

Courtney Martin:

Hi, welcome to Solvers. I'm Courtney Martin.

Nguhi Mwaura:

And I'm Nguhi Mwaura. On this podcast, you'll hear stories about how social innovators are tackling the world's biggest problems to build a better future.

Courtney Martin:

Solvers is a show where Nguhi and I have conversations with people who are dealing with problems that are not just big but complex. Today's guest is a great example. Priti Krishtel, co-founder and co-executive director of the initiative from medicines access and knowledge known as I-MAK for short. Now Priti is trained as a lawyer and she spent a lifetime trying to get people all over the world medicines that they need to stay alive and keep their families alive. And I'm just so struck, looking at her work and talking with her that this is such a basic human right. It's made it feel just unconscionable that we aren't further along on this particular solve.

Nguhi Mwaura:

Hey Courtney, it feels so timely because as we look at vaccine rollout and vaccine nationalism, getting people the vaccines they're going to need, it feels really uncomfortable that some people are going to be able to vaccinate their entire populations while others are going to be completely left out of that rollout.

Courtney Martin:

Yeah. Exactly. Her work could not be more relevant. And also, she's speaking to this moment, but this is not her first rodeo. She's cut her teeth during a totally different pandemic, the HIV aids crisis specifically she was in India which you hear about in the interview. And she's just in such an interesting position to comment on this moment. And particularly has such a perspective on the exploding public awareness of just how broken our medicine system is. She has been doing this work forever and there hasn't really been the public will, but I think COVID has shifted that in a lot of ways, which she speaks to in the interview.

Nguhi Mwaura:

So in this whole ecosystem of things, what does Priti think we need to focus on?

Courtney Martin:

Well, interestingly, she's very focused on the patent system in particular, and sometimes I-MAK has even described as a group of patent detectives.

Nguhi Mwaura:

That's really cool. I can imagine being a little kid and saying, I want to be a patent detective when I grow up. But what exactly does that mean?

Courtney Martin:

Well, we should probably let her explain. I was actually very new to grasping what the patent system was when I first encountered her work. And she's just so good at making these seemingly inaccessible concepts more simple. So here's Priti on what a patent actually is.

Priti Krishtel:

So patents are rights that the government gives to inventors. A patent is a time limited monopoly that the government gives you if you invent something. And the patent office is the office test with granting those patent rights. In the United States, the patent system predates our system, but speaking from a U.S. perspective, our constitution talks about time limited monopolies being given to the progress of the sciences and the arts. After the country's founding, it was actually the founding fathers built this idea of the patent system.

Priti Krishtel:

I think it came into being in the late 1790s turn of the century. And after that, it evolved quite a bit in terms of how long the monopoly was, has gotten longer and longer over time. Now it's 20 years on paper in practice. Our research has shown it's actually a lot longer. Those monopolies are lasting for longer and longer periods of time, but patents at their heart were meant to be a reward for invention. And over time, as I mentioned, they've become leveraged to promote business strategy as supposed to being about that pure concept about invention and promoting progress.

Nguhi Mwaura:

Okay. So now that we're starting off on the right foot with the definition of patents, here's my interview with Priti Krishtel.

Courtney Martin:

I'd love to start talking about your dad a little bit. You're a patent reformer, he's a patent holder. Can you tell us a story about your own childhood? I would love it to be like a very specific moment when you first understood the power of your dad's work.

Priti Krishtel:

My childhood is sprinkled with memories of my dad trying to bring science to life in our house, he would just create science projects like, letting dry ice loose or one birthday, he gave me a life-size laminated poster of the periodic table of elements for my birthday. And we have these moments where we're just like, dad, what are you thinking? I remember what I wanted was a poster of a boy band or something. And he gave me that and he was beaming. But I think it wasn't until much later that I realized that his love for science actually was something that was going to translate into saving lives.

Courtney Martin:

And when was that? Do you remember when you got that?

