

THE FULLER PROJECT

IMPACT REPORT
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2020

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The Fuller Project's Jessica Washington (right) spoke to protester Laura Esquivel (left) while covering the 57th March on Washington. Kai Tsehay/The Fuller Project

Historic challenges to the U.S. election process, racial injustice further exposed by police brutality and the pandemic define this year. Through this, The Fuller Project expanded our reporting.

Khushbu Shah joined our newsroom at the start of the coronavirus outbreak, and took the helm as Editor in Chief in August, deepening our reporting with a focus on the stories of women who are most often unheard and undercovered in news.

Our reporters published 70+ stories and reached an estimated 7 million readers this year. We published our journalism on our relaunched webpage and we collaborated with 25+ diverse news outlets, expanding our local and global audiences.

Centered on our journalism, we work with partners by co-reporting, co-editing and co-publishing, bringing award-winning, front-page stories about women to news outlets around the world.

With our partner in East Africa, *Nation*, we published 24 stories, often co-reporting with veteran Kenyan reporters, and we supported the launch of a 16-page print pullout on gender. With *Foreign Policy*, our **Full Story** column covered gender issues around the world.

I welcome you to read about the impact of our journalism in 2020.

With thanks,
Xanthe Scharff | CEO & Cofounder



“This year we centered our newsroom around the challenges facing women both in the U.S. and globally, including racial justice and COVID-19, by offering timely, essential storytelling. We also continued the deep, investigative journalism like you will see in the videos below. Looking towards 2021, we will build on our accountability-driven journalism with an expanded, on-the-ground network of journalists and local partners. We hope this work will bring diverse audiences The Full Story about women and the issues that most affect them.” - Khushbu Shah, Editor in Chief



[Click the thumbnail to play video](#)

New Team Members

This year we were proud to welcome new team members to our newsroom: Katerina Ang (Contributing Editor, Asia), Tiffany Arnold (Sr. Social Media Producer), Amie Ferris-Rotman (interim Global Editor) and Jessica Washington (Reporter).

Kim Abbott (Chief Communications Officer) and Lilian Tan (Chief Operating Officer) joined our leadership team, and Mariyah Espinoza (Communications Associate), Valeria Popolizio (Business and Development Fellow) and Samantha Santhanam (Digital Marketing Associate) joined to support our growth and communications.

MEET OUR TEAM



Impact 2020

Reporting that changed lives, exposed wrong-doing and raised awareness

UNITED STATES ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Our U.S. election coverage revealed the ways that economic and physical insecurity threaten women's right to vote and how Black women led voter mobilization efforts.

Highlights from our newsroom:

Indigenous domestic violence survivors abstain from voting to evade abusers, some of whom don't know about or trust the Address Confidentiality Programs in 39 states.

by contributor Jessica Klein for The Fuller Project and Indian Country Today

Rising evictions could disenfranchise women voters leaving them without a stable address.

by contributors Malcolm Burnley and Rachel Dissel for The Fuller Project, syndicated by West Park Times and ideastream.org and sourced by The Colorado Springs Independent



57th March on Washington (Kai Tsehay/The Fuller Project)

Wanda Mosely of Georgia's Black Voters Matter and many other Black women organizers flipped the state.

by Jessica Washington and Tiffany Arnold for The Guardian

Only one Black female Republican has ever held a seat in the House. Reporting featured **Kathy Barnette, a Black Republican woman** who ran for Pennsylvania's 4th district.

by Malcolm Burnley for Politico

REPORTING USED BY TEACHERS

In *The New York Times*, "Imagine Online School in a Language You Don't Understand" was distributed to students throughout the country via *The New York Times* Learning Network and sparked a robust online discussion. The reporting won a crisis coverage award from **The American Society of Journalists and Authors**. *by contributing editor Rikha Sharma Rani for The New York Times, syndicated in The Chicago Tribune, and featured in Washington Monthly's 'Best of the Week' education newsletter*

WOMEN'S HEALTH DURING A PANDEMIC

We covered the impact of COVID-19 on women's health, exposing the ways in which the crisis exacerbated systemic inequality. Reporting covered issues such as an inadequately addressed mental health crisis in a prison in California, the break in the global condom supply chain, and the impact of U.S. sanctions on nurses in Iran.

