



Call for Submissions

I Speak for Myself: Women and Religious Freedom

The series [*I Speak for Myself*](#) (ISfM) is launching its fifth and newest volume, which will feature stories from women on religious experience and religious freedom. The ISfM platform aims to deliver interfaith, intercultural titles that are narrow in scope but rich in diversity and cultivate a collection of first-person essays that are mindset-altering, inspiring, relatable, and teachable.

This collection will include stories ranging from controversies of the day, to personal narratives of experience, to first-person accounts of the most severe religious freedom violations and persecution. Our aim for this book is to give voice to a wide range of struggles that believing women have. Importantly, the book is **not** limited to any one faith but will feature religious experiences from a wide variety of faiths.

The key to each story is that it be written from the perspective of a devout, female believer who has struggled against social and/or legal restrictions to live out her faith in a spiritually authentic way. The story should be ***deeply personal***, but also relate important anecdotes, facts, etc. that connect the personal experience to a major social/legal hurdle. We are aiming for pieces that are descriptive, vivid, grounded in concrete experiences, relatable to our readers, and - above all - deeply spiritual.

Guidelines for Submissions

- Please email **submissions.womenandreligion@gmail.com** with a copy of your essay and biographical information, including:
 - your full name
 - country of birth
 - current country of residency
 - email address
 - postal address
 - telephone number
- The subject line of the email should read: Last Name, First Name: Title of Piece. (Simpson, Marge - "Gender and Temple Architecture in Springfield").
- Submissions must be received by **May 15, 2014**.
- Word limit is 1500 words.