Women in Science

Why does it bother you? You could say who cares...

CARS

I think it is mostly because women are not seen as capable of many things. Then you try to show it or prove it: "I can also do it..."

If you could speak to all those with that kind of mind frame, what could you tell them to convince them they are wrong?

When you look at the statistics, all girls are as good, maybe even better in school than the boys in mathematical studies. I think that at the end, they are somehow not supported to choose engineering or science. They give up. I think this should not happen. They should not think, "Oh no, I cannot choose it because this is a man's job."

They give up, not because it is difficult for them, but because the people do not expect them to be there.

Exactly. I think they also get influenced from that. Of course, it is hard to study, but I think also women give up more easily than men.

Why didn't you give up?

I think I had support from, for example, my parents. If I thought I couldn't do it, they would say, "No you can do it!"

I have another guess: you are very competitive, and you want to prove that you can do it.

Yes, I'm also a competitive person, but I think I'm more competitive with myself. I want to prove to myself that I can do it. Of course, you care what people say, but mostly I think the competition is with myself.

Is it to prove that you are good or is it to prove that, even against other people's expectations, you are able to do great things in this profession? I would say both. I do it for myself, but I also like to do it.

"Will, passion and talent"

What is the drive for you to take on such a heavy load?

I also like what I am doing. Otherwise, I wouldn't do it. I would say the two important aspects are, I like it, but I am also good at it, and I want to do it.

It's a mixture of three things then?

The will, passion, and talent.

Which one is the strongest?

I think the will. I also think that if you like what you do, chances are better.

Where did you find the strong will to do this?

I think it's just something you have.

You are so lucky! You have the talent, will, and passion. Were you born with these three things that are important to succeed?

I think everybody has that probably, but you can lose it along the way. I don't think that you get it from somewhere. I think you have it, but you



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