



Laura Bates

AUTHOR

Founder of The Everyday Sexism Project and author of *Fix the System, Not the Women*



About:

- **Gender:** Female
- **Nationality:** United Kingdom
- **Languages:** English
- **Travels from:** United Kingdom

Engagement Types:

- Speaking
- TV and Media

Topics:

- DEI (Diversity, Equity & Inclusion)
- Gender Equality
- Health & Wellbeing

Biography Highlights

- Founder of the Everyday Sexism Project, a groundbreaking initiative documenting over 250,000 testimonies of gender inequality worldwide.
- Author of acclaimed books including *Everyday Sexism*, *Girl Up*, and *Fix the System, Not the Women*, and a regular contributor to *The New York Times* and *The Guardian*.
- Awarded a British Empire Medal and recognised globally for her advocacy, speaking for organisations such as Google, UN, WTO, and EY.

Biography

Laura Bates is a best-selling author, keynote speaker and founder of the Everyday Sexism Project, an ever-increasing collection of over 250,000 testimonies of gender inequality. Her books include *Everyday Sexism* (shortlisted for Waterstones Book of the Year), *The Sunday Times* bestseller *Girl Up*, and *Fix the System, Not the Women*. Laura writes regularly for the *New York Times*, *Guardian* and others, and is a frequent media commentator and consultant for TV productions tackling issues around gender inequality.

Laura works closely with politicians, businesses, schools, and organisations, from the Council of Europe to the United Nations, to increase equality and diversity. Her work also covers the ever-increasing business case for addressing subjects of gender inequality and misogyny

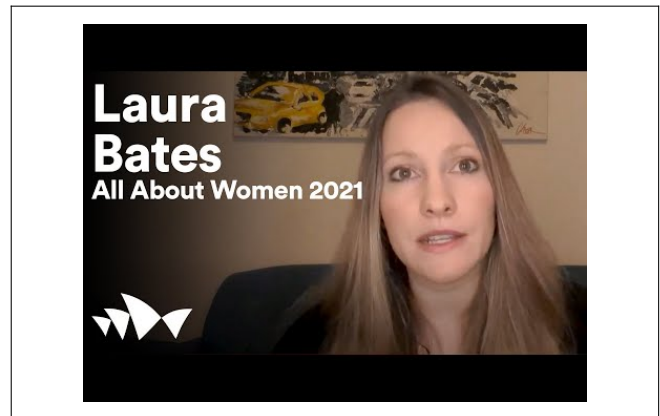
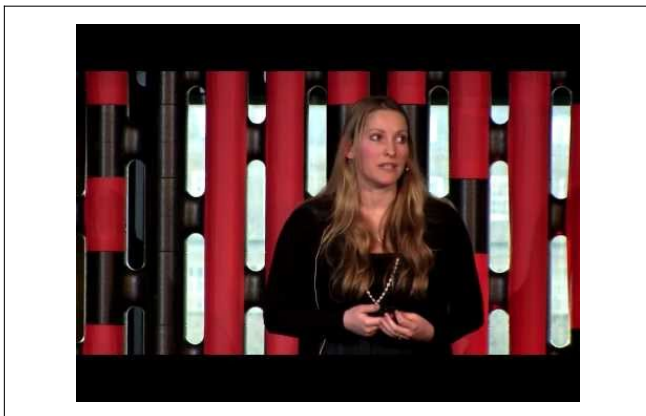
in the workplace (in the knowledge that tackling such issues greatly improves performance and productivity.)

Laura's campaigning alongside other activists has received huge praise and success: including persuading Facebook to change its policies on rape and domestic abuse content, putting sexual consent and healthy relationships on the school curriculum and improving the way in which the British Transport Police respond to incidents of sexual violence. She has been described as one of the leading voices of fourth wave feminism.

In recognition of Laura's work, she was awarded a British Empire Medal in the 2015 Queen's Birthday Honours List, participated in President Obama's White House Summit on the United State of Women and has been named Woman of the Year by Cosmopolitan, Red Magazine and The Sunday Times Magazine. She has also been named on the Woman's Hour Power List and was one of the BBC's inaugural 100 Women. Laura is an Honorary Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature.

As a keynote speaker, Laura has spoken across the globe to some of the world's biggest companies, including Google, the World Trade Organisation, Viacom, Paramount Pictures, EY and UBS.

Videos



Laura's Topics

Workplace Equality

How can organisation leaders and managers navigate a shift to a more equitable workplace? What are some practical tips for managing different scenarios, including 'low-level' workplace sexism, to improve company

culture? Laura explores how workplace inequality can be tackled at every career phase, from recruitment to maternity leave and beyond, and builds the business case for inclusivity: positioning your company to attract and retain talented employees via a progressive culture is a sure-fire way to enhance growth and profitability.

