

Facing the Doubters -



blog #19

“When they say... “You can’t” or “No one will ever take you seriously,” ... I always demand to know Why!!! There’s usually no response.”

As a woman of color, I have heard this most of my life, but never owned other people’s stories with incorrect research. While this is a major reason why I stay driven and focused on my goals and desired outcomes, I can tell you that some days are difficult to get through. But the difference is I was raised by a woman who did not know failure. And she also taught me that my talents are no less than the next person. My mother like many of my peers was often times in that lonely category of being the “first one”. So she was always dealing with doubters. The great part about her journey is that she had tenacity and eventually won over her doubters who became her biggest champions. The lesson I learned from watching her was to keep my head up and make sure that I am prepared. Lessons well learned.

I also learned that as women in leadership, we have to learn to support each other. Remember there is strength in numbers. Many of my doubters are other women. Most of whom were not at the same level of achievement. So... how do we handle the doubters? We lead by example... of course. Graciously invite the doubters to step aside so that you can show them how success is attained. Don’t forget to thank them for their advice and support. They do not realize that while exposing some perceived shortcomings, they have assisted you in closing them.

“Momma always taught me to say Thank you when someone does something “nice” for you.”