



January 2020 CWI Newsletter <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

**Invitation to Tuesday, January 28, 2020 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>**

## Views of Prostitution in the U.S. from the Civil War to Today

While people of all genders and ages can be treated as prostitutes, there are different societal norms and legal restrictions on this behavior for all participants in different countries and across time. CWI Vice-President for Media Relations, **Loretto Gubernatis** will show a short [video](#) and introduce **Sheryl Williams** who just completed a C-SPAN show on prostitution in the civil war to talk about roles of women prostitutes during our civil war.

**Sheryl Williams** works as an actress, historical reenactor, and amateur historian. She has participated in related civil war you.tube videos by Loretto. Sheryl also has worked on shows for The Discovery Channel and C-SPAN 3's American History TV, as well as working currently as Co-Producer and Host on Loretto's Anne Arundel County Public Access TV show, "The Time Capsule", which focuses on historical reenactors and the events they present and attend. Her reenacting portrayals and time periods include Hester Schuyler of the American Revolution; a World War II Ground Forces Army Nurse; A Vietnam Era in-country Nurse; and a prostitute of the American Civil War Era. The latter portrayal is Sheryl's specialty, and she has presented and interpreted the life of a Victorian prostitute at Civil War Battle Reenactments in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; Cedar Creek, Virginia; and at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park. Sheryl also has a profound interest in historical fashion and costuming and has designed and created much of her own historical wardrobe. She is a Baltimorean and has a Bachelor's degree in Communication from Goucher College. Sheryl's talk will be on ***The tale of soiled doves and public women: prostitution during the civil war.***

**Legal issues relating to prostitution in the US today from feminist perspectives.** Although there is much more recognition of the range of participants engaged in prostitution today than during our civil war, most of the discussion will relate to the most common form, prostitution of women by men.

**Toni Van Pelt**, a longtime feminist and secular humanist activist was elected president of the National Organization for Women (NOW) in 2017. She is also president of the NOW Foundation and chair of the NOW Political Action Committee. She serves as the principal spokeswoman for all three entities. Her NOW activism started with Florida NOW in 1989 and she served as Southeast Regional NOW Director from 2010-2014. She is co-founder for the Institute for Science and Human Values and former vice president of the Center for Inquiry. Her past career as the owner of a travel agency, International Travel Associates, Inc. gave her the opportunity to expand her worldview through global travel.

Toni will speak about NOW's [End the Demand](#) campaign in which the grassroots membership [calls for support of Nordic or Equality Model legislation](#), successfully adopted by Sweden, Norway, Iceland, Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, France, Israel and Canada. Under the [Equality Model](#) the demand for sex acts is fully criminalized, but prostituted women are decriminalized, their records are expunged and they are offered much-needed and much-desired supportive services.

**CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your own lunch. An RSVP to attend is required. RSVP to [media@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:media@womensclearinghouse.org). Next CWI Meeting, Noon Tuesday, February 25, 2020 on "Moving Beyond Gender Bias in Electing Feminist Candidates."**

## CWI Meeting Summary, October 22, 2019

### Empowering Girls, Globally and Domestically

Each year, the international community celebrates the [International Day of the Girl Child](#) on October 11th. Too often, decisions kick global challenges down the road without the input of those that will be affected—our children. Recently, however, youth—and girls in particular—have been raising their voices to address some of the major crises of our time. From climate activist Greta Thunberg to gun control advocate and co-organizer of the March for our Lives, Emma Gonzales, girls are working to ensure that we live in a safer, healthier, more just world. This meeting, led by **Megan Corrado**, CWI VP for Global Issues, focused on organizations and activists working to empower our next generation of women leaders by equipping girls with the skills, confidence, and tools to create a feminist future in the United States and around the globe.



