



Krish O'Mara Vignarajah served as Policy Director for First Lady Michelle Obama, where she led the Let Girls Learn initiative the President and First Lady launched in 2015. This year, she ran a groundbreaking campaign for Governor of Maryland. She currently serves as Founder & CEO of Generation Impact. Before the White House, she served as Senior Advisor at the State Department for Secretary Hillary Clinton and Secretary John Kerry. In this capacity, Mrs. Vignarajah helped shape White House and State Department initiatives and programs related to entrepreneurship, private sector investment, public-private partnerships, global women's issues, public diplomacy, engagement with youth and religious communities, development strategies concerning health, food security and climate change, the UN and other multilateral institutions, and regional issues relating to Africa and the Middle East. Before joining the Obama Administration, Mrs. Vignarajah practiced law at Jenner & Block in Washington, DC, worked at McKinsey & Company, where she consulted for Fortune 100 companies, clerked for Chief Judge Michael Boudin on the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, and taught U.S. foreign policy and international law at Georgetown University as an adjunct faculty member.

Mrs. Vignarajah attended Yale College, where she earned a Master's degree in Political Science and a B.S. in Molecular Biology, graduating magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. She was a Marshall Scholar at Oxford University (Magdalen College), where she received an M.Phil. in International Relations. At Yale Law School, she served as a senior editor on the Yale Law Journal and received the Potter Stewart Prize and the Harlan Fiske Stone Prize for best brief and best oralist during...

Krish O'Mara Vignarajah

Speech Topics

- Leadership
- Innovation
- Generations
- Disruption



Testimonials

"She was the STAR of the Commencement! As a member of the College, I've attended (too) many of these commencement speeches; but I was on the edge of my seat hanging on every word of her speech. Mrs. Vignarajah is incredibly charming and passionate and the students flocked to HER on their graduation day (probably annoying a few parents who were looking to spend quality family time and take photos!! She has such a gift and is truly one of a kind. I know many of the graduates will never forget her wisdom and humor."

- Hood College Commencement Speech.

Krish was absolutely WONDERFUL! I wish every speaker was as easy to work with as her - she's so personable and the audience loved hearing her experiences and reflections. Sometimes people are slow coming off a coffee break to return to a plenary session, but the rousing applause during the first 5 minutes of her speech made everyone return and tune in. I've brought in many speakers and it is a refreshing delight to hear from a leader who not only has an impressive career but also is down-to-earth and passionate.

- Kaiser Permanente, San Francisco .