



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

Invitation to CWI Zoom Meeting, Tuesday, September 22 , 2020 (12:00-1:30 PM Eastern)

You must register in advance for this meeting – go to:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMod-mpqDItE9Hz5sLrdCmc_0BcvU7vOf-3

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Get Out the Vote Strategies to Promote High and Diverse Voter Turnout

During the June 2020 meeting of the Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI), Karen Mulhauser discussed the critical work of her new organization, [Every Women Vote 2020](#), as well as the current and historical challenges women face casting their ballots this year. With the upcoming most important federal election of our lifetime, CWI aims to continue the conversation led by Board Member, Megan Corrado to explore in further detail how we as organizations and individuals can mobilize to increase voter turnout amongst women and marginalized communities.

Please join CWI and a distinguished panel, to explore strategies to increase voter registration and ensure the voices of all Americans, particularly those from communities that have the most at-stake in November. The discussion will highlight the legal, economic, practical, and—now, in light of COVID-19—health barriers their communities are facing in exercising their right to vote, as well as lessons learned from previous mobilization efforts, opportunities for others to engage and help increase voter registration and turnout. Confirmed Panelists are:

Eleanor Smeal, President of the Feminist Majority and Feminist Majority Foundation (www.feministmajority.org and www.feminist.org) and former President of the National Organization for Women, (NOW). She has fought on the frontlines for women's equality for more than five decades. In the 1970s, as President of NOW she spearheaded the drive to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, the largest nationwide grassroots and lobbying campaign in the history of the modern women's movement. Smeal also pioneered the use of the Internet as a feminist organizing and research tool by launching the Feminist Majority Foundation Online in 1995. Today, she is working hard and successfully navigating the unique challenges posed by COVID-19 to ensure the momentum of Feminist Majority Foundation, its 501(c)(4) affiliate Feminist Majority, and Ms. Magazine continues ever forward in the fight for gender equity. Always the organizer and practical realist, she will speak about her team's efforts to mobilize young people through campus outreach in targeted states.

Christine Chen, Executive Director of Asian and Pacific Islander Vote (APIAVote). APIA focuses its research and action on Asian American and Pacific Islander voters. It provides regional training and field programs to enhance local grassroots efforts to mobilize these constituencies for the 2020 census as well as elections. Ms. Chen serves as the President of Strategic Alliances USA, a consulting firm specializing in coalition-building, institutional development, and partnerships amongst the corporate sector, government agencies, and the non-profit and public sectors. She has more than two decades of experience in organizing and advocating on issues such as immigration, hate crimes, affirmative action, census, racial profiling, voting rights, election reform. Chen serves on the Steering Committee for National Voter Registration Day, Kennedy Center Community Advisory Board, and the board for the Center for Asian American Media. Ms. Chen will speak about efforts to enfranchise the Asian American and Pacific Islander voters.

Dear Current and Potential CWI members,

On the June 25, 2020 Annual Meeting CWI members elected the following officers for two year terms July 1, 2020-June 30, 2022 by acclamation.

TREASURER: Holly Taggart Joseph
SECRETARY and VICE PRESIDENT GLOBAL AFFAIRS: Megan E. Corrado
VICE PRESIDENT MEDIA RELATIONS: Loretto Gubernatis
VICE PRESIDENT LEGAL AFFAIRS: Jeanette Lim Esbrook

Continuing Board Members serving terms 2019-21 are:

CO-PRESIDENTS: Connie Cordovilla and Sue Klein
VICE-PRESIDENT MEMBERSHIP: Harriett Stonehill
VICE-PRESIDENT DIVERSITY: Alotta Taylor
VICE-PRESIDENT ORGANIZATIONAL MANGEMENT: Anne Martin
VICE PRESIDENT TECHNOLOGY: Sherry Klein
BOARD MEMBER: Linda Fihelly

