

THE FULLER PROJECT

**THE FULLER PROJECT IS THE GLOBAL NEWSROOM
DEDICATED TO GROUNDBREAKING REPORTING
THAT CATALYZES POSITIVE CHANGE FOR WOMEN.**

Since we launched in 2015, our reporting has influenced new legislation, helped end life-threatening practices, and led to large scale releases of public data.

We report exclusive stories centered on women that otherwise would not be told. Our long-standing focus on women, especially those facing racial or other forms of bias, leads to journalism that by challenging conventional thinking inspires action.

Our journalists spotlight critical issues and expose injustice with in-depth reporting published in renowned news outlets such as *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and *Foreign Policy*, and inside the largest and most respected newsrooms around the world from Afghanistan to India to Kenya. Partnering with legacy news outlets ensures our rigorous reporting reaches the broadest global audiences.

Our reporting is relied on by policymakers, corporate leaders, influencers and individuals across the globe, leading to better outcomes for women and their communities. As women's standing in society improves, so does the potential for stronger democracies, and economic and political stability. A single authoritative story about women can create awareness to spark change.



XANTHE SCHARFF, PhD

Dr. Scharff is the CEO and Cofounder of The Fuller Project. Under her leadership, The Fuller Project has evolved from a grassroots start-up to the global newsroom dedicated to reporting on women and publishing with leading outlets. Her own reporting has been featured in *Newsweek*, *Foreign Affairs*, *Foreign Policy* and beyond. Prior to founding The Fuller Project, Scharff founded Advancing Girls' Education in Africa and served as Associate Director of the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution. She was an Education Pioneers Fellow and a Peace Scholar at the United States Institute of Peace, and has worked with Arabella Advisors, The World Bank, United Nations, CARE, and Save the Children.



EVA RODRIGUEZ

Eva Rodriguez is the award-winning editor-in-chief of The Fuller Project, focused on global coverage to raise awareness of the myriad of important, interconnected issues impacting women and girls, and spark action through storytelling. Eva was previously deputy foreign editor at *The Washington Post*, overseeing coverage of Ukraine, Afghanistan and the global Covid-19 pandemic, among other global news stories. Eva was a lead editor of the "Losing Control" series that won a 2021 Overseas Press Club Award that judges praised as revealing "the shocking truths of how pervasive corruption and violence had become" in Mexico. Her career has also included *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Politico*, and the *Miami Herald*.

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IMPACT



Following our exclusive investigation with The New York Times into migrant domestic workers held against their will by an abusive employment agency without regular access to food and water in Saudi Arabia, officials raided the agency and repatriated the women to their home countries. We were told [that our reporting saved their lives](#).

When we [revealed widespread abuse in a Lesotho garment factory that supplies Kate Hudson's Fabletics brand](#), the company took responsibility, appointed a human rights organization to monitor staff, and fired the perpetrators.



Following our investigation into [sham virginity testing](#) in the US and countries around the world, New York and California lawmakers introduced new legislation to ban the practice and the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology issued a statement confirming that virginity testing has no medical basis. Officials in Angeles City, Philippines reported that they stopped hymen exams in government clinics, which sex traffickers had been using to label women and girls being auctioned for sex. Other news outlets directly sourced our investigation in 40+ articles in the following months.

Our exclusive TIME magazine cover story about [waitresses making as little as \\$2.83/hour in Philadelphia](#) fueled subsequent changes to the law governing the minimum wage. The article sparked widespread national media coverage and commentary from US Senators Cory Booker and Claire McCaskill, and Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf, who made the wage hike a central issue in his administration. An independent regulatory review commission and the Pennsylvania Attorney General approved the governor's proposal to increase the minimum wage for tipped workers in 2022.



At the start of the COVID crisis, our exclusive data reporting from 17 states showed that [women were the majority of unemployment seekers](#), revealing this trend three weeks before the federal government. Over a dozen news outlets sourced our data, driving national headlines and awareness among the lawmakers who were allocating trillions of dollars of aid. The relief package that resulted included provisions to address caregiving, a known driver of women's unemployment. Our reporting also prompted two states to publicly release gender disaggregated unemployment claims data to more robustly inform policy discussions.

Our reporting on COVID's threat to the [maternal health system](#) was cited in a [letter](#) by Senators Booker, Gillibrand, Harris and others to make the case that maternal health be included in a 2020 COVID stimulus package. Congress then approved increased levels of maternal health funding amid the relief package.



After [our story about the U.S. Border Patrol deporting immigrant mothers days after giving birth](#) without access to their children's birth certificates, President Biden issued new guidance to stop this illegal practice. Officials then paroled eleven mothers back into the US.

Following our profile of a homeless mother struggling to find shelter for her two children during COVID, advocates in LA successfully negotiated with the city to allow [homeless families](#) to use vacant properties.