



DIALOGUE ON DIVERSITY

Over Twenty Five Years of Service to America's Diverse Communities

NEWS ADVISORY

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THOUGHTS ON WOMEN'S HISTORY AND A CHALLENGING FUTURE

WASHINGTON, D.C. MARCH 19, 2018 — **New Voices in a Chaotic World – Women Save the Civic Order** — Dialogue on Diversity presents its 2018 Public Policy Forum. An annual program highlighting key issues at the intersection of social justice and economics and law, the Forum is set for presentation **April 18th** in Washington at the fabled Busboys and Poets restaurant and book store, 2021 14th St. N.W., (at V. Street) Washington, D.C. **Ma. Cristina Caballero**, Dialogue on Diversity's president, sums up the agenda topics: "from domestic violence and trafficking to STEM studies and the wage gap, to the rise of women's influence in east African states – all are on the bill."

Here are some of the questions you will face, and what you will learn —

What are the numbers of **Domestic Violence Incidents**? If you were a victim would you be **Afraid** to relate your experience? **Ashamed** to talk? In fleeing the abusive household would you find a ready network of supportive friends or relations? Would you have the economic resources to make it alone?

What is the breaking point — when does counseling give way to flight?

Commentary by **Melina Olmo**, National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, **Toni Zollicoffer**, D.C. Office for Victim Services and Justice Grants, and others

Would you encourage your daughters or young friends to take up the hard sciences, the **STEM studies**? Would you point them to actual careers in science, engineering, or technological industries?

Commentary by **Ivonne Díaz-Claisse**, Pres./CEO, HISPA Performance and Achievement, and others;

Do you live in an Empathetic society? More or less than your grandparents did? Does the "Social Safety Net" make our society more productive or less? Did life in your childhood neighborhood fit you for job market in your 20s? 30s? Did your ethnic background help or hurt your economic chances?

Commentary by **Jessica Tuñón**, Netwalking LLC, and others

The U.S. is said to be a **Society of Immigrants**. Is it a society of Refugees as well? Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan have received, sometimes not too willingly, millions of persons fleeing dangers in Iraq and Syria. Should American cities take in and re-settle, say, half these numbers. Should U.S cities take on large numbers of hunger refugees from Venezuela?

A young girl, age 12, is befriended by a kindly, well-to-do lady who carries her to Paris for education. **The lady is a Trafficker**; the school is the brothel in which the girl is held as a sex worker for the next six years. She returns to the U.S. Knows only one trade. Does not seek her family. Is prosecuted: Who wins? Should laws provide sympathetically for her case? Should investigative resources be increased?

Among Invited Speakers for the 2018 Forum —

Mayor Muriel Bowser, D.C.; **Honorable Swanee Hunt**, former Ambassador to Austria, head of Inclusive Security, Writer on contemporary history; **Lynn Rosenthal**, Director, Domestic Violence Programs, the Biden Foundation; **Prof. Michael Selmi**, Law School, GWU; **Cindy Southworth**, National Network to End Domestic Violence; **Luz Patricia Mejía**, Technical Secretary, MESECVI (DV Convention), OAS; **Walter Tejada**, Arlington County Board; **Mario Cristaldo**, Vida Senior Centers, **New York Life**, **AFT**, **The Latino Coalition**, **Clínica del Pueblo – Entre Amigas**; and other D.C. Organizations for Latina and other Women's groups.

Friends of the Dialogue and all who share a vital interest in the currents of public policy are invited to register at www.dialogueondiversity.org

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