**Wendy Schaezel Lesko**, founder of [Youth Activism Project](#), School Girls Unite, author, activist, and a leader of the movement to mobilize U.S support for the International Day of the Girl kicked off the meeting by providing the background context of the campaign, which was inspired by girl activists in Canada. School Girls Unite, the international component of the Youth Activism Project, led this national campaign. Seventh to twelfth graders with School Girls Unite won with endorsement of 75 organizations with strategic guidance from feminist leaders such as CWI's Co-President Connie Cordovilla. Despite initial resistance from the Administration, the girls persisted and the UN voted to establish this annual global girls' rights day in December 2011. School Girls Unite collaborated with Girls Inc. and other organizations that got 50 city councils and 5 governors to pass their own proclamations focused on specific gender equality issues. It took another year for the first presidential proclamation despite the 2013 government shutdown because School Girls Unite activists never gave up. And today, Anika Manzoor, one of the original girls that participated in the campaign—

and one who initially resisted the idea—at 28 and a Harvard graduate, is now the Executive Director of Youth Activism Project.

See the Wendy Lesko video presentation (9 minutes, 34 seconds) <https://youtu.be/1sL0LNRRdAY> and links to websites and resources - <http://www.dayofthegirl.org/> [YOUth ACTivism Guide to Change - https://youth-activism-project.teachable.com/courses/social-change/lectures/8944544](https://youth-activism-project.teachable.com/courses/social-change/lectures/8944544)

**Lara S. Kaufmann**, Director of Public Policy for [Girls Inc.](#), then discussed opportunities to advance girls' rights and opportunities and empower girls to advocate for social change. She provided an overview of Girls Inc., which serves girls ages 5-18 at more than 1,500 sites in 350 cities across the U.S. and Canada to help girls realize their full potential. Over 75% of the girls served are those of color, the most of whom are from families making less than \$30,000 each year. Lara identified the intersectional challenges girls face, particularly girls of color, those that identify as LGBTQI+, those with disabilities, immigrant families, and of lower socioeconomic status. Ms. Kaufmann directs [#GirlsToo](#), the Girls Inc. national public awareness and advocacy campaign to prevent and address sexual harassment and sexual violence among youth. Based on a widespread survey, girls identified bullying, sexual harassment, and sexual violence as their top concerns. Girls Inc. is now working to create pathways of engagement, various opportunities for youth to get involved and lead. In particular, they are working to combat bullying, harassment, and violence; promote access to education and economic independence; support girls' mental health; and advance reproductive health.



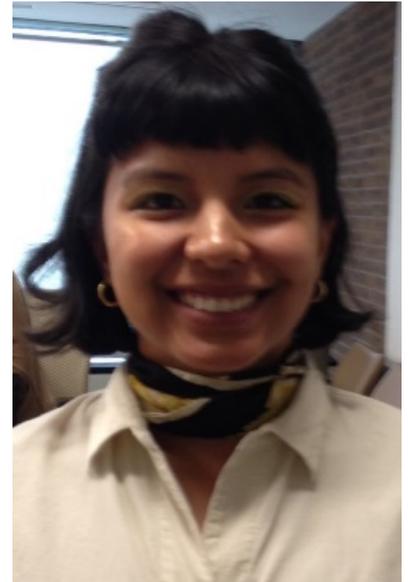
See the video presentation: [Lara Kaufmann \(21 minutes,45seconds\)https://youtu.be/zX8j54cfB](https://youtu.be/zX8j54cfB) [8](#) and [websites - https://girlstoo.girlsinc.org/ https://girlstoo.girlsinc.org/](https://girlstoo.girlsinc.org/)



**Kimberly Hayes Pollard**, President & CEO of We Strategies, LLC and U.S. Consultant for Women's Initiatives that Strengthen and Empower (WISE Zambia), discussed the organization's mission to empower and create economic independence for vulnerable women and girls through education, vocation, and agriculture. The organization officially became a 501(c)(3) in 2005 to provide support to the women and children of Kaoma, a rural village in the Western Province of Zambia. The organization has since expanded its efforts to break the cycle of poverty for women and girls through scholarships, agricultural programs, animal husbandry, and other economic empowerment initiatives. In 2013, WISE Zambia began providing 20 secondary school scholarships. Parents were often

