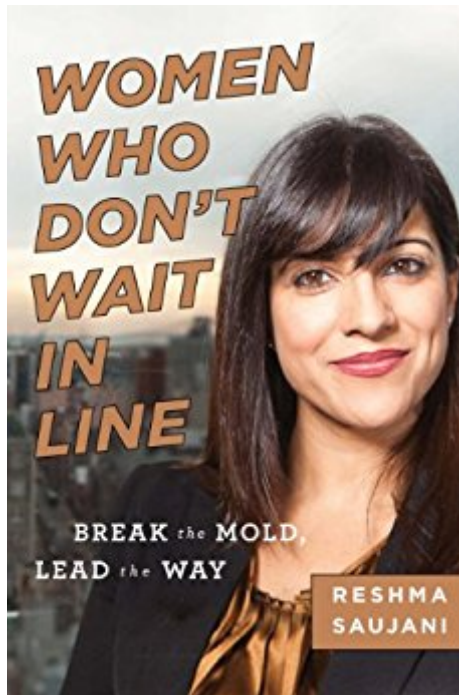


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# Women Who Don't Wait In Line: Break The Mold, Lead The Way



## Synopsis

There's never been a better time to be a woman. We live in an era when girls are told they can do anything. So why aren't we seeing more women rising to the top ranks of corporations and the government? Why don't our girls have more women in leadership roles to look up to? *Women Who Don't Wait in Line* is an urgent wake-up call from politico and activist Reshma Saujani. The former New York City Deputy Public Advocate and founder of the national nonprofit Girls Who Code argues that aversion to risk and failure is the final hurdle holding women back in the workplace. Saujani advocates a new model of female leadership based on sponsorship "where women encourage each other to compete, take risks, embrace failure, and lift each other up personally and professionally. Woven throughout the book are lessons and stories from accomplished women like Susan Lyne, Randi Zuckerberg, Mika Brzezinski, and Anne-Marie Slaughter, who have faced roadblocks and overcome them by forging new paths, being unapologetically ambitious, and never taking no for an answer. Readers are also offered a glimpse into Saujani's personal story, including her immigrant upbringing and the insights she gleaned from running a spirited campaign for U.S. Congress in 2010. Above all else, *Women Who Don't Wait in Line* is an inspiring call from a woman who is still deep in the trenches. Saujani aims to ignite her fellow women and enlist them in remaking America.

## Book Information

File Size: 2855 KB

Print Length: 176 pages

Page Numbers Source ISBN: B00YFUHYPA

Publisher: Publishing; 1 edition (October 8, 2013)

Publication Date: October 8, 2013

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00CLIK6NU

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #70,187 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #16 in Books

> Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Specific Topics > Women in Politics #25 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Business & Money > Women & Business #35 inÂ Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Business & Money > Business Life > Mentoring & Coaching

## Customer Reviews

I really didn't like this book because nothing in it applied to me. Reshma Saujani talks about getting into Yale, and implies that if she can anyone can. However, she attends Harvard while she is repeatedly applying to Yale, something that is out of my reach, and the reach of most others, especially those in my socioeconomic class. The people she uses as examples on how to get ahead are so far removed from my life, that their advice doesn't mean much to me. I didn't find any inspiration in this book, and was annoyed at how often Saujani repeated herself over and over. I don't recommend this book.

I wish I could say how much I liked M's Saujani's "Women Who Don't Wait in Line: Break the Mold, Lead the Way' but I can't. I want to say "M's Saujani, your generation didn't invent feminism, just as my generation didn't invent it..." All the claims about how modern women are doing so much better for the world than the previous generation just doesn't quite cut in for me. Plus M's Saujani's advice seems to be aimed at "professional women", you know doctors, lawyers, that sort of thing. That's all well and good but for the vast majority of women, we don't have those kind of jobs. Women have always worked inside the home and a great many have always worked outside of the home, too. It isn't something Gloria Steinem or the "Rosie the Riveter" invented, it has gone on forever. This book may be helpful to "professional women" but for the "worker bee" women. it's not going to resonate. And to me, it's a failure of the book.

This was better than I expected it to be, but still pretty meh. I enjoyed the tone of the book. Saujani is a good writer, and I appreciated that she shared her story from a perspective of "I failed but learned something." She is humble and interesting, and that much of the book I really liked. As far as the rest of the content goes, however, I think it's lacking. There is a lot of "Yay, women! You are unstoppable!" and then...nothing--in other words, a lot of cheerleading, without much substance to support it or concrete details on how to be successful. As a result, the whole book reads a bit hollow. I zipped through it in a day and walked away feeling like I had read nothing spectacular. Overall, this book was okay, but I wouldn't recommend it to any professional friends of mine.

Whoa. Lean in ladies, lean in. I wanted to love this book, as a self-empowered woman, but instead found it a bit elementary in her constant referral to "girls empowerment" and her over-focus on fiscally driven goals. Is that really what it comes down to? I have reason to believe that the author, hailing from a desolate past and rising from the misfortune, can in fact come up with something a bit less demeaning and a bit more useful. I recommend a pass on this book, but would like to challenge Reshma to try again with less fluff.

While I found *Dare: Straight Talk on Confidence, Courage, and Career for Women in Charge* to be inspiring and challenging, I found *Women Who Don't Wait in Line* to be the opposite. I appreciate Saujani's goals and drive. Her biographical journey is interesting and I appreciate her goal setting, but it is one-sided. She does not have the same balance of doing what you feel is necessary and taking risks, but also appreciating the fact that you don't have to break the mold if you don't want to. She is extremely career focused and money driven. I'm not in that camp of women. I do appreciate the expect more from yourself type of talk and hope that this helps motivate some women, but I don't want it to prevent others from being happy with who they are.

I wanted to read Reshma Saujani's story. She is a young woman with an activist mentality working to change the world. Saujani promotes a new model of leadership focused on sponsorship that encourages women to strive above the glass ceiling, to take risks and learn from failures. I love this idea and work every day to teach that to the students I meet in my classroom. However, this book failed in articulating how to accomplish this task. I wanted so much more. The meat of the book is featured in the first couple of chapters while the rest was fluff. The stories of other talented women are encouraging but again I wanted more. Do yourself a favor – check this out from the library.

The books started off strong, but then it became really repetitive. I felt like the author spent too much time name-dropping, and too little time actually trying to inspire and empower women to make bold moves.

I can't say enough about how much I liked this book! It drew me in because it was so sassy/funny but it slowly involved me in a serious advocacy discussion: for women entrepreneurs. Many great calls to action! For example Kiva.org (I knew, but could do more) Can't wait to try some others too.

This morning I immediately called two younger mentees. I'd been waiting for the right time.

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