STOP FIXING WOMEN — WHY BUILDING FAIRER WORKPLACES IS EVERYONE’S BUSINESS

By Catherine Fox

Catherine Fox, one of Australia’s leading commentators on women and the workforce, set out to analyse why women are blamed for structural sexism and to advocate for an urgent shift. Many of the key areas of gender inequality are framed as women’s problems. Fox explains “Gender equality is not a women’s issue. It’s an economic and societal issue.”

Fox highlights that the demand for flexibility in the workforce is higher than ever, with millennials particularly seeking greater flexibility. Well researched and referenced, Fox details gendered double standards by comparing the hours of housework completed, the portrayal of powerful women who don’t have children and that “Australian women earn on average 18 per cent less than Australian men for reasons largely attributed to their gender.”

Fox shares stories such as Aurizon’s Shared Care Program making a positive impact on the workforce participation of women and, how a number of renowned orchestras, to circumvent gender bias, auditioned musicians behind a screen. Stop Fixing Women is interesting and well written.

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