

L o r i e A . B r o w n

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Leadership Is Service

As a registered nurse, Lorie Brown cared for her patients. Now, as an attorney, she cares for her clients, including her attorney clients. As a mother of three children, she cares for her children. Caring is a way of life for Lorie, whether it be the community, city, state or the world.

As she approaches a big birthday (she won't tell you which one, but will give you a clue: she is slightly older than half a century), Lorie decided to give back to the world in a big way.

Almost two years ago, Lorie went to hear an international speaker and best-selling author, Cynthia Kersey, who spoke on the topic of giving. Lorie said she honestly wasn't very interested in the topic. What she, nevertheless, learned is you can't be living a passionate life of generosity without it permeating every area of your life. Lorie heard that "Giving is truly the most potent force on the planet, and we've all experienced the shear joy we feel when we're giving to someone else."

Despite that fact, Lorie acknowledged that, for various reasons, "all of us have times when we feel like maybe we'll give later – maybe sometime in the future, perhaps when our business turns around, or when we settle a case, or when we have more savings in the bank, or when we have more time."

Lorie listened to the speaker tell everyone she managed to build over 100 homes in Nepal after she started working with Habitat for Humanity at a low point in her life, when she was going through a difficult divorce, devastated and didn't know what she was going to do. Lorie listened even more intently as Cynthia Kersey further related her experience at a women's leadership conference in Africa where all the women had one thing in common: they all wanted an education for their children. At that conference, Kersey learned that 120-million children had never stepped into a classroom. Lorie said this was hard for her to imagine because everyone in our country has a right to a free and appropriate education.

Kersey then told the audience about her experience in Kenya at a rural African women's conference where they dealt with issues, such as how to get clean water, how to feed children in times of drought, how to prevent and get treatment for malaria and HIV. She revealed that the number one dream all these women shared was how to get their children an education.

Lorie learned that it was miraculous that any of these women

could attend the conference because their days were spent hauling water and firewood several miles just to keep their families alive. These women knew that, without an education, these children would have no future.

Because of the conference, Kersey explained she went on to dedicate her life to helping these women and children, and realized that educating our planet's children was the best way to eliminate poverty. She realized that we have the ability to change the course of human history right now.

Kersey showed pictures to the audience, including one of children lying on the schoolhouse's dirt floor because they couldn't stand without fainting--it was Thursday and they had not eaten since Monday. The children could not learn without getting nutrition and hydration to nourish their brains so they could have the energy to learn.

Lorie was so touched and inspired by Kersey's story that she chose to celebrate her birthday by raising money to build a school in Africa! Lorie explained that if this type of undertaking were to be done in the United States, the cost would be exorbitant. However, Lorie found out it would only cost twenty-five-thousand-dollars (\$25,000.00) to build a school in Africa that would affect the lives of hundreds, if not thousands of children. As a result, Lorie is raising money to support unstoppablefoundation.org/Loriesbirthday to build a school in Africa. Holding the vision that every child on the planet deserves an education, Lorie asks people just like you to join her. And many of you have. As a result, in the last three years this foundation has been able to raise enough money to fund 17 primary schools, 1 secondary school for girls, 1 early childhood training center in Liberia that supports 10,000 students per year, 10 water and sanitation projects, training for over 1,000 moms and 400 dads about how to generate an income to support their families, 66 scholarships for women to attend vocational school, and provide 5,000 community members much needed access to healthcare. As of today, unstoppablefoundation.org has built schools in three countries, including two dormitories and twenty-six school houses providing education for almost four-thousand children per day.

Lorie said that, as a mother of three children, education is the most important priority she sets for them. She knows that a good education will make a difference for her children in their future, just as her law degree did for her.

Lorie is proud to be raising funds on behalf of the founda-

tion. She expressed her motivation to help others, saying:

I am grateful to be living here, enjoying the freedom we have and having the ability to create the type of life that we all can have in this country. If we help children in other countries, they too will get the same opportunities. It will create a ripple effect throughout the world, improving the quality of life around the planet.

It's easy for us to sit behind a desk, work on our cases or go to the courtroom and advocate for our clients. But there are so many bigger issues and problems to consider. As attorneys, we can help one client individually and maybe our country through the laws, but here is an idea where we can possibly help the entire planet.



Lorie A. Brown graduated from Indiana University school of nursing with a BSN in 1982. She then attended the University of California at Los Angeles school of nursing and obtained a master's degree. She actively practiced nursing for twelve years in various areas such as medical-surgical nursing, gynecology, urology, neurosurgery, orthopedics, general surgery and home health

care. Ms. Brown then attended Indiana University school of law and obtained her J.D. in 1990.

After law school, Ms. Brown was employed at the Department of Insurance defending the interests of the Patient's Compensation Fund. For the next six years, Ms. Brown defended physicians and hospitals for medical malpractice. Ms. Brown is now the proprietor of Brown Law Office, PC and now focuses her practice on assisting plaintiff attorneys with medical issues in their cases. Because of her defense experience, she looks at cases with a critical eye. She pre-screens cases for merit, performs medical research and finds medical experts so attorneys have everything they need to be successful with their cases.

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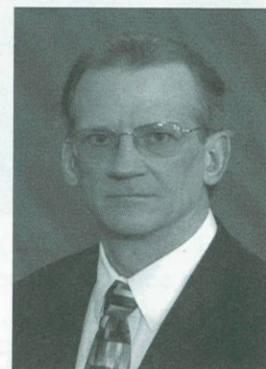
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