



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI)

May 2019 CWI Newsletter

<https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Invitation to Tuesday, May 28, 2019 CWI Meeting, Noon-1:30 PM

**The Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Ave., NW
(Nearest Metro Stop: Dupont Circle, north or south exit)**

RSVP is now required. See <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

A Feminist Approach to Foreign Policy

CWI's Vice-President for Global Issues, Megan Corrado, Esq. arranged this CWI meeting to examine ways in which gender informs foreign policy and international development. It is timely in light of the upcoming momentous occasions relating to women and international relations—from the 20th anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325; the release of the U.S. National Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security; implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security Act; and opportunities for women's participation in peace processes, such as in Afghanistan. Despite progress in women's involvement in the peace and security sector and rise of feminist foreign policies around the world, funding, programming, and opportunity for growth still hinder women's involvement and empowerment. The presenters at this meeting will discuss the implications of, and opportunities for, feminist foreign policies, as well as existing challenges to, and strategies of, international women's organizations and programs that aim to create a more just, stable, inclusive world with gender equality.

Ursala Knudsen-Latta is the Policy and Advocacy Coordinator with Saferworld and Chairs the Executive Committee of the U.S. Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security. She previously served as Saferworld's Research and Policy Officer. Before that she worked at Alliance for Peacebuilding and Women in International Security. Ursala's current work focuses on issues of violent extremism, gender and conflict, and Sustainable Development Goal 16, which aims to promote peaceful, inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions. She studied Religions and Theology at the University of Manchester, focusing on religion and conflict in South Asia. She worked with the Anchorage Interfaith Council and the North American Interfaith Network before graduating with a Masters in International Peace and Conflict Resolution from American University.

Kayla McGill is a Gender and Global Security Program Assistant at Women in International Security where she is an analytical researcher focusing on gender and national security, culture and narrative studies, Eastern European tribalism, and U.S.-China relations. She has presented her research to the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Institute of Peace, and more. She previously worked on publications for the WomanStats Project and represented the Project at events such as Beijing+20/CSW59 and the United Nations. She speaks French, has lived in China, Germany, the United Kingdom, and France, and has traveled abroad extensively. Kayla graduated with her Masters of International Affairs from the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M, where she focused on women, peace, security, diplomacy, and intelligence. She received her B.A. in Political Science with a minor in Civic Engagement from Brigham Young University.

Arielle Hernandez Lavadenz is the Development Manager for the U.S. National Committee for UN Women, where she spearheads fundraising efforts in support of UN Women and its projects that promote social, political, and economic equality for women and girls spanning 100 countries around the globe. She previously served as the Communications Coordinator for the Campaign to Elect a Woman UN Secretary-General. Her extensive experience in grassroots organizations, communication strategies, advocacy, and fundraising brings a unique perspective on the ways in which feminist and non-feminist foreign policies can affect programming and women's rights around the world. Arielle earned her Masters in International Relations from the City University of New York City College and her B.A. in Literature and Publishing, as well as Visual and Media Arts and Writing from Emerson College.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch and information to share. An RSVP to attend is required. Go to <https://womensclearinghouse.org>. Next CWI Meeting, noon Tuesday June 18, 2019, CWI Annual Meeting focusing on Collaboration Among Feminist Organizations.

Dear Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Members,

Throughout history, women have served in leadership rolls making life more equitable, more just for other women and men. Large movements including the recent marches held across the country have led to the empowerment of women locally and nationally. Our past serves as models of what can be accomplished by one woman's action to "stand up" for what is right and what is needed.

Ida B. Wells was born into slavery and became a journalist and activist for African Americans and women of all races. She organized local anti-lynching groups across the country, founded the National Association of Colored Women and assisted newly arrived immigrants from the south. She formed the first suffrage group for black women and participated in forming the NAACP.

Jane Addams was a pacifist, suffragist, and social reform advocate. She was the first American woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. She established the first Settlement House in Chicago to serve the needs of the working poor in that neighborhood. She ran campaigns that resulted in the creation of a juvenile court system, improved urban sanitation and the passage of the 1916 Federal Child Labor Law.

Workers galvanized by Victims of the Triangle Waste Factory Fire. On March 25, 1911, 145 workers, mainly young immigrant women died in this fire. It ignited workers demands for safer conditions. Within three years after the fire, over 30 new labor and safety laws were passed. They served as models for other states and later federal legislation.

Aly Raisman, captain of the U.S. women's gymnastic team at the 2019 Olympic games became a symbol of courage leading those to speak out against the sexual abuse by a physician that she and hundreds of other athletes survived. This was most difficult for her, but she is committed to continuing. "I think we have to change the way our society views women."

* Resources: Temple Micah Haggadah

CWI, as a membership organization, stands up every time we sign on to an amicus brief, or support legislation such as the passage of ERA and the continuation of abortion rights. We join and collaborate with other organizations to support these issues. Each of us now, must explore our individual

concerns and actively participate on our principles to take a determined stand to provide greater opportunities, more choices and greater freedom for future generations. We no longer can remain passive and let others do the work. Much depends on our intelligence, determination and "standing up" as an individual to carry the basic mission of CWI into action.

