



What Success Looks Like Now

The corner office? Maybe. But for these
10 women—and 2,000 of you—
getting ahead today is often something
very, very different.

Text by **Genevieve Field** Photographs by **Jason Bell** Fashion stylist: **Sophie Pera**

"I've always had a pretty rambunctious spirit," says Trump, photographed at Trump Park Avenue in New York City.

J. Mendel dress



HAIR AND MAKEUP: ALEXA RODULFO; MANICURE: HOLLY FALCONE FOR KATERYAN

SUCCESS IS...

“Doing what you love.”

—Ivanka Trump

As executive vice president of development and acquisitions for the Trump Organization, Ivanka Trump would qualify as successful on the basis of her résumé alone: At 33, she plays a key role in the business owned by her dad, developer Donald Trump; has launched an accessories line, Ivanka Trump; and is mom to Arabella, three, and Joseph, one. But *she* feels most successful when she's doing what she loves: “Every day, I feel good or bad based on how I've spent my time,” says Trump. “My goal is to feel good more than bad.”

WHY I WENT INTO THE FAMILY BUSINESS:

“When I was young my mother was in charge of the iconic Plaza Hotel in New York [then a Trump property]. She'd take me to work, where I would race through the hallways, play in the elevators, and snoop through the basement. The hotel employees joked that I was the real-life Eloise. And I remember playing with Legos on the floor of my father's office as he negotiated deals. His work was so exciting. I knew I wanted to get involved as soon as I could.”

HOW I DO THINGS MY WAY: “Early in my career I was concerned with whether people felt I had earned my place in the Trump Organization, but time has enabled me to establish myself in my own right. Also, it's incredibly gratifying to see my fashion brand become what I created the company to be—a resource to empower women.”

THE MOTTO I LIVE BY: “I'm overseeing a couple of billion-dollar development projects, and I don't think there's a day that goes by that I'm relaxed about that. But my father has famously said, ‘If you're going to think, think big.’ I always shoot for the stars.”

MY DEFINITION OF SUCCESS: “I know plenty of people who are outwardly highly successful and inwardly miserable—and to me that is not success, that's the opposite of it. Success is setting goals that feel true to who *you* are, not to what others expect of you. And that can change. My husband and I are both incredibly career-oriented. But the day Arabella was born reset my priorities. I became efficient in ways I never knew were possible—having a beautiful little person at home waiting for you will do that!”

What Success Means to You

More than 2,000 women say it's amazing, inspiring—and a little bit complicated.

Everywhere you look these days, someone's talking about "success"—blogging about it, giving a TED talk about it, going to a conference on the topic. But what *is* it? When you think of success, what do you picture? And how close do you feel you are to it in your own life? *Glamour* surveyed 2,028 women—and you had plenty to say.

First things first: You want to get ahead.

64% of women we surveyed say it is "very" or "extremely" important to them to be successful.

33% say it's "somewhat" important.

3% say it's not important at all.

And you're pretty confident you'll reach your goals.

40% of women say they already feel successful.

42% think they will be successful one day.

Only **5%** think they won't ever reach their goals.

But success isn't just about money.

In fact, among women who already feel successful:

76% say they're a success because they're "confident in who I am."

65% say it's because they "have great friends."

62% say it's because they're "happy with my romantic partner."

Only **20%** say it's because they're "making a lot of money for my age"; that answer came in 16th on their overall list of priorities.

The role model you most look up to? Mom.

When choosing which woman embodies success:

26% say Hillary Clinton.

15% say Facebook's Sheryl Sandberg.

5% say Beyoncé.

But **32%**—the highest percentage of all—say it's their mom.

Still, you feel, well, stressed about success...

64% of women say they feel pressure to make something of themselves. (A full 78 percent of women under 30 feel that way.)

26% of women worry they aren't doing enough to get ahead.

...and sometimes success doesn't look like very much fun.

55% of women believe being successful is "very stressful" or "high pressure."

31% fear it will mean they will be exhausted and sleep-deprived.

24% worry they'll never be able to unplug.

