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**Dear Gloria,**

I hope you're enjoying the holiday week.

### **Year End Check**

This time of year, during the interregnum between Christmas and New Year, I like to do a year end check.

Do you do that too? If so, what's your technique?

I start by telling myself I'm going to clean off my desk so that I'll start the new year with a clean slate.

Now, understand that people say I have a "piling system" rather than a nice, neat filing system. I say they simply don't understand the gratification I get by sorting through the accumulated piles. As I look through the papers, clippings, and scribbled notes, I get to relive the old year's highlights. And a plan for the new year ahead always seems to emerge.

It's amazing how many things I once thought were of the utmost importance can be chucked into the round file. Still, I rarely get all of what's left neatly filed away, because my life seems to involve projects that don't respect calendar boundaries. And that's perfectly OK with me. **Carpe the chaos, and all that.**



Here's another kind of year-end check that's equally important.

**Buy the Book**



**Connect!**



**Contact Gloria to Speak to your group**

**on Women, Power, and Leadership.**

Want more information?

**Download it here**

**March is Women's History Month!**

**NEW Topics**

**"Know Your History, Create the Future of Your Choice"**

**"Margaret Sanger's 8 Leadership Lessons for Today"**

**"Have We Broken the Glass Ceiling Yet?"**

We're all feeling tightened belts this year, and at least in my case, it isn't due to weight loss.

But if you have the inclination to write some year-end checks and are considering where they might do the most good, I'll share some ideas with you.

There are many worthy local organizations that do the essential work of providing direct social and health services, so it goes without saying that they need our support. After that, I feel that education and media justice in today's world are of great importance.

Even a small gift to a scholarship fund, when added to those of others, can make a big difference. To foster feminist leaders of the future, my husband and I are creating a scholarship at Arizona State University's Women and Gender Studies Department. We used to sponsor a lecture there each year, but we feel that now it's more important to help a worthy student stay in school.

The media forms us as it informs us, and in today's hyper-mediated world, women are still less than 20% of talking heads on the Sunday television political shows; the depictions of women throughout the media are often either sexist or sexualized. I'm writing checks to these organizations on whose boards I'm privileged to sit because they are working to make sure women get a fair shake in the media, and that women's stories are told:

### [The Women's Media Center](#)

### [The Jewish Women's Archive](#)

Other terrific women's media organizations that I participate in are [WAM! Women Action Media](#) and [WIMN \(Women in Media and News\)](#).

If you want more ideas for where to write those year-end checks, *The Nation's* inimitable columnist Katha Pollitt made her [list of 10 recommendations](#).

She includes some of my favorites, such as [Hollaback!](#) that fights street harassment so creatively and any abortion fund in your neck of the woods--find them [here](#).

No doubt each of you has your own list of charities that touch your heart. Whatever groups you choose to contribute to, this is a great year for us to kick in a little extra when we can.

No one can do everything, but everyone can do something.

It feels good to start the New Year with the desk a little cleaner, the pocketbook a little lighter, and the heart a lot fuller.

## [New Year Wish](#)

### **What people say:**

*"Empower your invaluable women knowledge workers by hiring No Excuses author Gloria Feldt to speak to your executives, Board members, and high-performing women."*

~ Victoria Pynchon, principal-She Negotiates, attorney-mediator-arbitrator

*"Gloria's not only a wonderful speaker who connects with students, faculty, and staff, but she's also easy to work with and fun to be with."*

~ Brenda Bethman, Ph.D., Director UMKC Women's Center, Acting Director Women's and Gender Studies

## **2012 Events**

### **Preview:**

**Check latest [event updates and details here](#).**

**\*January date tbd  
[Digististas](#): 7-9pm, 9 Ways Power Tools Workshop, Fenton office NYC**

**\*March 1:  
*No Excuses***

What do you wish for the women of the world?

[@UN Women](#) tweeted that question and I can't stop thinking about it. I tweeted back "economic and reproductive justice." What's your wish? I invite you to post about it [here](#).

My sister once sent me this message. I love it:

*Happy Chanukah knishes,  
Winter Solstice wishes  
Merry Christmas cheer  
And a brave new year.*

(It needs another line recognizing Kwanzaa. I'll send a signed copy of **No Excuses** to the first person who writes one into the cadence of the message. E-mail it to me [here](#).)

My New Year wish for you and your loved ones is all of the above and so much more.

**May you flourish in 2012, and may your new year be abundant with health, prosperity, and happiness.**

Power to you!



**Gloria**

Visit: [My website](#), [9 Ways Blog](#),  
and [Heartfeldt Blog](#)

Read: [Excerpts](#) from the book

Invite me to [speak to your group](#)

Order: [your copy](#) of *No Excuses*

Connect:



**paperback  
release!**

**\*March 7:  
Association of  
Junior Leagues  
International  
Webinar "*No  
Excuses*  
Leadership Lessons"**

**\*March 8:  
International  
Women's Day.  
St Louis MO  
[Left Bank Books](#)  
book talk and  
signing, 7pm  
321 N 10th St  
LBB Downtown**

**\*March 10-11:  
See Jane Do  
[Passion Into Action](#)  
No Excuses Power  
Tools workshop  
and Power  
Breakfast keynote,  
Grass  
Valley CA**

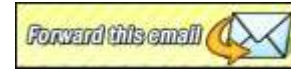
**\*March 28:  
ASU Hillel, time tbd,  
keynote and panel,  
"Women's Power  
and Possibilities:  
Implications for  
Women, Men and  
Relationships"  
Tempe AZ.**

**\*April 19: She  
Negotiates \$10  
Buck Talk, online**

**\*April 27-28, *No  
Excuses* workshop  
and reception/  
keynote for  
women leaders, San  
Jose, Costa Rica - I  
am so excited.**

**\*May 16:  
Hadassah Nassau  
Region Annual**

**Conference Keynote,  
Long Island  
Marriott, Uniondale  
11:15 am,  
"Is There Still a  
Glass Ceiling?"**



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