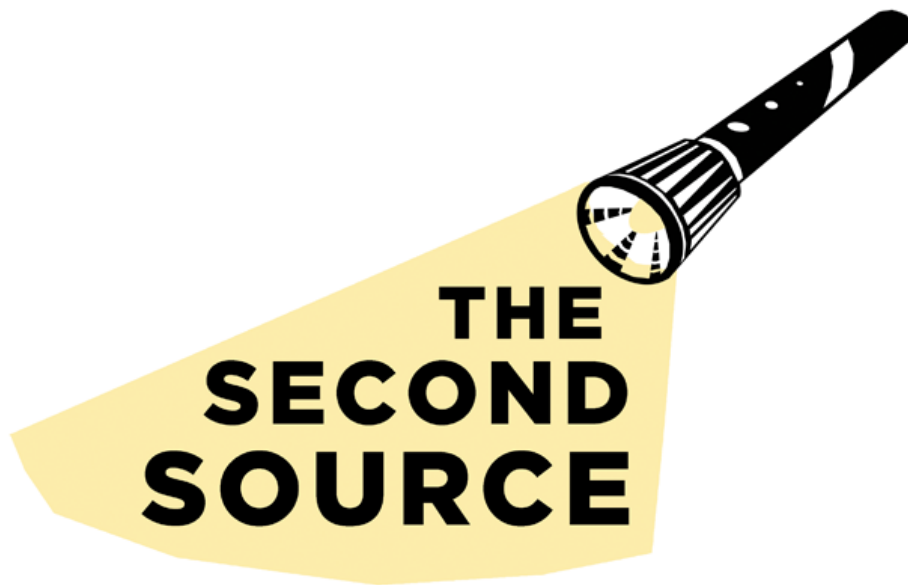


Introducing The Second Source



@the2ndsource

www.thesecondsource.co.uk [Live from 11pm]

The Second Source is a new group formed by women journalists to tackle harassment in our industry.

Over the past few weeks, women have shone a light on sexual harassment at all levels.

Set up by leading commenters, editors and broadcasters, The Second Source seeks to promote awareness, inform people of their rights, and work with companies to create change.

We aim to get organisations committed to tackling sexual harassment by examining their policies, improving them through consultation or pledging to meet an agreed standard.

With the knowledge that much harassment relates to insecure work in an industry that remains male-dominated, it will also act as an alternative professional network for young women, with mentoring and events planned.

We're not here to name names—we're here to create a better future for everyone in journalism.

With cross-party political support and women from a range of titles, we're ready to make a difference.

Rosamund Urwin said, "It was after reading a piece by my fellow journalist Emily Reynolds about sexual harassment she had suffered that I realised that unless we act, nothing will

change. It will happen to the 23-year-old of tomorrow, as it once happened to me and happened to Emily.”

Emily Reynolds, who is a freelance writer and author, said, “When I published the post about my experiences of harassment, I was frightened it would leave me isolated and it risk. It was quite the opposite. I was inundated with messages of support and solidarity from other journalists, many of whom had had similar experiences to me as a young woman in insecure work.

“Half of British women have been sexually harassed at work, according to a BBC Survey last month,” said **Louise Ridley**, who is News Editor, Longform and Special Projects at BuzzFeed UK.

“This can’t go on. We’re excited to come together to do something to support journalists who have experienced harassment, and anyone in media who is concerned about it. We hope we’ll be joined by lots of others to use our talents to make a positive change.”

Megha Mohan, senior broadcast journalist, added, “As journalists we’re meant to hold people to account, yet there’s often an uncomfortable culture of silence when it comes to bullying and harassment in our profession.”

Urwin said, “This isn’t—as some have bizarrely framed it—a ‘witch hunt.’ What we want is cultural change in our industry—and we hope this call will spread beyond the media to other workplaces too.”

Reynolds agreed: “Sexual harassment and assault must be rooted out of every industry. We’re starting with ours.”

Liberal Democrat MP **Jo Swinson** praised the campaign, saying, “I’m delighted to support the women journalists creating The Second Source to campaign for changes in the media industry.”

“For all the justified media outrage about sexual harassment in other workplaces, the media must recognize it needs to act on its own harassment problem too.”

Caroline Lucas MP says, “No one should have to suffer harassment at work—it’s great to see women working together to change behaviour and attitudes in this male-dominated industry.”

Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, says “The harassment some women journalists have faced is appalling—and it is the responsibility of all of us to challenge it and call it out. This needs to be a turning point.”

"I strongly support the women journalists who have come together to create The Second Source. We must do everything we can to ensure women are able to speak out and have their concerns properly investigated."

Who we are

Rosamund Urwin / Kirstie Brewer / Barbara Speed / Louise Ridley / Victoria Richards / Sandra Glab / Johanna Thomas-Corr / Stephanie Boland / Jasmine Andersson / Jem Collins / Jessica Elgot / Emily Reynolds / Aamna Mohdin / Megha Mohan / Tara Mulholland / Julia Macfarlane / Holly Watt / Dipal Acharya / Hannah Riding / Robyn Vinter

Contact

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We have journalists available to write about the organisation or appear on your programme. Please get in touch via the address above.