



**Tribute to Dr. Allan Rosenfield,
Dean of the School of Public Health, Columbia University**

By
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At
**Healthy Women, Healthy World:
A Global Health Community Tribute
to the Career of Dean Allan Rosenfield**

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On behalf of ICRW, I am delighted to join all of you in a tribute to Allan Rosenfield for his four decades of service to the cause of global health.

ICRW is particularly pleased to be a part of this celebration because, Allan, in our book you are a hero. For feminist geeks like me, a man who stands for women's rights and reminds the world that women must not be taken for granted is definitely a hero.

You have taken us from "Where is the M in MCH" [maternal and child health] to "Where is the M in MTCT" [mother to child transmission]—and all along the way you have reminded us that women are not just instruments to achieve better results for others – they deserve better themselves and the world must invest in them. In this cynical world of

ours – where every argument for investments in human capital has to be made in terms of efficient outcomes, it has been truly refreshing to have a visible spokesperson make the case for investments in women based on the simple notion that they deserve no less. Millions of women worldwide should know that they are better off today because of your efforts, Allan – and on behalf of all of them – if I can be so presumptuous – thank you!

And what is amazing is that you do not stop at mere rhetoric – you have followed through with action – your work to reduce maternal mortality helped to build the capacity of hundreds of organizations and health institutions in poorer countries. That is your lasting legacy from the forty years of service, Allan. It is true for institutions here, too that you strengthened by serving on their boards and advisory committees, by helping them get the resources they need. And the most lasting legacy of all is that body of students who had the privilege of learning the fundamentals of public health from the master.

On a more personal note – it is fun to work with you, Allan. You have an enormous store of optimism that we all need to have as we deal with the many intractable problems in the field of global health – your optimism fueled mine, Allan. Most importantly, I love your witticisms and quick one-liners. In my book you really are the most fun and safe person to flirt with! Cheers, Allan!!