Highlights from our newsroom:

Domestic violence hotlines adapted their strategies to help victims with **violence-mitigation tactics** when trapped at home. *by Alisha Haridasani Gupta of The New York Times and contributor Aviva Stahl*

From Nigeria, we reported on the impact of the U.S. elections on **family planning resources**. *by contributor Shola Lawal and Sophia Jones for Foreign Policy*

We profiled **Bonnie Castillo**, head of National Nurses United, the day that she appeared before Congress. Reporting led the *The New York Times* homepage. *by Rikha Sharma Rani*

The pandemic exacerbated the crisis in **Black maternal mortality** in Wisconsin, where Black mothers were dying at five times the rate of white mothers pre-pandemic. *by Jessica Washington for The Fuller Project*

In California, a **homeless delivering mother** was informed that her doula would not be allowed into the hospital and of a new policy for 39-week inductions. Following, Kaiser Permanente released a statement to better explain to patients the reasons for 39-week induction. *by contributor Eileen Guo for The New York Times*

Reporting and Collaboration 2020

70+
STORIES

We reported 70+ stories in collaboration with 25+ publishing outlets and we published 28 editorial newsletters

Our reporting reached an estimated 7M readers

7M
READERS

In Europe, we advised two newsrooms on gender reporting and we are developing additional resources for local and global newsrooms

Our Full Story column with Foreign Policy reveals the distinct and underexplored ways in which U.S. foreign policy impacts women and girls around the world

Our global syndication network is growing, with dozens of global and local outlets drawing on our reporting on women to provide a fuller story to their readership



REPORTING THAT RAISED AWARENESS

After we profiled Iraqi pathologist Lubab al-Quraishi who helps nursing home patients fight COVID-19, the Governor of New Jersey helped to get her temporary medical license extended. Advocacy groups cited the reporting as having raised awareness about licensure barriers. Al Quraishi has spoken widely on the issue, and she penned an open letter to the incoming president.

by contributor Jenna Krajeski for The New York Times

Lubab al-Quraishi is an Iraqi refugee working on the front lines of America's Covid-19 crisis. (Sol Cotti for The New York Times).

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS ON WOMEN

We broke the story of women disproportionately pushed out of employment by the triple burden of childcare, industry lay-offs and lack of protections at work.

We featured a **homeless mother** struggling to find shelter in Los Angeles during COVID-19 and her advocacy for abandoned properties to be used to house families.

Following, activists successfully negotiated with the city to use vacant properties.

by contributor Colleen Hagerty for Marie Claire

In California, the pandemic devastated the **\$3 billion nail industry**. Three out of four manicurists are of Vietnamese descent.

by contributor Erica Hellerstein for San Francisco Chronicle

DATA REPORTING THAT ENSURED NATIONAL CONVERSATION

With exclusive statistics from 17 states, we reported that **women were the majority of unemployment seekers**. A dozen news outlets cited the reporting, ensuring recognition of the "Shecession" weeks before federal data releases. Two states began to release weekly unemployment statistics disaggregated by gender.

Data reporting led by contributor Sarah Ryley. Reporting by Jessica Washington and Xanthe Scharff

COVID'S IMPACT ON CHILDCARE FOR UNDERSERVED FAMILIES IN THE U.S. AND CHILDCARE WORKERS

This seven-part series provided a 360-degree view of the fractures in the fragile childcare system and the impact on childcare providers, rural women and essential workers.



Stephanie Geneseo with Maxwell, 2, at All Nestled Inn, her child care center in Chesapeake, Ohio. (Rachel Dissell/The Fuller Project)

Highlights from our newsroom:

Together with the *Los Angeles Times*, we reported on **California's child care** providers with data showing that over 9000 centers in the state had permanently or temporarily closed. The article was an Apple News top story and was read by over 500,000.

by Rikha Sharma Rani for LA Times, syndicated by Yahoo News, mentioned in Politico CA Playbook

Many American farm workers have been forced to take their children to work, and advocates say children as young as eight have been seen working in the fields. Our article led *The Washington Post's* "Most Read." Several members of Congress, Alianza Nacional de Campesinas, Farmworker Justice, Farm Policy and others cited and circulated the reporting.

by contributor Erica Hellerstein

Women were more likely to drop out of the workforce as federal aid and protections expire. Our data-informed reporting done in collaboration with Reuters was syndicated by 25 newsrooms.

by contributor Rachel Dissell and Jonnelle Marte of Reuters

Compounding factors place **Black child care providers** at risk in Pennsylvania. Providers struggle to stay open with revenue tied to state-run childcare subsidies.

by Malcolm Burnley for The Fuller Project

Donate today to support groundbreaking reporting on women.

