

DEEPA PURUSHOTHAMAN

Transcendent Leader; First-Ever Indian American Woman Partner at Deloitte

Deepa Purushothaman (per-shot-a-man) is a corporate truth teller and inclusion visionary who, throughout her illustrious career, challenged and redefined the status quo of leadership, success, and power on her incredible journey of breaking glass ceilings and advancing the workplace for all people. For more than two decades, Deepa held various high-level executive leadership roles at Deloitte, eventually becoming the first Indian American woman and one of the youngest people ever to make partner at the internationally renowned global services firm, and breaking new ground for subsequent generations to follow in her footsteps.

Exclusively represented by [Leading Authorities speakers bureau](#), Deepa leads revelatory sessions in which she introduces the audience to “Deepa’s Dos and Don’ts,” drawing from her own experiences to share valuable insights for how anyone can alter existing narratives, change the game, and usher in more dynamic cultures in any organization. Deepa helps audience members understand the actions they can take to realize their strengths, rethink the way things are, reimagine how organizations operate, and step into the future of leadership, while offering adaptable tactics for overcoming burnout, outdated norms, and the other challenges that stand in the way of individuals and their teams achieving their goals in the workplace.

Throughout her highly transformative career at Deloitte, Deepa advised the firm’s top clients on strategies for powering growth within their organizations and creating solutions and value for the people they serve. In her national managing partner roles for Deloitte’s Inclusion and Women’s Initiatives, and more of its forward-thinking programs, she spearheaded the company’s mission to make a social impact and foster more empowered workplaces designed for everyone to reach their full potential. Deepa left Deloitte in 2020 to co-found nFormation, a membership-based community providing a collective space for diverse professional women to communicate, collaborate, and tap into their power. In addition to her leadership of nFormation, she is an Executive Fellow at Harvard Business School an Aspen Institute Fellow, and a board member of Avasara, India’s first leadership academy for girls.

Deepa continues to be a leading voice and champion for reworking the corporate workplace experience. Her debut book, *The First, The Few, the Only: How Women of Color Can Redefine Power in Corporate America*, was published by HarperCollins to international acclaim, and was called a “fresh, worthy addition” to the conversation about diversity by *Publisher’s*

Weekly. She has spoken at SXSW and her TED talks have amassed close to three million views. Her sought-after thought leadership has been featured in major media outlets, including *TIME*, *PBS*, *Forbes*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Fortune*, *Financial Times*, and *Harvard Business Review*. She has been widely recognized for “yielding a powerful collective narrative that business leaders would be wise to study closely.”

When Deepa is not focused on workplace issues, you can find her trying to manage the chaos caused by her fur babies.

KW 10/17/2022