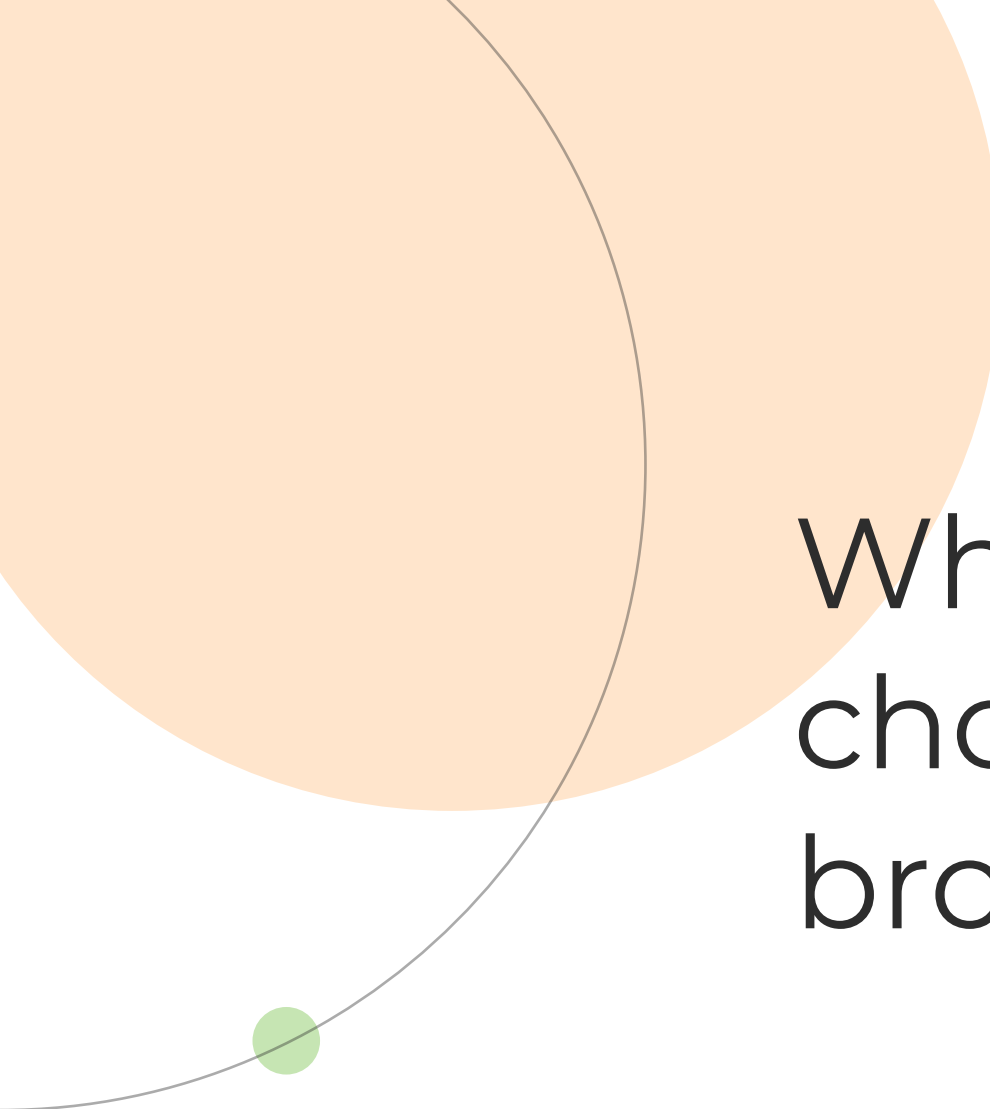




Women's View

Bridget Donofrio

Marketing & Communication Specialist
Telkonet



What are the choices that brought you here?

I've been fortunate to have had mentors throughout my career. These are women I had worked for, and with, for years and with whom I maintain lifelong friendships.

It's because of them that I carved out my own career path, performing a job I love, that I am suited for, that I am energized to get up and do every day.



How long have you been in Telkonet?

I have been at Telkonet for eight years.