How did success get such a bad rap? It's the flip side of our be-anything culture, says Jane Buckingham, president of the trend forecasting firm Trendera, who helped design and analyze our survey. "The beauty of getting ahead today is that there's no playbook—you make the rules," she explains. "But at the same time, the *problem* is that there's no playbook. Everybody feels pressure to be their own brand—you're an editor *and* a blogger. You're a nurse *and* you're designing jewelry. So there's success at your job, in your relationships, and in this whole other social media universe where you're constantly judged by how many 'likes' you get. That's a

huge amount of stress." Her advice: "Instead of saying, 'I need to figure out my future,' say, 'I *get* to figure out my future.'" And remember that the wonderful fact you can be anything doesn't mean you have to be *everything*.

Successful women set smart goals for themselves.

Another interesting finding: When *Glamour* compared women who say they already feel successful with those who fear they'll "never" make it, there was a fascinating difference: They valued different goals. Those who prized things like making a difference in the world were more likely to *already* feel successful—but the "nevers" were more likely to value goals like making a million dollars or having a much-admired body. Bottom line? Certain ambitions may just make you more fulfilled than others.

Deep down, you say, success is about happiness.

How did women define success in their own words? "Owning myself"; "dealing with a serious illness and getting on with life"; "being proud of [my] work"; "giving back." And the number-one word used by real women in nearly 2,000 definitions: "Happy."

SUCCESS IS...

"Getting back up when you fail."

—Taraji P. Henson

She already had Emmy and Oscar nominations, but it's been her masterful portrayal of Cookie on *Empire* this year that has made Taraji P. Henson, 44, a household name. How'd she become a Hollywood heavyweight? Let her explain.

WHERE MY PATH STARTED: "I came from the 'hood—southeast Washington, D.C. It was rough. I went to school with criminals. My mom was a divorced single mom. I watched her get robbed twice, once at gunpoint. It haunted me. But she made sure I got out of my zip code. Every weekend I would visit my cousins' beautiful house—as soon as I got a taste of that I said, 'I'm outta here!'"

HOW I EMBRACED FAILURE: "When I didn't get into Duke Ellington School of the Arts, I thought I couldn't act. My friend was into electrical engineering, and I thought, OK, I'll do that. But then I failed precalculus. So I called my dad (he was the male version of Cookie and very involved in my life—may he rest in peace), and he said, 'I'm glad you failed. Now you need to get back to acting; that's what you're supposed to be doing.' I took a detour, that's all. It made me want to act even more."

THE MOMENT I KNEW I'D MADE IT: "When my business manager told me I'd crossed the million-dollar mark, I was like, 'Really? I'm going shopping!' Now I'm a millionaire, yet people want to give me all kinds of stuff for free. I can finally afford everything and *now* they want to give it to me? Where were you when I was broke? It's backward."

WHY I NEVER FOCUS ON THE NEGATIVE: "Whenever people say it's hard for black women in Hollywood, I say, 'That has not been my journey. Check my résumé.' As my father used to say, 'What you profess is what you will possess.'"

MY DEFINITION OF SUCCESS: "It's when you believe in yourself. After landing my first TV show, I found this charming house with a beautiful view. In the distance you could see the building where I used to be a receptionist. And I would tell my son every night: 'Baby, believe in your dreams and say your prayers.... It's because Mommy believed in her dream that I don't work over there anymore.' That strength and that faith have to come from within."



"People are so interested in what Taraji's doing now," says Henson. "And I'm like, 'Wait a minute, I've been here!'"

Altuzarra jacket. For her lashes, try **CoverGirl** Super Sizer Mascara by LashBlast (\$8, at drugstores).



"Kate is a truly modern woman," says Women in Film president Cathy Schulman. "Her characters surprise at every turn, as she lets us into her soul while never demystifying her true self—the essence of a woman in film."

Max Mara dress. **EF Collection** earrings. **Roger Vivier** shoes. Love her tousled texture? Try **Tresemmé** Make Waves Shaping Gel Cream (\$7, at drugstores).