resistant to allowing children, especially girls, to leave the home. Opening up the scholarships to both boys and girls created more acceptance amongst the community. In 2019, WISE Zambia provided 200 scholarships, 133 of which were granted to girls, and expanded its reach to several districts in the Western Province. Each scholarship is granted with the expectation that it will support the awarded student for nine years — four years of high school, a required gap year, and up to four years of college or vocational school. Today, 20 recipients are currently enrolled in college. Many of the students have gone into education and have come back to their communities to empower the next generation. See the presentation by Kimberly Hayes Pollard (11 minutes, 33 seconds) <https://youtu.be/IAAnoqnRHq8> and [websites – https://www.wisezambia.org/https://www.facebook.com/wisezambia.org](https://www.wisezambia.org/)

**Isabelle Orozco** shared information on a related project of the Women's Program Office of the American Psychological Association. Their [I am Psyched!](#) Exhibit features women change makers of color who have contributed to psychology. This exhibit now includes information on 25 women and travels to colleges, libraries, conferences, etc. See this (4 minute, 30 second) video presentation <https://youtu.be/YoqzAvqIjOk>



During the question and answer session, the panelists ruminated on the ways in which women's organizations can work to highlight issues specifically related to girls. The panelists stressed the need to talk about girls' rights whenever discussing women's rights. They also mentioned the importance of women and women's organizations to serve as allies and mentors to girls, and to mobilize advocacy and programming at the national, state, and local level to address diverse needs. The panelists called on women's rights activists to ensure that girls have a seat at the table and to ensure that their voices are amplified, particularly in light of the current suboptimal state of intergenerational interaction.

## Coming DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources

Please send your upcoming feminist events to post in CWI newsletters to [president@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:president@womensclearinghouse.org). LIKE and FOLLOW us on CWI's Facebook [www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse](http://www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse) and Twitter [www.twitter.com/CWINews](http://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.

**Exhibits: Check out [Washington.org/suffrage](http://Washington.org/suffrage) and [#suffrage100DC](https://twitter.com/suffrage100DC)**

**Shall Not Be Denied: Women Fight for the Vote**" Library of Congress Southwest Gallery, Thomas Jefferson Building. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Handwritten letters, speeches, photographs and scrapbooks, created by American suffragists who persisted for more than 70 years to win voting rights for women, will be featured in a new exhibition at the Library of Congress. [Loc.gov/suffrage](http://loc.gov/suffrage)

**Votes for Women: A Portrait of Persistence**, Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery. [Npg.si.edu](http://Npg.si.edu) (Check on continued availability.)

**Rightfully Hers: American Women and the Vote**, National Archives, 10 AM-5:30 PM. [Archives.gov/women](http://Archives.gov/women)  
**#BecauseOfHerStory** or [Americanhistory.si.edu](http://Americanhistory.si.edu). (Check to see if still available.)

**The Exchange**, Dumbarton House to April 2021 in Georgetown. [DumbartonHouse.org](http://DumbartonHouse.org)

**Ordinary Equality**: DAR Members and the Road to Women's Suffrage, 1890-1920 to April 2021. [Dar.org](http://Dar.org)

**The Rights of Women and the Legacy of the American Revolution**, [Americanrevolutioninstitute.org](http://Americanrevolutioninstitute.org)

**Special tour, Votes for Women**. The Capitol Visitor Center, [visitthecapitol.gov/event-calendar](http://visitthecapitol.gov/event-calendar)

## Events

**Wednesday, January 8, 2020, ERA Rally outside the Capitol in Richmond, VA to urge final votes for ERA in VA legislature.** Vigils start January 9. [Sign up for buses and VA events.](#)

**Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 1:30 PM ET, Lead! Organizing skills for grassroots advocates webinar: "A Snapshot of Abortion Rights and Access on the 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Roe v. Wade."** National Council of Jewish Women [Register](#)

**Saturday, January 18, 2020, 3<sup>rd</sup> Women's March in Washington, DC, 10 AM to 1 PM (and many other locations.)** More information at [WomensMarch.com](http://WomensMarch.com)

