

FUNKE ABIMBOLA FRSA

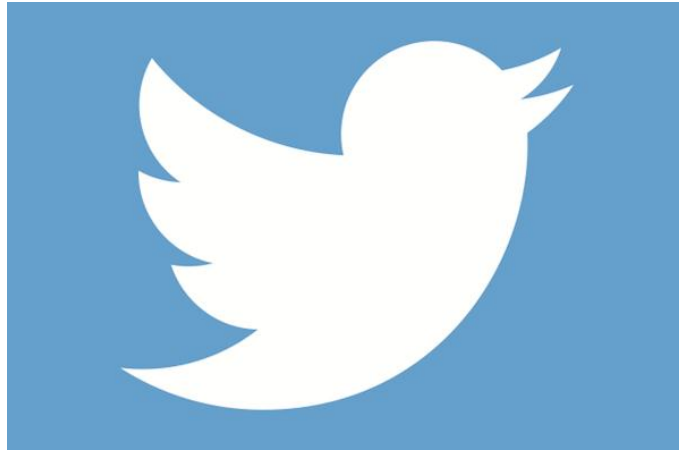
General Counsel & Company Secretary
(UK & Ireland)
Roche UK

***Diversity in the legal profession
: a personal story***



Please Tweet!

@DiversityChamp1

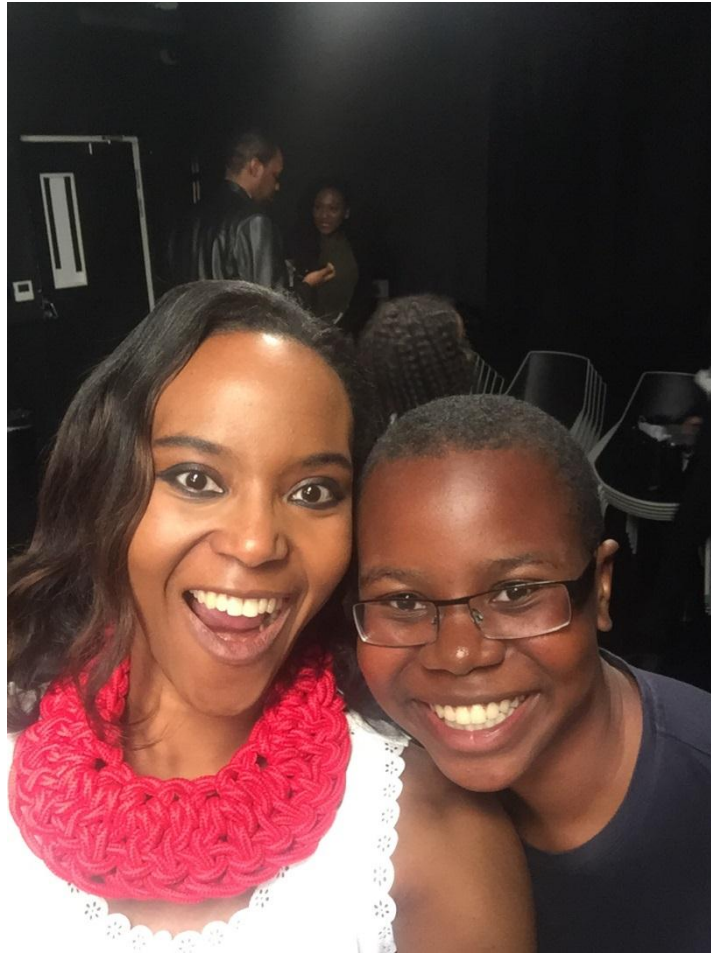


I wear many hats!