Priti Krishtel:

Okay, I do. When I was in law school and I started to do all this work around access to medicines, I started to realize that the thing my dad had spent his whole life working for was to cure people and to save their lives. I started to realize there were these other barriers that were getting in the way of

people like him being able to do that mission. And so that was probably when, so that was later, that was in my early '20s, I realized like I wanted to do that work on the other side of that spectrum.

Courtney Martin:

So, some might think you would be on opposite sides of the debate because they have an impoverished way of patents. They might think, well, he's a patent holder. You're trying to reform the patent system. Is there any tension there? Can you explain why you're not on opposite sides of the debate, even though it might seem like that?

Priti Krishtel:

Definitely. I think that scientific progress is there for people. It is there so that people can get the medicines that they need to stay healthy, continue to work, send their kids to school, stay alive. And so we are doing two pieces of the same work, which is really to keep people alive and keep them healthy. We are not trying to make sure that there's not patents. We're trying to make sure that the patent system serves the public.

Courtney Martin:

So, we're on this podcast called Solvers. Is that what you would say is the problem that you're solving for, or do you think of it even more broadly?

Priti Krishtel:

When we started this work, which was almost 20 years ago, the problem that we were trying to solve for at the time, this was at the peak of the HIV crisis. We were trying to solve for the fact that people were dying because they couldn't get medicines that existed, but were unaffordable. And for many, many years, that was the problem we were trying to solve for. I think now almost 20 years later, we've evolved. Now we're trying to build a more, just and equitable system, which includes everything from what drugs do we invest in?

Priti Krishtel:

Where do our R&D dollars go? Why don't we invest in things like vaccines, if there's no market to reward it? Why don't we have a resilient global supply chain where in the middle of a pandemic, we could activate the full force of the world's manufacturing capacity? Why don't medicines that exist reach people? So we're really zooming out to look across the whole system, really trying to educate people so that the public can understand the system as a whole and start to move society in a direction where we have the system that we need that can serve us, not just in this pandemic, but in the one after that and the one after that.

Courtney Martin:

You mentioned that you started this work 20 years ago. Can you take us back a little bit to that moment? What was that work like? And what did that teach you that you use in this domestic context?

Priti Krishtel:

It's 20 years ago, I was actually in law school. And I took a course when I was studying abroad. So getting to see the global systems from the perspective of people in other countries. And I took a class on the world trade system, and that's where I learned about access to medicines and patents. And so a couple

of years after I graduated, I ended up going to work for an organization called the Lawyers Collective in India. They're this incredible human rights organization that does many kinds of work. But the work I was doing there was to run a legal aid clinic that represented people living below the poverty line.

Priti Krishtel:

And I think that experience affected me a lot, just working with a lot of clients who didn't make it through even the course of litigation because they died because they couldn't get the medicines they needed, even though the medicines existed. It really shaped me, my colleagues there, my bosses there. They really informed my understanding of what community centered lawyering can look like. Not just for litigation, but for advocacy, for policy making. And so that's what I'm actually feeling right now is coming full circle in the United States.

Priti Krishtel:

The work that the Lawyers Collective did at that time to bring into law in India, the first HIV aids bill was really built on years of consultation with communities to figure out what their needs were and to make that come alive in how policy was drafted. And I had never heard of anything like that coming from the U.S. And so right now we're about to launch something called participatory change-making and the idea behind it is, first of all, we have all of these imbalances in our system for medicines and vaccines. And that's in part because people who are most effected don't have any seat at the table and some of these systems like the patent system.

Priti Krishtel:

But even more to the point, I think in 2021, people who come from different parts of our country, who don't agree politically, who work in different sectors, we don't really have any spaces or opportunity to come together and look at specific problems or specific systems and learn from each other, from our respective vantage points. So I really am excited because I feel like I'm really channeling all of that human rights work in India now to say, how are we going to bring people together this year to have hard conversations, conversations that we haven't had yet about whether systems are actually working for people.