Included in the talk is a contextual framework of the wider picture of gender inequality and an in-depth look at how these issues manifest themselves uniquely within the workplace. Laura delves into the complexity of workplace harassment and discrimination, the ways it intersects with other forms of prejudice such as racism and homophobia and the barriers to reporting. A deeper dive into how gender inequality and discrimination manifest differently in specific spheres – policing, software engineering, finance, law etc – ends with robust and actionable solutions from both an organisational and individual perspective.

Available: In person, Virtually

Allyship in the Workplace

What can men in the workplace, at every level, from junior employees to the C-suite, do to help advance gender equality? Against a broader backdrop of societal inequality, this talk focuses on the importance of allyship, bystander action and a cohesive culture in which all employees play a positive role in improving culture and tackling inequality. Laura explores the ways in which stereotypes and expectations hold us all back and deconstructing some of the myths and misconceptions that might prevent people from becoming part of positive change. An active look at practical, positive action allies can take to shift stereotypes, support survivors and create change in their own sphere.

Available: In person, Virtually

Everyday Sexism at School

Exploring the reality of gender inequality across our society and looking at the ways in which it manifests itself in young peoples' lives, Laura tackles issues such as intersecting injustice, media sexism, political inequality, gender stereotypes and sexual consent. Through examining questions like 'what is sexual harassment?' Laura looks at how young people can play a vital role in creating a more equal future. As well as talks for students, Laura also offers training for teachers and talks for parents.

Available: In person, Virtually

AI and emerging technologies

A thoroughly researched exploration of the potential gendered implications of AI and emerging technologies in the workplace and beyond. We stand on the precipice of an explosion in AI and other emerging tech, leading to a seismic transformation in the online and corporate landscape. It is vital that businesses and leaders are aware of both the positive potential and the risks posed by innovative technologies such as metaverses, deepfake content creation and generative AI. In this talk Laura gives an overview of the potential pitfalls in the use of such technologies, how such mistakes risk embedding existing inequalities in the foundations of future business and society, and how to avoid replicating and exacerbating prejudice while adopting forward-thinking novel approaches. Issues examined include algorithmic bias, the potential benefits and pitfalls of utilising AI within recruitment and promotion processes, the use of virtual spaces for business settings, and the ways in which emerging technologies can best be harnessed to maximise productivity and benefit whilst avoiding unintentional bias.

Available: In person, Virtually

Incels and extremist misogyny

A journey inside the secretive online world of the 'manosphere,' this talk is the result of 2 years of exhaustive undercover research during which Laura infiltrates communities from incels and men's rights activists to pickup artists and 'men going their own way.' A comprehensive overview of this little-understood form of extremism, including close examination of radicalisation and recruitment techniques, particularly impacting vulnerable young people. Laura highlights some of the ways in which teachers, parents and law enforcement can recognise potential red flags and play a positive role in supporting young people who might be at risk.

Laura's research and campaigning played a significant role in the UK government's decision to recategorize extreme misogyny as a form of terrorism. This talk is a hugely insightful deep-dive into a topic that is pertinent for schools and teaching staff, police forces as well as counter-terror bodies.

Available: In person, Virtually

Testimonials

“

Thank you so much for today, it was an amazing message for our school community to hear. Thanks for planning and delivering it so well. The content is so important and for all of us who have been subject to sexism in all its forms. You pitched it perfectly and your mastery when it came to adapting it for the older ones was impressive. The staff room was buzzing and so were our kids.

Mrs Becky Wilcox

Head of PSHEE and Careers
Westbourne School

“

On behalf of the partners of Taylor Wessing LLP I just wanted to say a huge thank you to Laura for presenting at our offices last week. Her presentation was pitched at just the right level and was considered by us all to be a huge success – hard hitting but thoughtful and insightful at the same time. We've had some great feedback from many of the attendees and that is exactly what we were hoping to achieve.

Tandeep Minhas

Partner
Taylor Wessing LLP

“

What an inspirational talk for us! Thank you so much for delivering such an empowering and encouraging message with such clarity, confidence and intelligence. Girls and staff were all raving about it afterwards.

Lucy Elphinstone

Headmistress
Francis Holland School

“

Brilliant, brilliant, brilliant. Thank you so much – by far one of the most engaged audiences we’ve had and I’m not surprised – as someone has said it’s just such a beautifully simple idea it’s delightful to see the fires it’s lit. Really well done.

Elaine Arthur

Account Manager
Ogilvy

“

Many thanks for your fantastic talk at GSS. For many people, yours was the highlight of the conference.

Max Harris

Global Scholars Symposium
Oxford University

“

I have never known such a response to a speaker before. So many staff and pupils have spoken to or emailed me already, saying they think you should come back next year – or next week actually! – as you were the most amazing speaker we’ve ever had and your topic and project are so hugely relevant. I felt as though my eyes had been opened.

Cathy Scott-Burt

Head of Enrichment
Bablake School

“

Your talk was fantastically engaging and debunked so many of the myths we hear and even hold subconsciously as women. My colleagues were still talking about your talk at lunchtime – people left the room very invigorated and spurred to action.

