.wagggsworld.org/en/issues/Globalactiondays/internationalwomensday2007/famousgirlguides>



WOMEN IN THE BUSINESS WORLD

It seems that if you want to get ahead in the business world, being a woman isn't much help! 47% (that's almost half) of all the jobs in Australia are filled by women—but that doesn't mean that half the bosses are women!



Just 6 of Australia's top 200 companies (listed on the stock exchange) have female Chief Executive Officers (CEOs).

In these companies at board level there are 10 men to every 1 woman.

Half of those companies don't even have 1 women on their board at all!

At CEO level there are 33 male CEOs to every 1 female CEO.

Even though it can seem tough to get ahead as a woman in business, that doesn't mean it is impossible. There are many great stories of women around the world who have risen to the top of the business world.



Source: 2006 EOWA Australian Census of Women in Leadership—Equal opportunity for women in the workplace agency

Did you know? In March 2008 there were 10, 677, 000 employed people in Australia.

INTRODUCING... JANINE ALLIS VICTORIAN WOMAN & FOUNDER OF BOOST JUICE!



Janine Allis is Founder and Managing Director of Boost Juice Bars – the largest and fastest growing juice and smoothie chain in the Southern Hemisphere. Janine and her team have, in just 8 years, grown the business from one store in Adelaide, South Australia to over 200 stores across 11 countries. Janine’s career has evolved through roles such as media assistant, Camp America leader for Girl Scouts USA, head stewardess on David Bowie’s yacht, cinema manager and publicist.

Janine combines being a loving and attentive mother to her three boys with being a natural, warm, giving and inspiring leader in her business and in the community. Janine motivates the people around her to achieve amazing results.

Boost has won numerous prestigious awards over the years including being inducted into the “My Business” Hall of Fame, ARA Retailer of the Year in 2007 and AMEX Franchisor of the Year in 2005. In 2004 Janine was also recognised as Telstra Australia Business Women of the Year. What an inspirational Australian business woman!

What Janine has to say about Girl Guiding/Girl Scouting...

I worked as a camp leader for the San Francisco Girl Scouts when I was 21 years old. I saw first-hand the positive impact this great organisation has on young girls. What I particularly loved about my experience at Girl Scouts USA was that it did not matter how rich you were, how pretty you were, how smart you were or if you had a disability – it was about learning, participation and teamwork – everyone was encouraged to have a go. I had a great time over that summer.

What Janine has to say about how women can achieve anything...

You should never think of yourself as a gender. We are individuals who can achieve anything we put our minds and efforts to. If we put up barriers and say that we CANNOT achieve something because we are a female, then the only barrier we have is the barrier that we have created ourselves.

What Janine has to say about how business is not only a man’s world ...

Business is about performance. If you work hard, perform well and with integrity, if you know what you want and go for it, then you will achieve your dreams. It is not a man’s world – it is the world we create for ourselves.

Did you know? Walt Disney said “when you wish upon a star your dreams come true”.





1942 - 2007

INTRODUCING... ANITA RODDICK FORMER GIRL GUIDE & FOUNDER OF THE BODY SHOP!

At the age of 34, with no training or experience, Anita Roddick started 'The Body Shop' as a way to support herself and her 2 daughters while her husband was trekking across the Americas. The very first The Body Shop store opened on 26th March 1976 in Brighton, on the south coast of England. By 1978 the first overseas franchise was a kiosk in Brussels and by 1982 new shops opened at a rate of two per month. Now 30 years on The Body Shop is a multi local business with over 2,045 stores and over 77 million customers in 51 different markets in 25 different languages and across 12 time zones.

"Anita Roddick travelled amongst the destitute, the oppressed, the exploited and the condemned, but she never lost hope or stamina because she knew that there was joy and possibility in creating new, imaginative ways to make things better. She knew that doing any small thing to improve a life, to right a wrong, brings joy to those who do, as well as to those who benefit. That's why she laughed all the way to changing the world."

Source: 'I am an activist' www.iamanactivist.org)

ANITA WAS A VERY WISE WOMAN- SHE SAID...

"I don't want to be defined as being the founder of The Body Shop, and I don't want to be defined as a woman suffering from hepatitis C. There's more to my life than that. I want to be defined as an ACTIVIST."

"I am not an activist in pursuit of recognition or fame.

I am not an activist so that strangers will think I am a good person.

I am not an activist because it's good for business although more often than not, it is.

I am an activist because being an activist makes me feel alive."

"Activism is being a voice for the voiceless, standing up for the weak and the frail, engaging the human spirit. It's putting your head above the parapet. Being heard. Being seen. Being counted."

"Being an activist is sexy. Being a voice of dissent, getting informed, finding something in yourself that gets you outraged so you expose the truth and get active is far 'cooler' than worrying about split ends and spots. "

Did you know? Anita passed away in 2007. After her memorial service a special event was held called "I am an activist". At this event a website and booklet was launched so that anyone can carry forward Anita's passion to change the world. Visit www.iamanactivist.org for more details.