Courtney Martin:

That makes so much sense. I love when those south to north learnings are surfaced so that people understand that. Americans have so much to learn from other countries about particularly governance and these kinds of huge business, ethical business questions. Let's get into some just very basic ground work. Even though I know you were that you're thinking about the medicine system in a really long tail way, from Genesis to people getting to pop a pill in their mouth, can you start with why drug prices are so high? Help the average person understand why that is?

Priti Krishtel:

In many countries, there are governments who purchase medicines and provide them to their citizens, particularly low-income citizens. In the U.S. it is way more complicated than that, we have hospitals, we have health insurances, we have pharmacies, PBMs. There are many, many stakeholders on the value chain. So there's not one easy answer to that question, but in our work starting way back during the HIV pandemic what we really found was that the ways in which patents were getting filed, so patents are basically monopoly rights. If you invent something, you get 20 years. But what we found is that

companies were filing more and more patents to extend that life of monopoly, and then hiking prices up as a result.

Priti Krishtel:

And what was happening in lower and middle income countries at the time is that people just weren't getting the drugs and they were dying. So in 2015, we were actually asked to come to the U.S. to look at the patent problem. And when we started investigating, we realized that the problem is really out of control here, more than anywhere else we had seen, on average, our research has found that for the best-selling drugs in America, there are 131 patents filed. And what that does is it takes the 20 years of monopoly and it's turning it into almost 40 years.

Courtney Martin:

And just to make that really plain, all those patents, you mean that every step of the technological innovation is being patented, as opposed to the whole drug. It's like scientists, figure out one little piece of it. And then patent that little piece of the puzzle. Is that what you mean?

Priti Krishtel:

Exactly. So if there's a medicine the original patents early on OB for what we call the base compound, or like the early invention, and then as it gets developed, you can file patents for other things like processes or different uses combinations with other drugs, formulations, turning a tablet into a syrup. There's a lot of patenting activity that you can do. But if you basically read all the guidelines from law firms, patents have stopped being a reward for that breakthrough invention. And they've become leveraged to basically become part of a business strategy. Okay, well, we've only been on the market this long let's extract as much profit as we can in the years to come, let's file more and more patents. So it's not actually for invention, it's just to lengthen them monopoly life.

Courtney Martin:

Right. So it's strategy as opposed to actual ingenuity, which is what the whole thing was created around originally. But you have said big pharma is not to blame. And the greed of big pharma is not the whole story here. Can you explain why that is?

Priti Krishtel:

So, there's definitely profit motivation involved in this, but I think our organization spent 15 years working to litigate these patents to file patent challenges alongside communities to make sure prices would come down. Basically, if you could show a patent was unjust or unmerited, you could get generic competition under the market prices would come down and people would stay healthy or a life. So I spent a lot of time thinking that if we went after this bad behavior in quotes from the industry, but the problem would get solved. And I think over time, as you go deeper and deeper into root causes, we've come to realize particularly in the U.S. that it's actually the way in which our economy is organized. That's driving this behavior.

Priti Krishtel:

There are a lot of people in the industry who want to see their drugs reaching people with more ease and at less cost. But we live in a society where corporations, they have to continue this relentless drive

to make more and more money. And we haven't figured that out yet in any industry. So I think that's really the root source of the problem.

Courtney Martin:

And you've pointed out that the patent office itself, the federal oversight is riddled with corruption and people who are not objective, who are in positions that should be objected, that there's no real access for the public to understand what's happening inside of the patent office. What could happen at the patent office in the U.S. government that would open it up to the public?

Priti Krishtel:

I think we will get there. I think this administration has committed to bringing an equity lens across the agencies and the patent office has always escaped notice on every level. It doesn't really get oversight in the way that other agencies do. And what I mean by that is yes, there's an inspector general. Yes, there's an audit every year, but there's not that robust dynamic discourse about the implications of that agency's role on society, the way we have with education or health and human services or housing. I think this is the moment where that's going to change.

