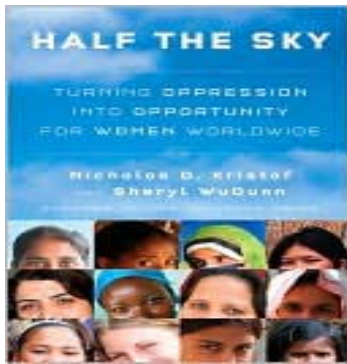


Get informed! Get inspired! Get Involved!



Read "Half the Sky."

Around the world, a total of 1.4 billion people live on less than \$1.25 a day. An additional 1.5 billion people live on less than \$2 a day. Combined, this is almost half of the world's population. The burden of poverty falls disproportionately on women and girls – 60 percent of the poorest people on the planet are female. But when women and girls have the opportunity, they can become powerful catalysts for change in their societies.

"*Half the Sky*" helps us recognize that poverty is not inevitable. It is the product of decisions, practices and beliefs that prevent people, especially women and girls, from reaching their full potential. By working together to empower women and girls, we can change the world and help end poverty.

Half the Sky Discussion and Action Guide

<http://www.care.org/downloads/care-half-the-sky-discussion-guide.pdf>



### **My Sister's Keeper**

*I am my sister's keeper.*

*We are in this together.*

*Not to win*

*Not to compete*

*Not to conquer*

*But to educate*

*To nurture*

*To help.*

*We are each other's keeper.*

*Let us celebrate*

*The power within us all*

*To make the difference*

*To change the world!*

*—Dr. Natasha Josefowitz*

## “New” New York State Project 2010-2012

- Encourage your **book groups** to select one of the many books about the International Book List or **Half the Sky** by **Nicholas B. Kristof & Sheryl WuDunn**.
- Begin each branch meeting with a **quote relating to My Sister’s Keeper**.
- Support initiatives that give women economic power through fair trade items and other like minded initiatives. Help women help themselves by learning about **microfinance** and opportunities through Kiva, Global Giving and others.
- Make the **gift of philanthropy** part of your annual gift giving by cash donations to specific organizations in someone’s honor or gift items made by women that support their economic development.
- Look for a **“mission based movie”** regarding one of the topics relating to My Sister’s Keeper: Sex Trafficking; Women’s Health; Education of Women & Girls and Economic Empowerment and Women’s Rights. Plan a movie night (with popcorn), invite possible coalition partners from your community. Discuss actions you can take individually or as a group and then make a plan.
- Develop a coalition of diverse members in your community to **celebrate UN Day-** October 24<sup>th</sup> and/or **International Women’s Day** – March 8<sup>th</sup> to begin a dialog in support of sisterhood.
- Create a **personal plan** of how you are going to engage in the My Sister’s Keeper philosophy and extend it to your family and friends.

## MY SISTER’S KEEPER

- **Invite Girl Scouts** or other youth groups to make this project intergenerational.
- Visit **the UN in support of UNIFEM** and their initiatives.
- At each branch meeting, **honor a member** who is a living example of My Sister’s Keeper.
- **Design a branch program** or project that engages members in local/national/international women’s issues. Use examples from other branches to get started. This **special event** could be a walk, tea party, bus trip or gala. Explore the **Half the Sky Foundation website** for the amazing possibilities it offers.
- Bring in a large jar to collect change at each meeting. Label it **“Small Change for Big Change.”** At the end of a designated time period, select an organization that empowers women and contribute to it.
- Create a **“Knitting/Crocheting/Quilting for Peace”** group in your community. You might connect with a yarn shop or fabric store. Work together on a project, then have a raffle and support your favorite local, state, national or international women’s initiative.
- **Get into the game of giving!** Commit to making a \$ donation when you engage in your favorite sports activity or card games. If you play on a regular basis, this is an easy and fun way to make a difference.
- **Why Google when you can Goodsearch?** Use Goodsearch as your internet home page and raise money for your favorite non-profit organization. Their motto is “You Search We Give.”