

KAMILAH WILLINGHAM

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“CONTINUING TO LOVE AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF AS A SURVIVOR CAN BE RADICAL, DEFIANT, AND REVOLUTIONARY.”

– KAMILAH WILLINGHAM

WRITER, NATIONAL ACTIVIST, AND CIVIL RIGHTS ADVOCATE

Kamilah Willingham is writer, national activist, and civil rights advocate. Kamilah's work is grounded in advancing the rights of survivors of sexual violence in prisons, schools, and beyond, highlighting the culture of silence and inequity that dominates social and systemic responses to gender-based violence. In 2016 Kamilah spearheaded the viral social media campaign, #JustSaySorry. This campaign encouraged survivors of campus sexual assaults and gender-based violence to petition for an apology from their institutions, calling attention to the resilience of survivors and the failures of schools to submit to basic measures of accountability.

Kamilah investigates the consequences of patriarchy and misogyny, at the intersections of race and sex, and illustrates how our culture, norms and institutions are complicit in this abuse. Kamilah has trained a variety of stakeholders, from

prison guards to campus officials, on their responsibilities to prevent and address sexual violence among their ranks and within their environments. Through this work, Kamilah invites audiences to explore healing from trauma as a path to resistance and revolution. Through her nuanced and personal perspective Kamilah helps audiences imagine alternative systems for healing and reconciliation outside of our justice system.

Since graduating Harvard Law School in 2011, Kamilah's scholarship has been published in Teen Vogue, VICE, Huffpost, The Nation, The Establishment, and others. Kamilah shared her personal experience of surviving sexual assault and civil rights violations as a student at Harvard Law School in the award-winning 2015 documentary THE HUNTING GROUND. She currently sits on the board of the Equal Rights Amendment Coalition and is a mother of two.

Speaking Topics

- Healing from sexual violence/trauma
- Finding and activating your voice
- Healing as resistance and revolution
- Black motherhood & maternal health
- The consequences of patriarchy & misogyny at the intersections of race and sex
- Police abolitionism as a rape survivor

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