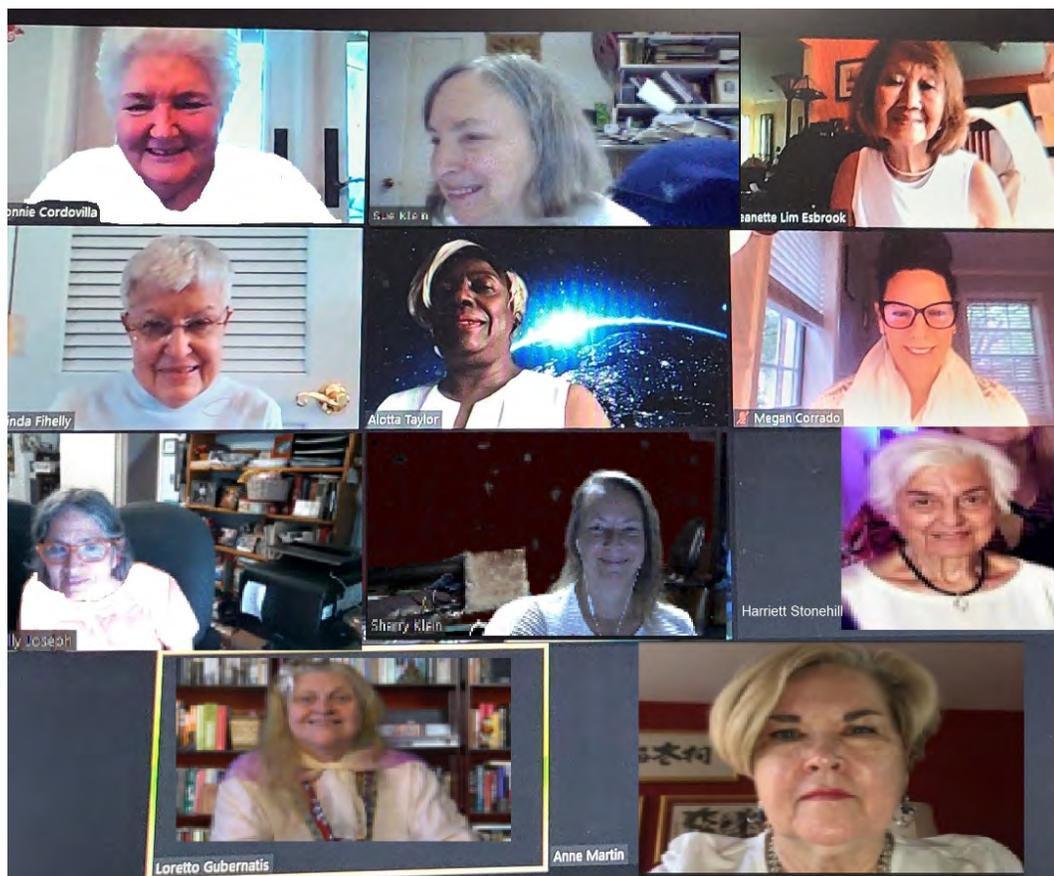
CWI is looking for additional Board Members so please contact Connie or Sue if you are interested in serving in our wonderful volunteer organization.

CWI Membership

CWI operates as voluntary membership organization but does have a few expenses. Thus, we need to charge members modest dues. CWI membership year is July 1 to June 30. We need to remind you to renew your membership for 2020 and beyond if you haven't already done so. We encourage you to renew or sign up for multiple year memberships at a discounted rate. See last page of this newsletter for membership information. Multiple year discounts include a three-year organizational membership for only \$100. Gift memberships are also encouraged. For example, you can give an organizational membership to your favorite organization and serve as one of their 2 representatives instead of joining as an individual member. We anticipate that our regular CWI meetings will continue on zoom for the rest of the membership year and thus encourage feminists from all over the US to join us.

Photo taken from August 25, 2020 CWI Board meeting via Zoom.

We are wearing white to honor the 100th anniversary of the suffrage amendment.



CWI Program Summary: June 25, 2020 Zoom Meeting Annual Elections Meeting Featuring How CWI Member Organizations are changing with COVID-19, the elections & more

The meeting was organized and moderated by CWI Co-Presidents, **Connie Cordovilla** who also serves as the Virginia NOW President and was instrumental in the election and ERA victories in Virginia and **Sue Klein** who is also the Education Equity Director of the Feminist Majority Foundation.

The meeting began with CWI elections. There were no nominations from the floor, so each person running was unopposed and will assume their respective position.

Today's speakers come from a variety of member organizations, with a focus on coalition building, the women's vote, and Title IX policy – all in the context of COVID-19. After elections, Sue Klein introduced the first speaker, along with all of the other speakers in the following order:

Jenalyn Sotto, the senior manager for strategy and policy at the National Women's Law Center (NWLC). She is an alumna of UC Berkeley and a native of the San Francisco Bay Area. Jenalyn has a long track record of work in civil rights, advancing progressive public policy, institutional equity and inclusion, comprehensive immigration reform, improving mental health access, and building coalitions. In her role at NWLC, she leads the Pathway to Gender Justice Initiative. This initiative goes deep in key early and battleground states to drive a national conversation that will ensure positive change in 2021 for women, girls, and families. The main focus of her talk today was concerning the "We Demand More" letter and campaign, which is a comprehensive feminist response to COVID-19 and its disproportionate effect on women, people of color, LGBTQ+ people, etc.