Priti Krishtel:

I think this is the moment in not only because of the drug pricing crisis, but also because of the global pandemic. I think that people are starting to understand that the things standing in the way right now of making sure that the vaccine gets to healthcare workers, for example, across Asia, or reaches the elderly in certain African countries. The thing that's standing in the way is our reverence for intellectual property that doesn't ever have room to bend or wave or adjust, even in the middle of the worst pandemic we've seen in a century.

Courtney Martin:

So, I mean, a crisis is a terrible thing to waste. How do you make sure to get the public to connect those dots, to understand that it doesn't have to be this way?

Priti Krishtel:

I think the access to medicines movement right now is really starting to evolve. Over the last 20 years, we've been a very technical movement. We do litigation. There's a lot of policy. When we speak, we speak in acronyms and there's something being burst right now that's really beautiful to watch where everyone has decided that their job is to become a communicator. And it's so important because right now what's happening where you see middle income countries going to the world trade organization and saying, if there was ever a moment to waive IP, intellectual property, this is that moment because we need to tap into the full power of the world's potential to manufacture these vaccines, these treatments, these medical products.

Priti Krishtel:

And so I think what you're going to see in the coming months is momentum being built around just the idea the access to medicines and vaccines is so important. And it's my hope that what we're going to be able to do is make this a lasting issue the way other activists have been able to do for climate change or for environmental justice. In other ways.

Courtney Martin:

Priti, you said that a movement is being birthed right now, or a new version of this movement is being birthed right now. What evidence do you have of that? Is there something very specific happening that you go, oh, oh, that's it, it's changing.

Priti Krishtel:

I think it's very simple actually in this moment, after being in the pandemic for months and months, you see everywhere you go, that people have a real heartfelt sense of, am I going to be okay? Is my family going to get the vaccine? What do I have to do to make sure that not only my family gets the vaccine, but my community and other people, because our collective survival now is dependent on access to medicines and vaccines? And in terms of evidence, I think it's just as social media has become the new metric. Before we, as the movement, I mean, we're in all these different countries, we talk to each other, but we were definitely always talking to each other about these rare moments, like during the peak of the HIV crisis, where there was international support for HIV treatment worldwide, largely over the last two decades, it's been an insular conversation.

Priti Krishtel:

And then today, when you look on the news, when you look on social media, you see more and more people stepping out to say, everybody on the planet should be getting this people's vaccine. Everybody should get it. And it's just that's the turning point for me that, oh, okay. Something has clicked. And now how do we make sure it continues to stay alive?

Courtney Martin:

That's so exciting. You've cited that 34 million Americans disproportionately black and brown lost a loved one in the last five years because they couldn't afford medicine. And I just had to say that again, not because the medicines didn't exist, but because they couldn't afford them and like ask our listeners to pull to mind someone they love and imagine a medicine exists, but is out of reach and they lose that loved one. It's just like devastating to even acknowledge. What do you do to keep going?

Priti Krishtel:

This is, I think it's not unique to us. This is part of living in such a fundamentally unequal society. And I think more and more people are awakening to all the ways in which our society is so unequal with medicines. It's really poignant because medicines literally determine if you had to stay alive or not. And just like so much of our healthcare in America, the fact that it's for profit drives all the incentives in the wrong direction. So I do a lot of work around acceptance. I have a lot of practices around just really staying present, staying in the body, different rituals to help support that. And also knowing that this is a very, very long fight. So part of what our core job is, is to activate other advocates to take this on and especially younger ones, because they're going to be continuing the fight for a very long time.

Courtney Martin:

Are those practices things you learned over time doing this work? Did you have more imbalanced where you would get so filled up with those stories that it was too hard to keep going? How did you develop that wisdom?