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REPORTING THAT HALTED LIFE-THREATENING CONDITIONS

In Saudi Arabia, we reported on global migrant domestic workers who were kicked out of employers' homes during COVID-19 and detained unlawfully without regular access to food and water. The reporting, which was published on the front page of *The New York Times* International Edition, led to a raid on the agency and the women were repatriated. *by Louise Donovan and New York Times' Ben Hubbard for The New York Times. This reporting was part of a seven-part series on global migration published by Nation, TIME, and The Telegraph*

INVESTIGATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

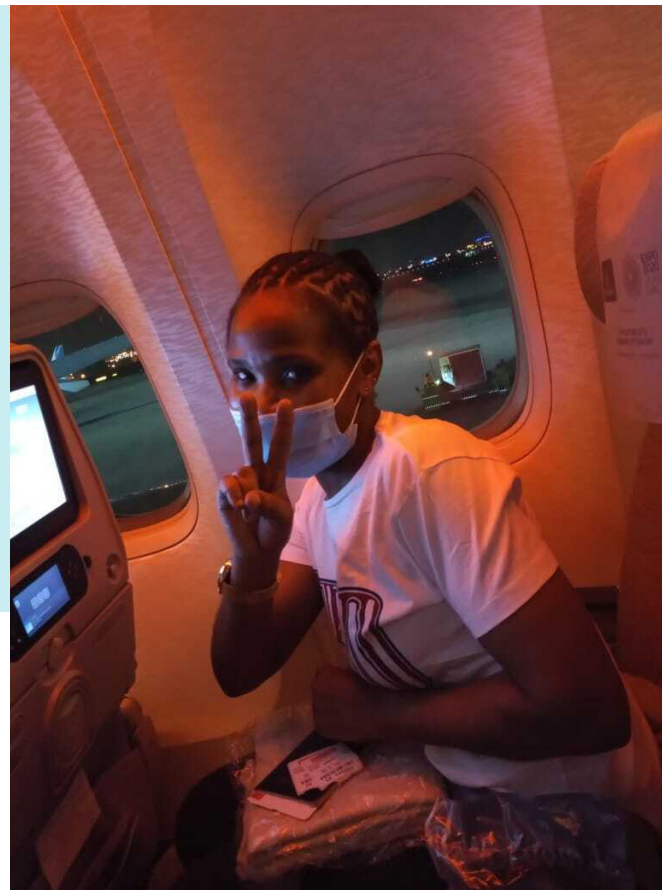
Our reporting influenced U.S. policy on trafficking, broke news about the rise of sexually abusive photos of children online, and exposed U.S. spending to defend a service member charged with murder.

We reported on timely new data from U.N. Women & the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) showing how COVID-19 has affected trafficking survivors and anti-trafficking organizations. The OSCE shared the reporting in their newsletter, and reporting was syndicated by PBS and highlighted by *Fortune's* Broadsheet.

by Corinne Redfern for The Fuller Project

We broke the news that the U.S. military spent \$500K defending a U.S. Marine who murdered a trans woman in the Philippines. *The New York Times* featured the piece in its Morning Briefing Newsletter.

by Corinne Redfern for New York Times Magazine



Apisaki, one of the women who had been detained in Saudi Arabia, on her repatriation flight back to Kenya (Courtesy of Apisaki).

Our series in *The Telegraph*, on PBS NewsHour, and for *The Fuller Project* exposed widespread ramifications and causes of increased sexually abusive posts of children and a 200 percent increase in online posts.

by Louise Donovan and Corinne Redfern

In Nigeria, estranged trafficking survivors struggle to return home during the pandemic with little help from the government. This reporting was syndicated in Spanish by *El País*. This reporting was syndicated in Spanish by *El País* by Kenya's *Nation*, Nigeria's *Premium Times*, and eight other outlets and was sourced by the Council on Foreign Relations



HOW TO DONATE:

The Fuller Project is an independent nonprofit journalism organization (501c3). We are funded through the philanthropic support of foundations and individuals. Your support brings us closer to a world where women's voices are fully represented in the news. Donate now to support our mission: securely through our website www.fullerproject.org or send a check made out to Fuller Project for International Reporting to 1875 Connecticut Ave, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20009.