

1. What is your name?

Bansari Pancholi

2. What is your job/role/title?

Project Engineer

3. How or why did you enter your industry?

Since my father is also an engineer, growing up, I was always fascinated by science and developed interest in construction. Hence, I decided to pursue that as my profession.

4. What are the barriers/obstacles of being a woman in this industry?

Having a high ration of men to women, there are many obstacles like work culture divide, professionalism from male co-workers, and most importantly, always having to prove myself as a woman in this industry. Even if I achieve something, it usually seems as a one off unfortunately.

5. Why do you think there are so few females in the industry and what would you do to change that?

I think the constant battle of proving yourself to other peers and to your high ups solely because we are women, is not sustainable in the long run. A lot of women face harassments and work partiality on a daily basis. These are just a couple of reasons why women choose not to pursue career in this industry.

6. What does an average day in your work life look like?

It starts with commuting to the office, and then very typical work day with meeting and work task that I have planned out in the morning.

7. What would you title your autobiography?

The Ordinary Girl

8. What is your favorite hobby?

Dancing

9. What is your go to song at karaoke?

"This girl is on fire..."

10. What is advice you would give your younger self?

Not to be afraid to go out and explore and not to hold myself again because of the low confidence.

11. What do you like most about your work?

I feel very proud being a very few of the women engineer, I love my job because I know how important public transportation is to the community.

12. What is the best career advice you have ever been given?

I think an old lady told me to never to stop learning and ask question. Never think you don't deserve something and if you feel like that, work for it.

13. What was your first job?

My first job was a tutor, teaching math.