SUCCESS IS...

“Being happy.”

—Kate Mara

Kate Mara, 32, is about to get superpowers. The winner of the 2015 Women in Film Max Mara Face of the Future Award stars as Sue Storm, the Invisible Woman, this summer in *Fantastic Four*—meaning her portrayal will make female superheroes, well, not so invisible to young girls.

WHY BEING A ROLE MODEL MATTERS:

“Gender inequality in our industry has been a problem forever. But in the past year, actors like Emma Watson and Patricia Arquette have been speaking out about it and helping to destigmatize the word *feminism*. As I get older it’s becoming more important to me to be a part of this community of women through groups like Women in Film.”

WHAT IT’S LIKE TO PLAY AN ICONIC FEMALE SUPERHERO:

“I’m still geeking out over getting to play Sue Storm. Is playing a superhero empowering? I would say it’s empowering to play a smart, powerful character. The superhero bit is just icing.”

HOW I DEAL WITH REJECTION:

“As an actor, 90 percent of the time, you’re getting told, ‘No, sorry, you’re not right.’ I don’t know that you ever really get used to that. I’m definitely better than I was; now if I don’t get a part, I believe it’s because that ‘no’ will open up my time for a role or experience I *was* meant to have. The other thing I’ve learned to deal with? People always want to know: ‘Is there competition between you and your sister [actress Rooney Mara]?’ Luckily there isn’t. But rivalry is an industrywide obsession—and it’s toxic. I have to remind myself that just because a person got a job I wanted, it doesn’t make me any ‘less than.’ When I’m at my strongest mentally, I don’t ever compare myself with others.”

MY DEFINITION OF SUCCESS:

“For me it’s a state of mind. I was just as excited when I got my first small part on an episode of *Law & Order* as I am about my next movie, *Morgan*, with Ridley Scott producing. I’ve always felt blessed to be doing what I love, and that’s why I consider myself successful.”

DOYNE CHRISTIAN BERG. FOR MARA: HAIR: MARA ROSZAK FOR STARWORKS ARTISTS; MAKEUP: COLEEN CAMPBELL-OLWELL FOR EXCLUSIVE ARTISTS MANAGEMENT; MANICURE: APRIL FOREMAN



"We can all create the world we want to live in, a world we're proud of," says Doyne, who became the legal guardian of 50 Nepalese orphans, pictured.

SUCCESS IS...
"Hearing my children scream, 'Mom!'"
 —Maggie Doyne

Ten years ago, at age 18, Maggie Doyne traveled to Nepal—and, shocked by the poverty she saw, decided to spend her \$5,000 life savings to build an orphanage there. Now 28, she is the legal guardian of 50 boys and girls, runs a school for 350 students in the country, and has launched a women's center, all through her charity, BlinkNow.

THE MOMENT I KNEW I HAD TO GIVE BACK: "I was a normal high school girl, working really hard to get into the best college so I could be...I didn't know what. So I took a year off after high school. Four countries and 20,000 miles later, I found myself in a poverty-stricken town in the foothills of Nepal's Himalayas. There was a dry riverbed filled with hundreds of children breaking rocks into smaller ones to sell, instead of going to school. It was just so wrong on so many levels—I was overwhelmed. Then one kid in

a raggedy orange dress approached me and said, 'Namaste, didi'; it means 'Hello, big sister.' Her name was Hima. Looking into her big brown eyes, I thought, I can't leave this little girl."

WHAT I'VE LEARNED FROM TRAGEDY: "A few years ago one of our students committed suicide; she was only 13, and I was devastated. But I've since found out that suicide is the number-one killer of women and girls in Nepal. So we've opened two counseling centers to try to change that. I've had to learn that stressing about a problem is different from solving it, and to tell myself, 'You're a warrior, not a worrier'—because if you're not cheering for yourself, who will?"

MY DEFINITION OF SUCCESS: "It's hearing my children scream, 'Mom!' I get the most satisfaction out of knowing that my children have a safe, loving place to call home, and a family."