



RAYONA SHARPNACK is the CEO and founder of the [Institute for Gender Partnership](#), which is dedicated to the full partnership of men and women in business, nonprofits and in their personal lives. She is also founder and CEO of the longstanding and widely admired [Institute for Women's Leadership](#).

IWL is renowned for its 25 years of groundbreaking initiatives in leadership and organizational effectiveness throughout the United States, Australia, and Canada.

Drawing from her successful careers in education, professional sports and business, Sharpnack has become an inspirational teacher, coach and mentor for executives in Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, emerging businesses and non-profit organizations.

Sharpnack has been unstoppable in her commitment to pollinate Gender Partnership in Fortune 500 companies and associations across industries.

She has already made significant progress bringing the principles and actions of Gender Partnership to a number of Fortune 100 companies, which are seeing the financial, productivity and innovation benefits of men and women working together in true partnership.

Sharpnack's clients include Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, universities and nonprofits, including Pfizer, Gap Inc., Hertz, Cardinal Health, Teva Pharmaceuticals, Microsoft, Proctor & Gamble, Hewlett-Packard and World Pulse.

Her masterful approach takes complex theoretical concepts and distills them into memorable and easily grasped learning. More than 20,000 women and men – from mid-level managers to C-suite executives – have relied on her to coach them to achieve breakthrough results at work and in their personal lives.

Her pioneering work has earned her numerous awards and appointment as Chairwoman of Leadership Development on the Women's Leadership Board of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Sharpnack has presented her outstanding achievements in advancing women leaders and building high-performance organizations to prestigious institutions and associations such as Harvard University, Stanford Business School, U.C. Berkeley's Hass School of Business, State of the World Forum, the Canadian and Australian Federal Governments, and Leadership America.

National publications, including Fast Company and The New York Times, have showcased her leadership model.

The core of Sharpnack's success is a methodology she calls Contextual Leadership™. This paradigm-shifting approach is detailed in her book *Trade Up: 5 Steps for Redesigning Your Leadership & Life from the Inside Out*. Sharpnack is also a contributing author to the books *Enlightened Power: How Women Are Transforming the Practice of Leadership* and *Goddess Shift: Women Leading for a Change*.

## RAYONA SHARPNACK



"AFTER 25+ YEARS OF ADDRESSING THE BUSINESS CASE FOR ADVANCING WOMEN, I CAN HONESTLY SAY THAT IT IS OUR RESULTS ON IMPROVING A COMPANY'S BUSINESS PERFORMANCE THAT KEEPS CORPORATIONS COMING BACK TO US FOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR WOMEN AND GENDER PARTNERSHIP TRAINING FOR BOTH WOMEN AND MEN. YES, WE HELP OUR CLIENTS WITH RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION, BUT THE PEOPLE AT THE TOP LIE AWAKE AT NIGHT WORRIED ABOUT ISSUES LIKE **COMPETITION, GROWTH VS. COST CONTAINMENT, AND QUALITY VS. SPEED-TO-MARKET TENSION**. WHEN WE CAN SHOW THEM THAT EMPOWERING WOMEN AS LEADERS AND ENGAGING MEN TO ADVANCE WOMEN NOT ONLY ADDRESSES BUT SOLVES THOSE BUSINESS CHALLENGES, THEN THEY ARE WILLING TO INVEST TIME AND MONEY."

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For more on the Institute for Gender Partnership, including its original and engaging programs, please visit [www.genderpartnership.com](http://www.genderpartnership.com)