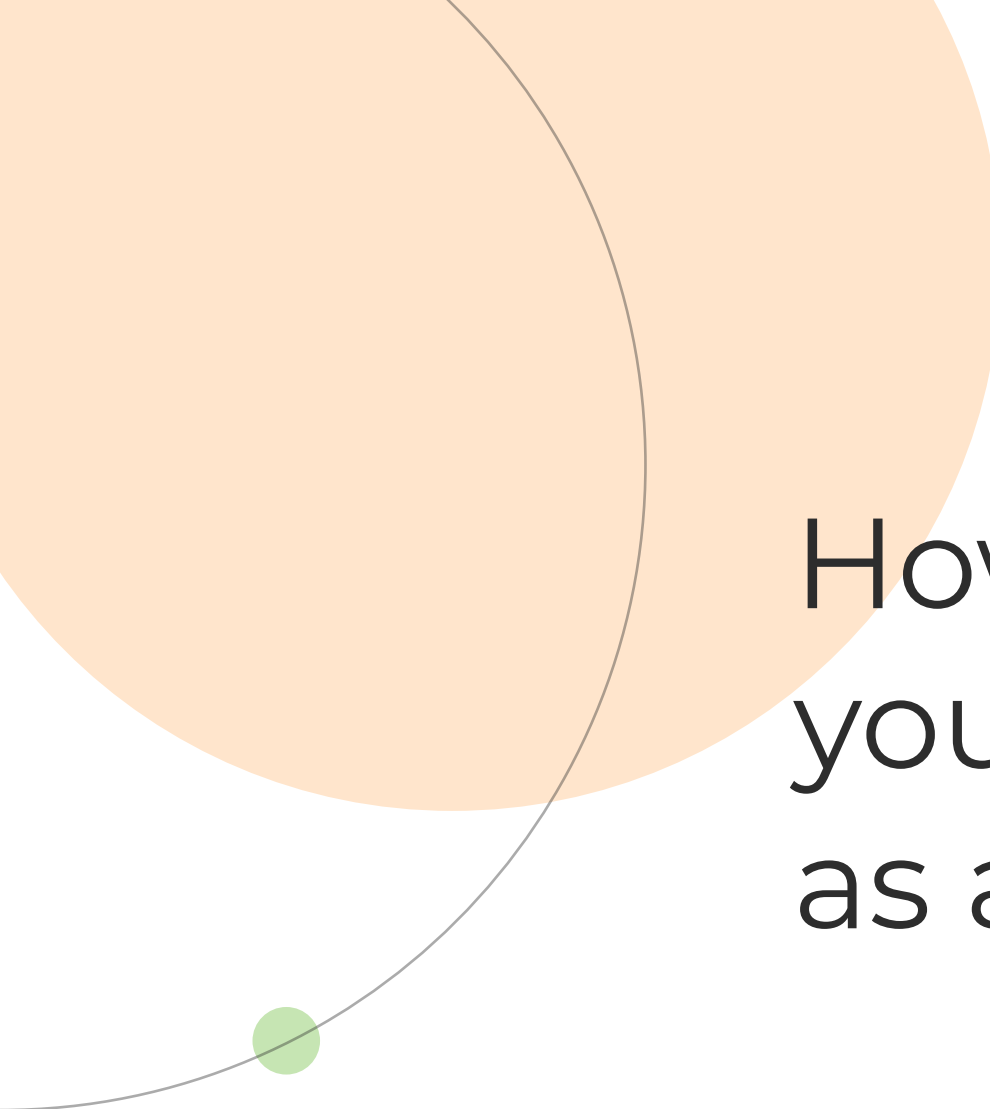
How did being a woman affect your choices?

When I started my family, I was fortunate to have a choice of whether to continue working or take time out to raise my child. I chose to continue working full time.

To paraphrase Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson in her recent Supreme Court nomination hearings, when we have to navigate career and motherhood, we don't always get the balance right. (Not that I'm comparing my career to hers, but you get the point.) Honestly, if I had it to do over again, I would probably have only worked part time so I could spend more time with my school aged child. (21-year-old-me would never have believed that future-me would say that!)

What does it mean to be a woman in a male environment?

Being a woman in a male-dominated environment means not sacrificing who you really are in order to fit in. Stereotypes are fading, but they will never be eliminated because in many cases there is some truth to them. (Again, 21-year-old-me would have been gobsmacked to hear future-me say it.)