Priti Krishtel:

Definitely in the early years doing a work in India, I really got burned out because maybe this is, you can relate. It's like when you do your first job or first set of jobs, especially doing direct service, you can really go into overdrive and take it all on into your heart and your body. At the same time, after a few years of doing the work, I lost both of my best friends right before I turned 30. One was sick cancer. And the other was to just a unique one in a million medical thing. And I was really broken. I was broken for a long time. And so in the years that followed, I actually really slowed down on work and I turned to movement.

Priti Krishtel:

I learned meditation. Those were the years that I discovered the Enneagram. And so those practices then laid a foundation. So when I came back to work in a much more intensive way, maybe after 2011, since that time I have that foundation and I work from there. So it's regenerative.

Courtney Martin:

And do you cycle in and out of the policy research litigation work and then being in conversation with patients and families, and how do you find that balance of keeping your feet in both of those worlds?

Priti Krishtel:

My trajectory has actually been that I started representing community and family when I worked in India. And then I zoomed out a layer where I partnered with activists from all over the world that helped found a coalition of activists, which was patients and lawyers and other NGOs working all over the world to do this work. So at the point of that transition, I had started to zoom out a little bit from doing the on the ground work and then coming to the U.S., my role has moved even one step to the outer layer where I'm out there trying to educate now on a broader level to activate other people, to really take the work forward on the ground.

Priti Krishtel:

I spend much less of my time in direct conversation with families and more working with organizations who are doing amazing work, representing those patients and families.

Courtney Martin:

Do you stay grounded by tapping back into those historical experiences of speaking with families? Do you have to bring people to mind to keep it fresh and not an academic experience, or are you always that's with you no matter what?

Priti Krishtel:

It's always with me. I think, for example, in the last year with COVID, there's not a moment that goes by where this feels abstract at all to me, like the stakes could not be higher. I see people around me in my local community calling, figuring out where to get their vaccine. And I'm sitting there dropping into my body thinking about what is happening to healthcare workers in Thailand? What is going on with that family in Brazil? It is so real to me. And for me, this goes back to just having that global vantage point, which I think is so important for our kids. It's not an abstraction right now that there are millions or even billions of people who are not getting the testing treatment and vaccines that they need during this pandemic.



Priti Krishtel:

It can never be at the academic. There are families that are being torn apart because of the systems that we've constructed and that we continue to prop up even be complicit in. And I just wish that everyone could do that. I just wish that everyone could hold people in their hearts who are across the globe.

Courtney Martin:

You said that this work is never abstract to you. And I imagine that's because of the people that you've worked with, it's all about people. Can you tell us about one moment or one family that you've worked with, those really stuck with you?

Priti Krishtel:

For me, it's probably one of my first clients. When I was working in India, we had a family come to our organization's offices, a family of five. So it was a mother and a father who both had HIV. And he actually was near the end stages and they had three kids and they had come to us as lawyers to ask us to put the kids into guardianship. They needed to go stay at an Ostrom or an orphanage because the parents knew they weren't going to make it. And I remember just sitting there watching the kids, they were so young, they were playing and laughing and the parents were signing the paper. And the mom was just looking at her kids, knowing that she was saying goodbye to them.

Priti Krishtel:

And I was sitting there as an American who had come from the states where I was an HIV counselor here. People had gotten treatment and I couldn't believe the unfairness of what I was witnessing. It broke my heart that day in 1,000 pieces. And I've never forgotten that family.

Courtney Martin:

I'm so admire your ability to hold that at the center of your work in such a natural, organic way. I think that it must have such an impact on your effectiveness. Let's dig into a few of your biggest wishes for the next few years. You've written in the New York Times about making sure that we get a person of color who really understands the equity issues to lead the patent office. But are there other really specific things on your wishlist that you feel like could unlock a lot of change?