If Not Now, by Carrie Newcomer.

If not now, tell me when ?

If not now, tell me when ?

We may never see this moment

Or place in time again

If not now, if not now tell me when?

Sincerely, Harriett Stonehill, CoPresident CWI.

PS To learn about Harriett's free **Wise Aging Seminars** contact her at estone456@aol.com or check the April CWI newsletter.

CWI is looking for new individual and organizational members and for additional Board members and Officers for two-year terms to be elected at our June 18 meeting. Join a dynamic team that plans and coordinates CWI programs and collaborates with other feminist and social justice organizations. Don't delay, send in the membership form on the last page of this newsletter and contact any Board member to volunteer for the CWI Board.

In addition to in-person monthly meetings, CWI provides additional information for our members in the DC area and around the nation who are not able to attend our noon meetings. We provide meeting announcements and summaries in monthly CWI newsletters and videos of many of our meetings produced by Loretto Gubernatis, our VP for Media Relations. These records are available on our website, <https://womensclearinghouse.org> maintained by Sherry Klein, our VP for Technology.

**Cordially,
Co-Presidents Harriett Stonehill & Sue Klein**

CWI Meeting Summary, April 23, 2019

Financial Literacy From a Feminist Lens

This meeting organized by CWI's Vice Presidents, **Anne Martin** and **Connie Cordovilla** helped celebrate April as Financial Literacy month. Anne chaired the meeting and explained the importance of women maintaining healthy financial habits from their first earnings through retirement. She noted that there are 5.5 million more women over age 65 than men. The population statistics state that 67% of those over age 85 are women. Most student loan borrowers are women. Many people cannot handle \$400 per month for emergencies.



Dr. Laurel Beedon was the first speaker. She is a Senior Research Fellow at the Women's Institute for a Secure Retirement (WISER) and recently retired as a Senior Analyst in the Government Accountability Office (GAO). She stated that it is important for women of all ages to understand how to build economic security. Among the issues unique to women are the facts that women earn less, live longer, are less likely to be offered retirement benefits, and have less in savings and pensions than men.

The financial risks of longevity were discussed. Outliving assets and unexpected health care costs can significantly reduce a woman's retirement income, as well as reduction or loss of health and retirement benefits due to the death of a spouse. Social Security is the only retirement benefit with a guaranteed cost of living adjustment based on full inflation. Tips for financial planning include: set long-term goals early, look for jobs with benefits, make financial plans, avoid credit card debt, identify income sources, and ask employers about the pension/savings plan specifics.

Social Security is the foundation of retirement income. Women should find out their benefit amount, full retirement age, and how when they take the benefit affects the amount. The Social Security Administration Retirement Planner is available at: <https://www.ssa.gov/planners/calculators/>.

To-dos for the 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s were discussed. Women as caregivers should consider how leaving the paid workforce (or going part-time) would affect their current income, health and retirement benefits, and their retirement income. Dr. Beedon's [power point presentation](#) and video of her talk will be on the CWI website. Additional information is on the WISER website at www.wiserwomen.org.

Next we learned from **Dr. Abigail Lewis**, Vice President of Programs, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) where she oversees the Salary Negotiation Program and other AAUW programs. She stated that women should negotiate their salaries. The closing of the pay gap is not going well. There is still a motherhood penalty and a fatherhood bonus for married couples. Single women have about 1/3 of the wealth of single men. When negotiating for new jobs, women should try to avoid stating their previous salary history to potential employers as previous salary may be disproportionately lower than standards for certain industries. Job seekers or changers should also know their own value, know their target salary and benefits, know their negotiation strategy, and practice their negotiation discussions. To benchmark your salary and benefits she emphasized four steps: 1. Research the salary range and benefits. 2. Establish a target salary. 3. Assess what benefits are important to you. 4. Determine your walk-away point. The job offer should be stated in writing.



Dr. Lewis's [power point presentation](#) and video of her talk will be on the CWI website. She provided us with <https://aauw.us/CWI>, a free resource where one can register for an online course on salary and benefit negotiation. This will help train women to demand an equitable salary, moving towards AAUW's goal to eliminate the male-female wage gap by 2020. AAUW encourages you to try the course and let others know about it. AAUW wants to reach ten million women over five years using both online and in person training on campuses and in other locations. Folks should email salary@aauw.org with questions. Dr. Lewis announced that the next DC area negotiation workshop will be May 24, 2019. (See the Feminist Events section of this newsletter for details.)

In the post talk Q&A, CWI VP Jeanette Esbrook told a story of a beloved woman professor who devalued her need for equal pay. She suggested that her University bosses give the higher raises to her male professor colleagues since they needed it more to care for their families than she did as a single woman. Then when she was ready to retire she found that her pension would be too small to support her. Fortunately, Jeanette was working in the Dean's office. Jeanette learned about this situation and was able to make some pay adjustments before the professor retired to help her earn more in her later years so her pension would be more adequate.

