PDXbizwomen DR. CAROL PARKER WALSH

MEMBER PROFIL



CEO, CAROL PARKER WALSH CONSULTING GROUP, LLC

My work today as the founder and CEO of an executive leadership consultancy was shaped by two decades in law, HR, academic leadership, and organizational development. Grounded in a deep understanding of human development and organizational culture from my doctoral studies, I was uniquely prepared ten years ago to launch a consulting firm dedicated to authentic leadership and innovation. Specifically, we serve as strategic partners with organizations ready to advance their emerging and senior leaders through leadership development and by fostering high-trust cultures that drive engagement and innovation.

As a woman in positions of power, I faced challenges reconciling societal expectations with authentic leadership. I overcame these by remaining resilient and committed to my vision, using my identity and experiences to redefine leadership paradigms. It's not about fitting in but authentically belonging, which was the focus of mv TEDx Talk.

Continuous learning and the willingness to grow and change are essential to me, as embodied by one of my favorite F. Scott Fitzgerald quotes, "For what it's worth ... it's never too late....to be whoever you want to be. There's no time limit....I hope you live a life you're proud of, and if you're not, I hope you have the courage to start all over again." This quote has inspired my transformative spirit, encouraging me to start my firm.

Throughout my career, I've aimed to empower and mentor others, sharing insights and strategies for navigating complex professional landscapes. My work has always been about more than achieving personal success; it's about creating pathways for others, especially women, to realize their leadership potential. The distinctive toolkit I've developed through the years has been recognized locally and nationally, which has earned me multiple awards that I'm pretty proud of. It comes from my refusal to allow others to limit what's possible for me.

As Brene Brown said, "There are a million cheap seats in the world today filled with people who will never be brave with their own lives but will spend every ounce of energy they have hurling advice and judgment at those of us trying to dare greatly." So be careful about well-meaning advice from people who are, as she said, outside of the arena.

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