

The Forgiveness Project: A Journalist's Storytelling Experiment

by Marina Cantacuzino

Copyright © 2007 Marina Cantacuzino. All rights reserved.

LONDON -- My 15-year career as a journalist taught me one important thing about storytelling: It is real-life human testimonials that make people sit up, listen and think. No politician or statistician, no study or investigative analysis holds as much power or sway as personal experience told first-hand. Real-life stories have the power not only to effect change but also to heal.

This was why during 2003, in my spare time and with a photographer friend, Brian Moody, I began collecting stories from around the world of people who had experienced atrocity, conflict or crime and who -- rather than seek revenge -- had gone down the road of forgiveness, reconciliation and understanding. The year 2003 saw the invasion of Iraq; the bellicose language of retribution voiced by our politicians and reflected in the media disturbed me. I needed to do **[SNIP – End of preview.]**