We also reminded meeting participants that the Paycheck Fairness Act will greatly help address some of the pay equity assurances that were not included in the Equal Pay Act. One of the key fixes in the Paycheck Fairness Act is to make sure that people are not required to provide information on their salary history. Women are often paid less than men with the same or similar responsibilities and thus if their pay is based on their past earnings, the sex discrimination will be continued. The Paycheck Fairness Act passed in the House and needs additional attention to pass in the Senate.

Coming DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources

Please send your upcoming feminist events to post in CWI newsletters to president@womensclearinghouse.org. LIKE and FOLLOW us on CWI's Facebook www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse and Twitter www.twitter.com/CWINews pages! Also SUBSCRIBE and LIKE our video sponsor & provider <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>. Times are EST. Paid-up CWI members will receive additional forwarded email messages on feminist meetings and activities.

Monday, May 13, 2019, 6:30 PM. The Wahhabi Code: How the Saudis Spread Extremism Globally. Woman's National Democratic Club, 1526 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036. \$25 for non-members. [Register](#)

Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 8:15 AM to 7 PM. Forum to Advance Women's Leadership in the Global Development Sector, WILD Network, 1825 Connecticut Ave. 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20009. \$595 [For more info.](#)

Wednesday, May 15, 2019, Webinar, 11 AM. Equality Starts in the Family: A Global Dialogue, to discuss how equality in the family can transform the lives of women and girls at all levels of society. Women's Learning Partnership. [Register](#)

Thursday, May 16, 2019, 1-2:15 PM. Webinar, Better Business Strategy: How to Run a "Strategy-Led" Mentoring Program. Million Women Mentors, [Register](#)

Friday, May 17, 2019, Noon. 2019 Foremothers and Health Policy Heroes Awards Luncheon, Honoring a Congresswoman, journalist, and author who break down barriers for all women. National Center for Health Research. Mayflower Hotel, 1127 Connecticut Ave, NW, Wash. DC 20036. Donations by May 10 starting at \$110. Must purchase [Tickets](#) in advance.

Thursday, May 23, 2019, 12:15 PM, Making Media Look More Like America, Conversation with Dorothy Gilliam and Denise Rolark Barnes. Woman's National Democratic Club, 1526 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036. \$30 with lunch for non-member or \$10 lecture only. [Register](#)

Friday, May 24, 2019, 6:30-8:30 PM. AAUW Salary Negotiation Workshop. AAUW, 1310 L Street NW, First Floor. **Free.** [Register](#)

Tuesday, May 28, 2019, Noon. CWI meeting on A Feminist Approach to US Foreign Policy. See Page 1 of this newsletter.

*CWI's newsletter is endowed by friends in loving memory of our previous longtime editor, Roslyn Kaiser
Meeting summary by Helen Mulkeen and the Presenters. Photos supplied by Laurel Beedon and Sue Klein*

Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2018 – JUNE 2020

OFFICERS: Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis; VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook; VP Technology, Sherry Klein; VP Global Issues, Megan Corrado; VP Strategic Planning, Connie Cordovilla; and VP Organizational Management, Anne Martin.

DIRECTOR EMERITA: Elaine Newman, **EX OFFICIO:** Barbara J. Ratner
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Clearinghouse on Women's Issues Membership Form

<https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Bring a check, payable to CWI, along with this form to a CWI Meeting or mail to:

Holly Taggart Joseph, CWI Treasurer, 8504 Rosewood Drive, Bethesda MD 20814-1434 or joseph.holly@gmail.com
Tel. 301-530-9594, cell 301-325-4740

You may also join online using PayPal by going to the membership section of womensclearinghouse.org

For membership questions: Contact VP Membership, Linda Fihelly, lfihelly@hotmail.com or 301-599-1942

NAME and Title of Individual **Member** or **Organization*** _____

(Organization Member Please Provide Names, emails and tel. numbers of two individuals to be CWI members)

NAME & Title of Primary Organizational Member _____

NAME & Title of 2nd Organizational Member _____

ADDRESS of Individual or Organization _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

EMAIL (Org. member 1) _____

EMAIL (Org. member 2) _____

WEBSITE ADDRESS: (URL)* _____

Enclosed is a check for CWI membership. Membership year is: **July 1-June 30** (Please fill in beginning and end date). If you pay after April 1 your membership year(s) will start early and not end until June 30 of the next year. _____

____ **Individual** ____ \$25 for one year ____ \$45 for two years ____ \$65 for three years

____ **Individual under 30 years old** (\$15/one year)

____ **Virtual** (\$20/one year) (Email newsletter only for members outside Washington, DC area)

____ **Organization** (\$40/one year or \$100/three years-Includes emails to 2 members-see above)

____ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ **Date of Payment** _____

*If organizational member, indicate if you would like a link to your organization to be listed on CWI's website. (Listing subject to CWI approval) Check: ____ YES ____ NO

Membership dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. (Form Rev. 5-6-19)