**Sunday, January 26, 2020 Maryland Women's Legislative Briefing, 11:30 AM-6 PM,** Montgomery County Commission for Women and other Co-sponsors. The Universities at Shady Grove, Building II 9630 Gudelsky Dr., Rockville, Md 20850. Regular Registration \$30 in advance, \$40 at the door. [Registration.](#)

**Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 12 Noon. CWI meeting on "Views of Prostitution in the U.S. from the Civil War to Today".** See page 1 for details. [RSVP to: Media@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:Media@womensclearinghouse.org)

**Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 12 Noon. CWI meeting "Moving Beyond Gender Bias in Electing Feminist Candidates."** [RSVP to: Media@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:Media@womensclearinghouse.org)

**Thursday, March 19, 2020, 4 PM Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Induction and Awards Ceremony** to be held in the President's Conference Room East I and II, in the Miller Senate Office Building, 11 Bladen Street, Annapolis, Maryland. Maryland Commission for Women. (Note: NASA Goddard Space Flight Scientist, Dr. Claire Parkinson, nominated by Loretto Gubernatis is one of the inductees!)

**Saturday, March 28, 2020. Valiant Women of the Vote,** Honoree Luncheon, Washington DC. [Nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org](http://Nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org)

*CWI's newsletter is endowed by friends in loving memory of our previous longtime editor, Roslyn Kaiser*

*Meeting summary by Megan Corrado and Presenters. Photos by Sherry Klein and others.*

*Newsletter edited by Sue Klein*

### **CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2018 – JUNE 2020**

**OFFICERS:** Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Connie Cordovilla; VP Membership, Harriett Stonehill; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary, Helen Mulkeen; VP Diversity, Alotta Taylor; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis; VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook; VP Technology, Sherry Klein; VP Global Issues, Megan Corrado; VP Organizational Management, Anne Martin; Director, Linda Fihelly **DIRECTOR EMERITA:** Elaine Newman,

**EX OFFICIO:** Co-President, Harriett Stonehill

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# Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

## Membership Form

[womensclearinghouse.org](http://womensclearinghouse.org)

**Three ways to join or to renew:**

1. Bring a check, payable to CWI, and this form to a CWI meeting or
2. Mail form & check to Holly Joseph, CWI Treasurer, 8504 Rosewood Drive, Bethesda MD 20814-1434 or
3. Pay through PayPal, by selecting the desired membership option on our website's membership page <https://womensclearinghouse.org/membership/> & please send this form by USPS or email to [treasurer@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:treasurer@womensclearinghouse.org)

The CWI membership year is **July 1-June 30**. Multi-year memberships are encouraged and discounted! Please fill in the end year (e.g. 2020-2023 for a 3-yr membership). Payment puts you on the email list to receive CWI newsletters and many feminist announcements during your membership.

**Membership Years Covered: 2020 - 202**\_\_\_\_ **Date of Payment** \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIVIDUAL**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
**EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_  
**STREET ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE: H/W** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL** \_\_\_\_\_

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES - reduced for multiple-year memberships**

\_\_\_\_\$15/1yr.-for those < 30 yrs. old    \_\_\_\_\$25/1yr.    \_\_\_\_\$45/2yrs.    \_\_\_\_\$65/3yrs.

**Virtual membership** - only for those outside the metropolitan DC area \_\_\_\_\$20/1yr.    \_\_\_\_\$50/3yrs.

**ORGANIZATION**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
**NAME & EMAIL of Organization Representative: 1)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**NAME & EMAIL of Organization Representative: 2)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**STREET ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **CELL** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Organization website address (URL) if to be included on CWI website, pending CWI approval:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DUES - reduced for multiple-year memberships**

\_\_\_\_\$40/1 year    \_\_\_\_\$70/2 yrs.    \_\_\_\_\$100/3 yrs. (This covers emails to two reps. listed above.)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dues (from above)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Additional tax-deductible contribution  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL ENCLOSED**

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