Bethan Chatters

CFO
Allen & Overy LLP

“

Your visit last time was truly inspirational for all. It was a wonderful highlight of the year... a truly fabulous session. If I may say so, there was no finer guest speaker in my nineteen years here.

Simon Etheridge

Bishop
Stortford High School

“

Genuinely had a bit of a cry listening to Laura. Don’t know if it’s just feeling validated and that my own experience isn’t me ‘being dramatic’. But thank you. Incredibly stark and scary but I think that having a talk like this really had a massive impact.

O2 talk

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I have received many positive comments from staff and boys alike about the day and I would like to thank you once again for the tremendous work that you did for us.

Dr Bob Stephenson

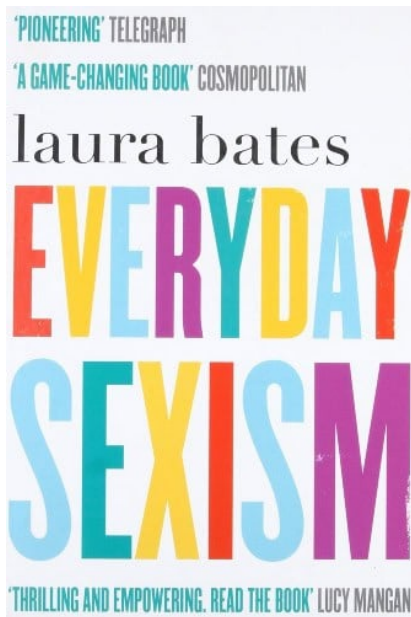
Deputy Headmaster
Eton College

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Laura was an absolutely brilliant speaker — her presentation was accessible, powerful, impeccably researched and evidenced and engaging. It was a masterclass and did a tremendous amount to elevate our event and the dialogues that took place during it.

Organiser
YoungPOWER conference

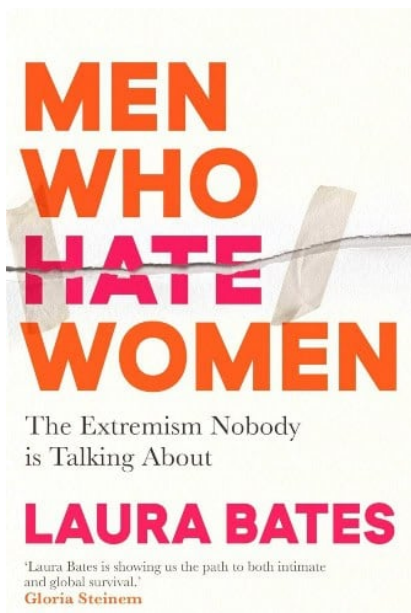
Books



Everyday Sexism

After experiencing a series of escalating sexist incidents, Laura Bates started the everyday sexism project and has gone on to write 'a pioneering analysis of modern day misogyny' (Telegraph). After an astounding response from the wide range of stories that came pouring in from all over the world, the project quickly became one of the biggest social media success stories of the internet. From being harassed and wolf-whistled at on the street, to discrimination in the workplace and serious sexual assault, it is clear that sexism had become normalised. But Bates inspires women to lead a real change and writes this 'extremely powerful book that could, and should, win hearts and minds right across the spectrum' (Financial Times).

[BUY THE BOOK](#)



Men Who Hate Women: From incels to pickup artists, the truth about extreme misogyny and how it affects us all

Imagine a world in which a vast network of incels and other misogynists are able to operate, virtually undetected. These extremists commit deliberate terrorist acts against women. Vulnerable teenage boys are groomed and radicalised. You don't have to imagine that world. You already live in it. Perhaps you didn't know, because we don't like to talk about it. But it's time we start. In this urgent and groundbreaking book, Laura Bates, bestselling author and founder of The Everyday Sexism Project, goes undercover to expose vast misogynist networks and communities. It's a deep dive into the worldwide extremism nobody talks about. Interviews with former members of these groups and the people fighting against them gives unique insights on how this movement operates. Ideas are spread from the darkest corners of the internet - via trolls, media and celebrities - to schools, workplaces and the corridors of power, becoming a part of our collective consciousness. Uncensored, and sometimes both shocking and terrifying - this is the uncomfortable truth about the world we live in. And what we must do to change it.

[BUY THE BOOK](#)



Fix the System, Not the Women

Too often, we blame women. For walking home alone at night. For not demanding a seat at the table. For not overcoming the odds that are stacked against them. This distracts us from the real problem: the failings and biases of a society that was not built for women. In this explosive book, feminist writer and activist Laura Bates exposes the systemic prejudice at the heart of five of our key institutions. Education Politics Media Policing Criminal justice Combining stories with shocking evidence, Fix the System, Not the Women is a blazing examination of sexual injustice and a rallying cry for reform.

[BUY THE BOOK](#)

Speaker Bureaus And Talent Agencies

Laura Bates is available to book via these agencies

✔ Recommended



Speaking Agency

Agent: Michael Levey



Speaking Agency