

Jackie Acho

The Currency of Empathy®
An Antidote to Our Empathy Deficit

biography



Jackie Acho is President of **The Acho Group**, a strategy and leadership consulting firm. Prior to founding The Acho Group in 2005, she was a Partner of McKinsey & Company. She has worked for technology, industrial, academic, nonprofit, and economic development clients on a variety of issues, with particular focus on growth and innovation, strategy, and leadership development for 25 years. Current work includes empathy-centered cultural transformation with the Cleveland Police.

Jackie received her master's degree and Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and a B.S. in chemistry with highest honors from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Jackie was named one of the **"Top 40 under 40"** by Crain's Cleveland Business Magazine and **"one of the 500 most influential women in Northeast Ohio"** by Northern Ohio Live magazine. She was member of the Leadership Cleveland Class of 2012 and a YWCA Wisdom Circles Mentor. Jackie has served on the Boards of The National Inventors Hall of Fame, The Urban League of Greater Cleveland, Jumpstart, Inc., Entrepreneur's EDGE, the Technology Commercialization Steering Committee of Case Western Reserve University, the Wright Center for Sensor Systems, and the Advisory Boards of the Northeast Ohio Technology Council, the Generation Foundation, and Industrial Transport. Jackie was also a member of the Cleveland Forward Cities Council, including the Aspen Institute.

Jackie has taught "Finance in the Real World" in the Masters of Finance Program at Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management, where she continues to be a guest speaker on topics including: leadership, strategy, and innovation. Jackie is a featured speaker in the Massively Open Online Course (MOOC) Beyond Silicon Valley: Growing Entrepreneurship in Transitioning Economies.

Jackie and her colleagues write about how leaders can create an organizational **Currency of Empathy®** at CurrencyOfEmpathy.com and have a proprietary **Currency of Empathy®/Culture of Innovation®** diagnostic to help leaders and organizations recover their humanity and entrepreneurial spirit. In October 2014, she gave the **TEDx talk: A Good Day's Work Requires Empathy**. Jackie served as a TEDx coach in 2015 and was on the Lead Speaker Curation team for 2016 TEDxCSU. She recently published the book, *Currency of Empathy: The Secret to Thriving in Business & Life*.





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speaking
events

Book Jackie as a Keynote Speaker for Your Event

Empathy is your superpower, and Jackie loves sharing this good news with people. Once you understand how our usual way of working and living saps empathy, including yours, you will not be able to unsee it. You will also know that you can do something to change it, and that change will make a better world for everyone, including you.

The gem of empathy has many facets and helps resolve longstanding, seemingly intractable issues. In a variety of talks, Jackie turns it over to reveal fresh, honest answers about vexing issues such as why we don't have more **women in leadership**, why **innovation is elusive**, how to **achieve real inclusion**, and the key to **transforming our culture**. Her ideas change minds and hearts, unleashing people to do what they do best. Empathy is the river that runs through it all.

Jackie has been engaged by various organizations as a **Keynote Speaker, Coach**, facilitating **panel discussions, leading conversations** about her book, *Currency of Empathy*, and exploring **spirituality and empathy** with audiences.



to book Jackie for your upcoming event



to see Jackie in action and connecting with audiences





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speaking
topics

Jackie's Areas of Expertise

Women in Leadership

Jackie has been speaking on “women in leadership” since she was a partner in the global management consulting firm with a corner office. People continue to wonder why, more than 50 years after the second wave of the feminist revolution, we still do not have more women in leadership. Jackie brings a fresh, honest perspective to this well-worn issue.



***What It's Really Going to Take to Get More Women in Leadership and (Why Men Should Care)
Forget Leaning In; Change the System
Empathy is Your Superpower***

Innovation and Inclusion/Diversity

Jackie has helped for-profit and nonprofit clients grow and innovate for 25 years. She came to see that empathy is the missing link to innovation with soul. By stewarding empathy rather than quotas, real inclusion and diversity is not only possible, but natural.



***The Missing Link to Innovation: A Currency of Empathy®
The Missing Link to Inclusion: A Currency of Empathy®***

Cultural Transformation

That fact that that 70% of people are disengaged at work is remarkable. That we have come to accept the situation as normal is even more incredible. Most people are not engaged in most of their working hours. For many people, work is downright painful. Even if this only affected the individuals in organizations, it would be heart-breaking. What is more tragic is that it affects the people they serve as clients/customers, their families at home, and all of us, as companies make decisions devoid of empathy.



***What's Empathy Got to Do with It? If the Police Can Transform, So Can You
Healing the Empathy Deficit Disorder by Clearing Up Our Mix-ups About Work, Home, and Sex
Empathy in Business is Vital to Social Justice***





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clients

Among many places, Jackie has been a presenter for:



"Jackie is a passionate, authentic and playful speaker who strives to pull the audience into her world through her storytelling. She brings a diverse and wide-ranging background of knowledge and experience that is effortlessly shared and made relatable to her listeners."

Colette Hart, TEDxClevelandStateUniversity Organizer



"Jackie Acho certainly brings experience and knowledge into the work she has done with us, however, her generosity, passion and compassion are the qualities that have made the difference in making hard work a joy to do."

Brandon Kutz, Commander, 4th District, Cleveland Division of Police





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videos &
photos