Priti Krishtel:

I think the very fact that we're to be able to bring intellectual property and patents into the limelight, helping people understand the access to medicines and vaccines isn't guaranteed. Those are huge steps forward to me that are happening right now. If I had a wishlist at a really big picture level, I just want to know that this is going to become an issue. The way that we fight for education for all kids or the way we fight for taking care of our planet. We need to fight for making sure that drug development is equitable and that all people everywhere are able to get medicines and vaccines that can keep their families safe and alive.

Priti Krishtel:

So I'm thinking, and that kind of very sweeping big picture landscape right now, but more concretely, I think that the systems, including the patent system, including how we make our investment decisions for R&D, how we distribute drugs and get them to people, I think all of that needs to come under closer public scrutiny right now. So that in the next three to five years, we are shining a light on where the

cracks are. And then we are actively figuring out what are the ways in which we are going to build something more just, more equitable in its place.

Courtney Martin:

Is there a world in which drug pricing goes down and you see some real reform, if we don't have universal healthcare, or do you feel like that's a necessary part of this puzzle?

Priti Krishtel:

That's a great question. And again, it depends on the country. I think that everything we do in the coming years is going to be a band-aid until we get to the deeper issue of how we're organizing our economy. I think a lot of people throw their hands up when we get to that point. But the more I talk to people working across movements, we've all reached this tipping point. Those of us who have been doing work for decades is you can keep fighting in your own lane on your specific issue, but all roads are leading back to this. And we're seeing this with the younger activists. This is where next generation is coming forward to say, all this other stuff we're talking about is incremental and working within the broken system.

Courtney Martin:

I'm just curious if you think there's a generator, like you were saying, this is generational work, but within that big, long sweep of history, do you feel like we're in a moment where not just because of COVID but also because of politics and people's understanding of unchecked capitalism and all of that, that the pendulum is swinging a bit where some of the work you've been doing for a long time, it might get some momentum because of this political window or a political season that we're in?

Priti Krishtel:

Yes and no. I do think there's an opening now that's never been there before, where people are able to see how interconnected systems are and some of the systemic structural failures in the system. So there I see a huge window of opportunity for education, but to actually translate that into solutions, we're going to have to do a lot more because we're going to have to change the way decisions get made and who's at the table and whose voices are heard.

Courtney Martin:

I want to return to your family for a moment. Your dad is a grandfather now, you've got a toddler who already seems to have a deep seated curiosity and love of innovation. If your son were to invent something, let's say in 20 years time, what would you guess it would be? And how would his patent experience be different than your dad's because of the work that the movement is doing right now?

Priti Krishtel:

I love that question. What comes up for me, just thinking about my son is that I think that his work is going to be much more in the engineering department than the pharmaceutical sciences, when he was one, we turned around and he had taken apart a chair, like he had figured out where the screws were. And so I see that in him. And I don't know if you've read this children's book called Izzy gizmo. It's amazing, but the person is always building things out of existing contraptions. And he's a bit that way.

Priti Krishtel:

So I have no idea what he's going to invent in 20 years, but he is definitely going to invent something. And how will it be different? Oh, I hope for him that he is going to be seen and witnessed and celebrated for everything that he is doing and that there are going to be people there at every step, propelling him forward.

Courtney Martin:

I love that. We ask all of our Solvers guests, if there is like a poem or a prayer or anything that they consider themselves living by something that they hold dear and return to. Do you have any words to share?

Priti Krishtel:

Yeah. So my grandfather, my mother's father was very special to me. He passed away when I was pretty young, but he was a journalist. He was a pioneer in the India's working journalists' movement. He fought for India's freedom from the British and the quit India movement. And he also went to jail for that work that he did where he started an underground newspaper on slate. He was just this incredible person and he always spoke truth to power. He was in the prime minister's inner core. And then when he criticized her, it was in their [inaudible 00:35:50] at the time for doing unlawful and undemocratic things, she blacklisted him from the press Corps.

