



Yassmin Abdel-Magied

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Founder, Youth Without Borders

Board Director, ChildFund Australia
Engineer and social commentator

[@yassmin_a](#)

Yassmin Abdel-Magied is leading by example in her drive to encourage women into engineering and to broaden awareness of Australian Muslims. Her love of cars and motorsports led the then teen to study mechanical engineering at the University of Queensland where she graduated top of her year, landing a job as a field engineer with an oil company. She has written and speaks regularly about her experiences with ethnicity, religion and gender in this male-dominated environment – and in Australia in general. The daughter of

Sudanese and Egyptian parents who fled their home and careers in Sudan after the Sudanese coup of 1989, Yassmin is acutely aware of all her parents sacrificed. The self-described 'talkative nerd' has always been defiantly proud of her Muslim heritage, and was the first to wear a headscarf at her Christian high school. Yassmin has emulated her parents' passion for outreach work, co-founding Youth Without Borders at 16 to enable impassioned young people to have a voice and achieve social change, and was recently appointed as Board Director with ChildFund Australia.

Australian experiences, global impact. This story is one of a series profiling young Australians, or young people with an Australian education, identified as future leaders and decision-makers of courage, imagination and will. [Meet our 19 Future Chasers and read their inspiring stories.](#)

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