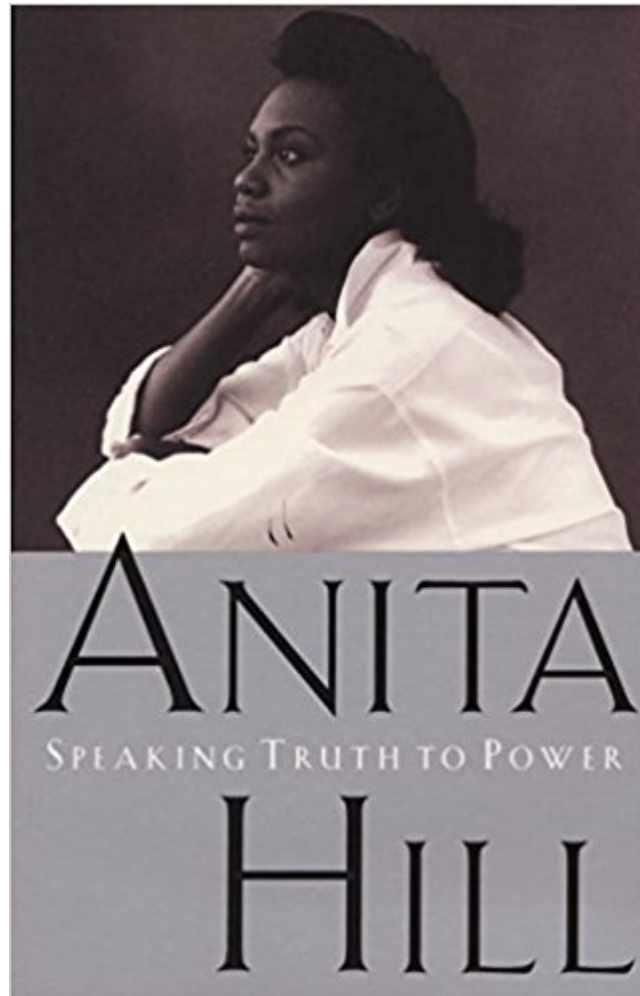




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# Speaking Truth To Power



## Synopsis

See the new HBO movie CONFIRMATION about the Clarence Thomas hearings, starring Kerry Washington in the role of Anita Hill—then read Hill's own life story. After her astonishing testimony in the Clarence Thomas hearings, Anita Hill ceased to be a private citizen and became a public figure at the white-hot center of an intense national debate on how men and women relate to each other in the workplace. That debate led to ground-breaking court decisions and major shifts in corporate policies that have had a profound effect on our lives--and on Anita Hill's life. Now, with remarkable insight and total candor, Anita Hill reflects on events before, during, and after the hearings, offering for the first time a complete account that sheds startling new light on this watershed event. Only after reading her moving recollection of her childhood on her family's Oklahoma farm can we fully appreciate the values that enabled her to withstand the harsh scrutiny she endured during the hearings and for years afterward. Only after reading her detailed narrative of the Senate Judiciary proceedings do we reach a new understanding of how Washington--and the media--rush to judgment. And only after discovering the personal toll of this wrenching ordeal, and how Hill copes, do we gain new respect for this extraordinary woman. Here is a vitally important work that allows us to understand why Anita Hill did what she did, and thereby brings resolution to one of the most controversial episodes in our nation's history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In 1991, Anita Hill, a law professor, dropped a bombshell into the middle of Senate Supreme Court confirmation hearings for Clarence Thomas: Thomas had, Hill alleged, harassed and embarrassed

her with repeated requests for dates and discussions about pornography while supervising her at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Hill's allegations introduced a volatile mix of sex, race, and scandal into the proceedings, deeply dividing both the Senate and the entire country. The aftermath of the Thomas hearings saw plenty of books about Anita Hill--some supporting her, others attacking--but Hill remained silent... until now. In *Speaking Truth to Power*, Anita Hill finally sets the record straight. Though much of the book details her side of the story and her professional relationship with Clarence Thomas, *Speaking Truth to Power* also provides interesting glimpses into Anita Hill, the person. From her early life as the youngest of 13 children on a farm in Oklahoma to her current position as a law professor, Hill offers details about her personal life and her motivations. Hill writes with forthright conviction; in this case of he said/she said, *Speaking Truth to Power* tilts the scales a little more heavily in Anita Hill's favor. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

A former faculty member of the University of Oklahoma College of Law and the chief witness against Clarence Thomas on charges of sexual harassment during his Supreme Court confirmation hearings in 1991, Hill is finally having her say. While dealing with those momentous events and the impact they had on her life, she goes well beyond them to give a picture of her upbringing and career. Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

When these hearings took place I was a busy 45 year old married working mother. I was somewhat interested in politics and was able to watch part of the hearings on TV. At first I wasn't sure what to think or who to believe but ultimately I decided that Clarence Thomas was the more credible, mostly because I couldn't understand why Professor Hill would have followed him to another job if he had done what she accused him of doing. As time went by I came to see what a poor choice for the Supreme Court Thomas turned out to be, yet I never reconsidered my opinion about Hill until recently when I read the book "Blinded by the Right" by David Brock. This led me to read Hill's book. Today I am 34 years older than I was when the confirmation hearings were being held, and in spite of being a somewhat privileged white woman, I've learned a lot in the intervening time about how the world works, including sexual discrimination, racism, and right wing politics. Having read these two books, I regret that I wasn't wise enough to understand at the time what was going on. I am so sorry that Anita Hill was treated so badly by so many people in power and that so many people like myself were fooled by the campaign that was waged against her. What she did required immense courage and not becoming embittered by the result required immense grace.

Everyone needs to read this book. I bought it for my daughter who is in her first year of law school.

What an incredible writer. I can visualize the life journey of an incredible American.

THIS BOOK SHOULD BE READ BY AS MANY READERS AS POSSIBLE. I FELT SOME OF THE VERY PERSONAL FAMILY DETAILS WERE TOO MUCH AND HARD TO FOLLOW.

My girlfriend loves it

Inspiring. Thoughtful read. Relevant for men and women.

It was interesting but thought it ended rather abruptly.

A clear-eyed account of the controversy surrounding her, and the social and political context as she experienced it both personally and intellectually. In addition to relating her individual experience as a lone outsider pulled into a Washington maelstrom, she follows the threads of the larger story with detailed and precise logic. As a companion to this, I urge you also to read "Blinded by the Right: The Conscience of an Ex-Conservative" by David Brock, which includes a chilling, behind-the-scenes account of the same episode *from the other side* by one of Hill's most ferocious detractors at the time.

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