Priti Krishtel:

And so he would tell us about these things in a way that we could understand as kids, but he gave me this poem when I was really and it's by the Pakistani poet fights. And it says, if they snatch my ink and pen, I should not complain for I have dipped my fingers in the blood of my heart. I should not complain even if they seal my tongue for every ring of my chain is a tongue ready to speak." And he gave that to me when I was a kid, and imagine being like seven.

Courtney Martin:

Wow.

Priti Krishtel:

But what he taught me was that words are important. Words are what you use to fight for justice, words are your weapon. And I have always carried that with me.

Courtney Martin:

That's so beautiful. Thank you so much for sharing that with us and your work with us. I'm so buoyed by your hopefulness right now, because I know it's such a deeply informed hopefulness. It's not like an empty hopefulness. It's like the really harder and hopefulness as someone who's worked on something for so long and sees the ground shifting. And that just makes me want to be part of it. So thank you for your work. Thank you, Courtney, for having me. So what did you think?

Nguhi Mwaura:

I thought that I was really jealous, I didn't get to be in this conversation. I think with a sense of anger because of this idea of how we choose to organize our economy and that idea of we're making choices that leave human beings out, that's put a value on life and whose life is worth living. And even when we have the solutions that people need in order to live dignified lives, we don't give them because we've set

up any economic system that, that locks so many people out. And so, yeah, I was incredibly impacted by that idea and how we made this problem. This isn't some climate that we're trying to deal with. This is us, that these are the choices that we're making.

Courtney Martin:

Yeah. I felt like in some ways her work and the way she talks about it speaks so well to the dangers of abstraction. You and I, a kid was sitting in front of us who needed medication would do anything we needed to do to get that kid medication. Like we would, on a moral level, just be very clear about that. But then we abstract this system, we've built the system based on the abstraction of money and the abstraction of corporate interest and all these things. And obviously like a racist, patriarchal history. And now, like we justify this system that lets that same kid die.

Courtney Martin:

We would never in a million years, no matter who we were feel okay about that, no matter what your political party, no matter what your economic status, no human being could sit in front of a child dying because they didn't have access to a medicine and feel okay with it. But yet the abstraction allows us to do that every single day. It feels like one of those classic philosophical conundrums, but I guess just speaks to me of the in social change when we start to abstract things, that's where the evil creeps in, right?

Nguhi Mwaura:

Yeah. When it's those people over there, it's one thing. But when it's us, it's something different and that feels like what the pandemic has done. It's brought it right up to everyone's doorstep and sitting in a country where we're probably not going to get vaccinated until at least maybe 2023, but working a lot with folk in the U.S. who are thinking, okay. Yeah, by summer, the geopolitics of that is incredible. The thing that we were all in the midst of a year ago together, the same storm, it's just vaccine and vaccine distribution has really shown that we're not metal being the same storm, but we're definitely not all in the same boat. Yeah. So incredibly powerful. So jealous, you got to speak to her, but so grateful to have had heard her voice in this space.

Courtney Martin:

Yeah. Priti is, I almost feel like she's a spiritual genius. When I was interviewing her, she would be so succinct and have such profound clarity in her voice that it almost threw me off. I was like, you don't want to say more. And it's like, No. She said what she needs to say. She's incredibly clear about what she believes in what her strategy is. And I just think she's someone to really learn from. All right, well, that's it. For this episode of Solvers, you can subscribe to the show on Apple podcasts, Spotify, Google podcasts, or wherever you're listening to this.

Nguhi Mwaura:

And if you like what you heard, please rate and review us and share this episode with someone who you think would love to hear Priti story too. See you next week.

Courtney Martin:

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Hartman, Brian Jacobs, Trisha Johnson, Marcy [inaudible 00:41:12] and Zach Slavic. Our theme music is by [inaudible 00:41:15] and we'd love to hear what you thought about the episode. So email us [@silversatschool.org](mailto:@silversatschool.org). Or tweet us at school foundation, hashtag Solvers' pod, or me Courtney at Courtright's. We would just love to hear what you think. See you next week.