

Sylvia Ann Hewlett

CEO, Hewlett Consulting Partners
Founder, Coqual

*Executive presence—the missing link between
merit & success*



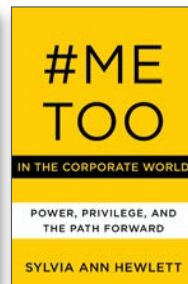
Biography

Sylvia Ann Hewlett is an economist, entrepreneur, and acclaimed author. She is CEO of Hewlett Consulting Partners and the founder of Coqual, a global nonprofit think-tank and advisory group that addresses bias and uncovers barriers to advancement for underrepresented populations in the workplace. Through her signature research style that combines hard data with in-depth interviews, Dr. Hewlett proves that a diverse talent pool unlocks innovation, boosts results, and drives competitive strength. She advises organizations large and small to embrace the “power of difference” and leverage new ideas across gender, age, sexual orientation, race, and culture to lead in an age of inclusion.

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Topics & Books

Leadership
Talent Development
Gender



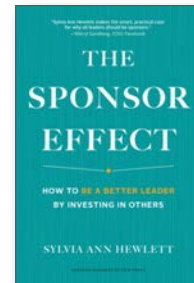
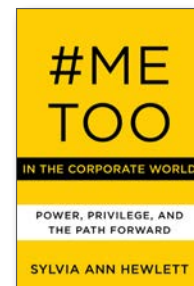
Her current work revisits the concept of executive presence—the research-backed guidance that provides the missing link between merit and success for high performers. Her 2014 book *Executive Presence* was translated into seven languages and became a classic in the field, defining the qualities that convince others of your leadership potential—gravitas, communication, and appearance. In 2023, she released *Executive Presence 2.0*, an updated edition with over 80 pages of new data and new stories that address the changes in EP wrought by Black Lives Matter, #MeToo, and a global pandemic. Hewlett's most potent message, ten years ago and now, is that EP is eminently learnable. To exude the aura of a leader, you merely have to arm yourself with the tools and tactics discovered in her research.

Her 18 critically acclaimed books include *When the Bough Breaks* (winner of the RFK Book Prize), *Forget a Mentor, Find a Sponsor* (an Audible bestseller), and *#MeToo in the Corporate World* (a *Financial Times* business book of the month). She is the author of 21 *Harvard Business Review* articles and the most published author in the magazine's history. She has been recognized as the Most Influential International Thinker by *HR Magazine* and honored by Google with its Global Diversity Award.

Hewlett is a frequent speaker on the international stage. She has presented at Davos, keynoted the *Financial Times* conference on "Women at the Top," and spoken at *The Economist's* "Innovation Summit." She has also been interviewed on *60 Minutes*, *Panorama*, *Oprah*, *Morning Joe*, and *PBS Newshour*—and has been lampooned on *Saturday Night Live*. Her writings have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Financial Times*, and *Vogue*, and she was named a *Glamour* magazine Woman of the Year.

A Kennedy Scholar and a graduate of Cambridge University, Hewlett earned her Ph.D. in economics at London University. She has taught at Cambridge, Columbia, and Princeton universities. She has held fellowships at the Institute for Public Policy Research in London and Harvard's Center for the Study of Values in Public Life.

Hewlett grew up in a Welsh coal-mining village in a family of six girls. She currently lives in New York City with her husband and youngest daughter.



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