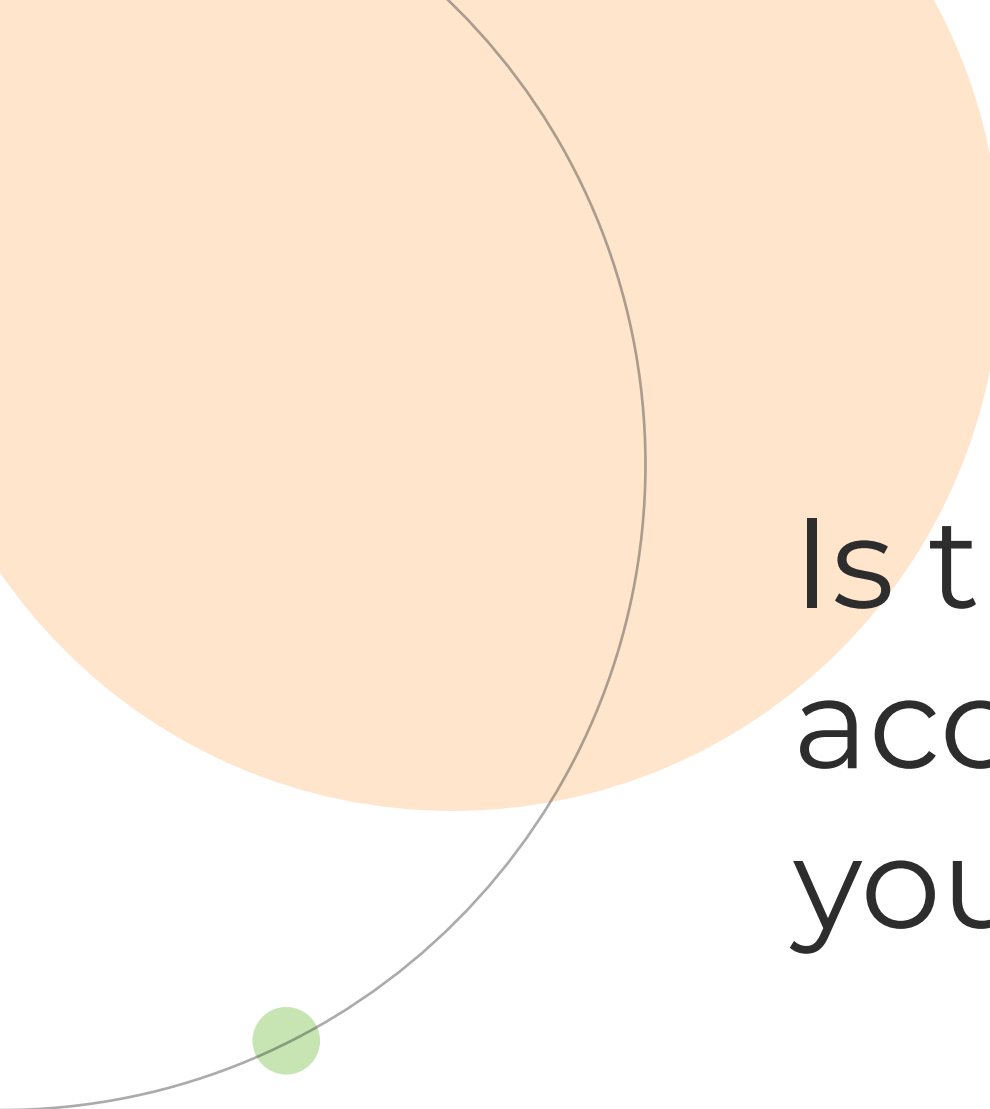
How do you live your role as a woman?

I am true to myself. I'm confident in my strengths and aware of my weaknesses. I don't judge others and I don't apologize for myself. Well, OK, sometimes I do, but I'm working on it. Sorry.

How would you define the path within the company?

Bridge-Building

As a technical writer and instructional designer, I rely heavily on Telkonet's subject matter experts. I need to ask the right questions and really listen to their responses. I try to be a bridge-builder, to find common ground. I find it's easier to understand a concept if I'm starting from a place of knowing. I try to learn about a topic before I meet with them so I am not taking up as much as their valuable time. Everyone's busy, and I respect that.



Is there a phrase that accompanies your growth path?

“A strong woman stands up for herself. A stronger woman stands up for everybody else”.

– Unknown