The next speaker was **Karen Mulhauser**, president of Consulting Women and a leader at Every Woman Vote 2020. She has previously led numerous organizations, including NARAL. Karen primarily works on engaging women in voting through voter outreach of Partner organizations. Because the 22 nonprofit partners are trusted by members, their efforts to register and turn out voters is highly effective.

Next, **Anne Anderson** spoke about the long fight to DC statehood. Anne is a team leader for DC statehood activities at the League of Women Voters in DC and has been working on DC statehood issues since 1971.

The final speaker was **Jeanette Lim Esbrook**, CWI's Vice President Legal Affairs and former Acting Assistant Secretary, Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education. While in OCR, she was one of the first attorneys to work on Title IX sexual harassment issues in the 1980's.

Highlights from the presenters:



Jenalyn Sotto began by explaining the reasons behind the “We Demand More” letter and campaign in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Women, especially women of color, comprise a large share of front-line essential workers and are experiencing the harshest impacts of this crisis. When considering which people and demographics still have to work during this crisis, it is commonly those who already experience a long history of systemic discrimination – Black, brown, and under-paid workers who are primarily women. COVID-19 is widening existing disparities and augmenting the discrimination we face, from access to quality care, the availability of supports that enable women to work and also balance caregiving responsibilities, and, in some cases, racialized violence against Asian and Asian American women.

Though this pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on women, especially women of color, there is still a lack of legislative focus on them. For example, the first federal assistance bills created during this crisis failed to account for critical supports like paid leave and left out billions of workers while Boeing got more money than all of the childcare sector combined. Additionally, women are being both left out and attacked – most notably, Governor Gretchen Whitmer experienced a huge and violent backlash to her proactive and successful approach to containing COVID-19 in Michigan. Keeping all these factors in mind, Jenalyn and her colleagues built a coalition to combine policy priorities on this topic, thus creating a unified list of four demands to communicate to politicians. These demands can be found at wedemandmore.org and <https://nwlc.org/resources/women-demand-more-of-congress-to-face-covid-recession/>, and aim to center the focus on women, people of color, survivors, immigrants, LGBTQ+ and gender nonbinary people, etc. – especially given the recent events concerning police brutality. A brief overview of these demands is as follows –

1. Put women and families ahead of corporations, including workplace and critical protections
2. Give relief to women and families now
3. Stabilize state & local governments and the jobs and programs they support
4. Do no harm: relief efforts must center the focus on and uplift most vulnerable populations

In August Jenalyn shared a NWLC fact sheet on “The Impact of COVID on Michigan’s Women of Color Voters” <https://nwlc.org/resources/the-impact-of-covid-on-michigans-women-of-color-voters/> which praised Gov. Whitmer for her COVID leadership but indicated the many ways that women of color needed more help in their various roles



Next, **Karen Mulhauser** spoke briefly about the importance of the women’s vote. Although women vote in higher percentages than men, 53 million women did not vote in 2018. Karen has completed various forms of voter outreach, doing specific events and actions on the anniversaries of suffrage and the Voting Rights Act, in addition to focus groups to further understand what will draw people to voting. On Every Woman Vote 2020’s website (www.everywomanvote2020.org), each of their partners has a “room”, which includes information about their voter outreach, links to websites and tools & suggestions for convening

virtual meetings, links to films about suffrage and the Voting Rights Act. If you know of organizations that would be interested in partnering with or donating to Every Woman Votes 2020, contact Karen at kmulhauser@consultingwomen.com.

The following are Every Woman Vote 2020 partner organizations as of July 1, 2020

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black Women’s Roundtable of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation• Coalition of Labor Union Women• Feminist Majority Foundation• League of Women Voters• Ms. Magazine• National Abortion Federation• National Center for Health Research• National Council of Jewish Women• National Organization for Women Foundation• National Vote at Home Institute• 2020 One Woman One Vote Festival	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our sBodies Ourselves• Project LPAC• Public Allies• Public Leadership Education Network [PLEN]• The Representation Project• Vote Mama Foundation• Vote Run Lead• Western Native Voice
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On the topic of voting, **Anne Anderson** spoke about her work with the League of Women Voters DC (join here: www.lwvdc.org/join). Both the National and DC Leagues of Women Voters are 100 years old, which is a shocking fact given that the DC statehood vote has still not passed the Senate. Moreover, DC residents have only been able to vote for president since 1964. She emphasized that given these facts, DC is a young democracy in the context of the oldest democracy – America. Her work at the League primarily consists of civic engagement, informing people about the League’s work, and using redistricting and power mapping to get DC on the map as a state. She travels around the country talking about DC issues, as most Americans do not know them. Her frustration was evident, as DC residents cannot vote on the issues that are important to them, and DC has become a sort of “petri dish” for social issues and “bargaining chip” for politicians. DC consists of 705,000 residents, pay taxes and still cannot vote. Go to LWVDC.org to see the DC statehood toolkit, along with other online materials. Still, the DC statehood bill (HR 51) passed in the House on June 26, which is a huge step in the right direction. The LWV Video is here:

<https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/posts/10158193241412279> .

