

Pressure is a Privilege: Lessons I've Learned from Life and the Battle of the Sexes (Billie Jean King Library)

By Billie Jean King

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Billie Jean King's victory over Bobby Riggs in the "Battle of the Sexes" was a pivotal moment in gender relations for generations of American women and men. But her journey to the "Battle of the Sexes" was no accident. Now, for the first time ever, Billie Jean shares the life lessons that led to her success in that match, in sports, and in the world at large. Published in conjunction with the 35th anniversary of this monumental event, Pressure is a Privilege uses the Billie Jean King / Bobby Riggs match to illustrate what she learned in her early life that brought her to that event and the lessons that she learned from it.

Packed with the common-sense lessons by which Billie Jean has lived her remarkable life, as well as words of wisdom and inspirational advice for how you can use these lessons, Pressure is a Privilege is an invaluable tool for any person in any profession who wants to achieve a richer, more fulfilling life.

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- Sales Rank: #231006 in Books
- Brand: Baker and Taylor
- Published on: 2008-08-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.66" h x .72" w x 5.54" l, .66 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 192 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly
Tennis champion King uses her 1973 Battle of the Sexes match against Bobby Riggs as a foil to illuminate 13 life lessons in this self-help quasi-memoir. Part business advice, part personal advice and all motivation, King's insights aren't novel (seize opportunities whenever they arise, do your best and visualize success), and her advice (shared family meals with all cell phones turned off) is standard but sound. For a radical figure in sports and women's equality, King treads the safe and narrow throughout the brief book (her first since the 1982 autobiography Billie Jean), and coasts on repeated references to an important but particularly dated match. Tennis fans may want to give it a perusal, but those seeking fresh inspiration can pass.
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About the Author
Athlete, coach, leader, activist, and one of the most illustrious and celebrated tennis players in history, Billie Jean King is recognized for her life-long struggle for gender equality, both on and off the court. Her work led to the landmark Title IX law requiring that girls/women and boys/men be given the same opportunity in sports, and she empowered women and educated men when she defeated Bobby Riggs in the Battle of the Sexes in 1973. Life magazine named King one of the "100 Most Important Americans of the 20th Century," and she is ranked No. 5 on the Sports Illustrated "Top 40 Athletes" list for significantly altering or elevating sports the last four decades.

Christine Brennan is an award-winning USA Today sports columnist and the bestselling author of The Best Seat in the House: A Father, A Daughter, A Journey Through Sports, Champions on Ice, and Inside Edge: A Revealing Journey Into the Secret World of Figure Skating. She is also a commentator on ABC News, ESPN, and NPR's Morning Edition.

Award-winning actress Holly Hunter has been a friend and admirer of Billie Jean King's for many years. Hunter also starred as Billie Jean in the film dramatization of the Battle of the Sexes, When Billie Beat Bobby.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Gregory Mackenzie:

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