



Robotics expert **Missy Cummings** has taken on the “move fast and break things” actions of “tech bros,” including the world’s richest one, Elon Musk. He got her silenced when she first reported on the dangers of Teslas on auto-pilot; she changed jobs and carried on with her research into “self-driving” vehicles, despite harassment and death threats. A former Navy fighter pilot, Cummings demands that public safety must be job one, even if it means not moving fast. [More about her here.](#)

**Tyrique Glasgow** is determined that kids in his old South Philadelphia neighborhood won’t live as he did, dealing drugs, getting shot, doing time. Back home after a prison term, he’s created a center where kids and their families can get GED classes, tutoring, counseling, and rental help. The kids can spend time in a summer camp, in a community center, and in a vegetable garden. No matter how long the hours and how hard it is to fund it all, Glasgow’s determined that the kids have reasons to hope. [Link to his work here.](#)



**Céline Gounder MD**, an infectious disease specialist, got threats of violence and even death when she publicly urged people to get Covid shots, but she kept speaking out, citing the science. When her husband died suddenly from an aneurysm, attackers said the vaccine had killed him, so it was her fault. Despite her shock and grief, she put public safety first and immediately countered with interviews and articles urging people not to be deterred from getting the necessary protection. [Her profile is here.](#)



Jordanian cartoonist **Emad Hajjaj** won't stop making fun of his government, no matter how often he's been threatened and arrested. Using his skills as an artist, his devotion to free speech, and his belief that Jordanians deserve better, Hajjaj continues to aim at malfeasance—though his work is only published now outside his own country. A full story about him is [here](#).



When first-grade teacher **Alvin Irby** realized that most of the Black boys in his classes weren't interested in learning to read, he figured that getting them into it meant books would have to be fun and they had to show up somewhere "manly." He went way above and beyond his job description to start a nonprofit, Barbershop Books, placing entertaining books in Black barbershops, first in his New York neighborhood, then in 20 more cities. [Learn more here.](#)



German **Pia Klemp** is awaiting trial on a charge brought by the government of Italy that she cooperated with human traffickers. What Klemp actually did was use her skills as a sea captain to rescue 14,000 desperate people trying to make it across the Mediterranean to better lives in Europe. Klemp is using her arrest as a way to bring attention to the cruelty of governments that are repelling would-be immigrants. [Here are more details about her.](#)

**Dorsey Nunn** has devoted over 40 years to making sure people in prison and former prisoners don't encounter the injustices that he did. Nunn works against the "new slavery" of prisoners being forced to work meaningless jobs for pennies, against the rampant use of solitary confinement, against all the laws and regulations that make it almost impossible for former prisoners to rebuild responsible lives. Thanks to him, job applications in 150 US cities don't ask about past convictions, and Californians on parole can vote. [More about him here.](#)



Israeli **Achiya Schatz** spent years exposing misconduct by his nation's soldiers, much to the dismay of the army and the government. When he realized that the online world was being flooded with fake "news," he started FakeReporter, chasing down suspicious articles, photos, videos and interviews and getting them taken down if he proves them unreal. This work has earned him even more anger from those he's thwarting. [Details here.](#)

**Nasir Sobhani** makes his living as a barber six days a week in Melbourne, Australia. On the seventh day, he becomes the “Street Barber,” offering free haircuts and shaves to the homeless. He talks to his clients about his past addictions, listens to their stories, and asks permission to share those stories and their before-and-after photos online so others can understand the lives of people they may be afraid to engage with themselves. Pleased, newly spiffed-up clients often say no one has talked to them in months. [More info plus "before & after" photos here.](#)



American national security expert **Olivia Troye**, a lifelong Republican, was a top aide to Vice-President Mike Pence, advising the White House on the dangers of the Coronavirus but seeing the truth being ignored, replaced with reassuring lies and a failure to take action. She resigned in protest and went public with what she had witnessed, urging people to ignore the fake statements coming from the President of the United States. [More about her here.](#)