- **LAWYER**
- **LEADER**
- **SPEAKER**
- **DIVERSITY CHAMPION**
- **MENTOR**
- **SPONSOR**
- **PROUD MOTHER**



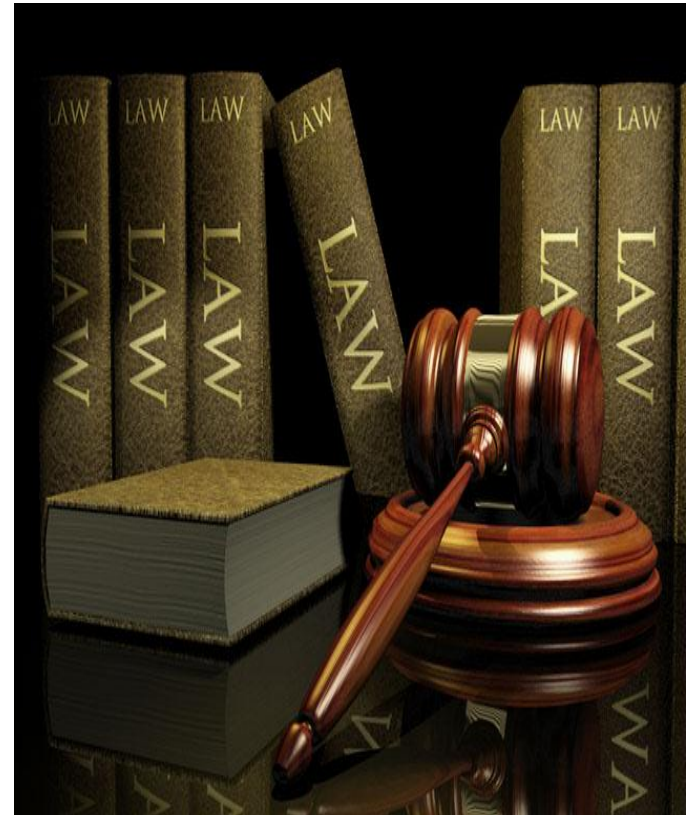
Yes, I am a mum!



British Nigerian.....



Medicine or Law?



So what happened next?

- Law degree (Newcastle Law School)



.....and then?

- Nigerian Bar (Nigerian Law School)
- QLTT (now QLTS) (Qualified Lawyers Transfer Scheme)
- 6 months experience to qualify
- Cold calling campaign!
- **Admitted: September 2000**



Career to date

- PLC
- 1st Central London law firm
- 2nd Central London law firm
- And then.....



Became a mum!



Career – contd.

- Regional law firms (2)
- Roche: January 2012 – Managing Counsel
- Promoted to General Counsel – December 2015



[illegible]

Mary Kay Ash



Make it happen!

- Law Society:
 - Procurement Protocol
 - Women Lawyers & Ethnic Minority Lawyers Divisions
- Aspiring Solicitors
www.aspiringsolicitors.co.uk



Make it happen! Contd.

- WILL (Women in Law London)
www.womeninlawlondon.com
- First 100 Years www.first100years.org.uk
- Lammy Review (trust in criminal justice system)

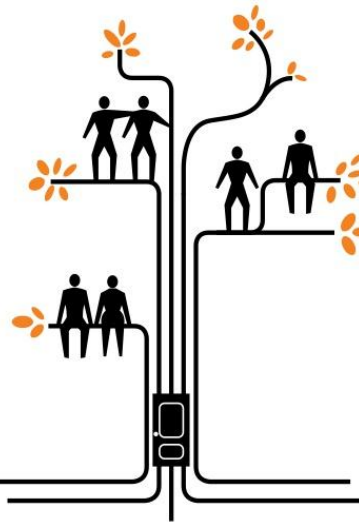


Make it happen! Contd.

Opening up or shutting out?

Social mobility in the legal profession

October 2015



Byfield Consultancy

Make it happen! Contd.

- Supporting women returners & minority lawyers (confidence/networking/visibility)
- Setting targets & broadening access
- Agile working (men and women)
- Good quality childcare
- Mentoring/sponsorship/coaching
- Transparency of data disclosure



Keep in touch!

@DiversityChamp1

Funke Abimbola FRSA



