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Salute mega-heroines

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In the Cape Times National Women's Day supplement (August 8), you write about Women of the World being 'mini-heroines' for 'not complaining despite the challenges of poverty and discrimination'. I did not know anyone could become a heroine by keeping quiet, and, as women, we have been forced to keep our mouths shut too often in history. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to publicly announce myself a 'Non-Heroine according to Cape Times standards'. In this new position, I want to complain fiercely about your statement that 'every so often a woman has decided to take a more direct role in world affairs, with groundbreaking results.'

Not complaining? Every so often? In my opinion these words are poorly chosen to say the least, especially in regards to National Women's Day. May I remind you that in 1956, 20.000 women stood up for their rights in Pretoria, many of them from rural areas, many of them with their children on their back and almost all of them still unnamed? Furthermore, may I suggest that next year you do a little more research for your Women of the World gallery (I mean, *again* Madonna and *again* Oprah?). Instead of raising your flag for Margaret Thatcher (what exactly did she do for women except creating mass unemployment and poverty?), you could start with mentioning the suffragettes in the UK or the Mothers of Plaza Mayo in Argentina, so we can read about women who truly celebrate the courageous march of women who *did* complain 51 years ago, something which made them *mega*-Heroines of the World.