Anne urged attendees to watch the LWV Expanding the Vote Panel Presentation (June 25): Facebook livestream with Muriel Bowser, Washington, DC, Mayor; Alejandra Y. Castillo, YWCA USA CEO; Valerie B. Jarrett, When We All Vote Board Chair and The United State of Women Co-Chair; and Allison Riggs, Southern Coalition for Social Justice Interim Executive Director & Chief Counsel for Voting Rights Video here:

<https://www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvoters/posts/10158193241412279>



Jeanette Lim Esbrook, the final speaker, informed those in attendance about the impacts of the new Education Department Title IX regulations focusing on sexual harassment and assault. These regulations were published in May and must be implemented by August 14 – thus giving schools three months to overhaul their grievance procedures, during which they are also planning for reopening during a pandemic. She emphasized the significant changes these regulations make on the Title IX approach, and how they focus on the rights of the accused. They rollback protection policies for complainants and allow for direct cross examination and confrontation between parties. This prioritization of due process for the accused will have a “chilling effect” on those who might come forward with Title IX complaints, especially because the jurisdiction has been further limited. Namely, sexual assault must be within school programs/activities, thus excluding study abroad, off campus, and private locations and events. The act(s) must be severe enough for the student to leave school, which as Jeanette exemplified, would have excluded

Amanda Thomashow, the first complainant against Larry Nassar. Although universities will most likely go above and beyond these regulations, the Department of Education estimates a 30% decrease in complaints filed, which is seen as more of an economic benefit to the school and a detriment to survivors of sexual assault. Still, universities’ decisions to go beyond the new regulations might incur litigation costs that offset this economic benefit – for example, the UC system-wide Title IX Director, Susan Taylor, has stated that the UC system will have two separate grievance procedures. Moreover, K-12 students have less protection as compared to other forms of discrimination (racial, employee, etc.), which indicates a need for adequate training and informing students of this process, along with ensuring policy enforcement.

The Democratic Women's Caucus Virtual Roundtable that discussed these issues can be found here:

<https://speier.house.gov/press-releases?ID=96484C9F-D01A-4C11-8680-EF0201E67AED>

And here: https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=2600507916875063&ref=watch_permalink.

Additionally, the National Women's Law Center has been leading the effort against these new regulations and has given suggestions on how Congress can address them.

The September 2, 2020 ED OCR Title IX Regulations are now available in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations. [https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=mm#sent?projector=1, Electronic Code of Federal Regulations \(eCFR\),pdf](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?tab=mm#sent?projector=1,ElectronicCodeofFederalRegulations(eCFR),pdf)

A recording of the CWI 6-25-20 zoom meeting is available on the CWI website and at this [youtube address](#).

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 Eastern. Paid-up CWI members will receive additional forwarded email messages on additional feminist meetings and activities.

To join the National Women's Political Caucus VA chapter, contact katihornung@gmail.com or jane.newell@comcast.net, or visit NWPC.org/membership.

Maryland Women's History Podcast Releases Second Season

Ballot & Beyond is produced by Preservation Maryland.

Ballot & Beyond is a multi-media public history exhibit and podcast highlighting the work of remarkable Maryland women with a focus on the state's suffragists and activists. More than 55 episodes are available now for streaming and reading on: ballotandbeyond.org.

Tune in to episodes of Ms. magazine podcasts, On the issues with Michele Goodwin on [Podcasts + Spotify](#).

Watch Women's Bureau Tribute to the Rosies. See [video](#) featuring many 90 year old Rosie the Riveters.

Events

Monday, Sept. 14- Tue Sept. 15, 2020. National Advocacy Summit, Americans United for Separation of Church and State. [See Schedule](#). [Register](#)

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 3PM EDT. Fix Our Constitution, Attorneys General discuss case of Virginia v Ferriero to publish the ERA 28th Amendment. Tickets free and distributed by VoteEqualityUS mail list by signing up here [here](#). Sponsored by VAratifyERA.

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2-3:30 PM What You Should Know About Your Retirement Plan Webcast, Women's Bureau, [Register](#).

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 5:30 PM, Zoom Webinar. Women Vote: The Impact Women may have on the 2020 Election, New York Univ, [RSVP](#)

Friday, Sept. 18 11AM -1PM EDT 2020 Women of the Diaspora Virtual Summit. Sponsored by UNFPA and others. Summit website: <https://www/ardm/mgp/wotd2020/>

Thursday, Sept. 24. 2020 at 4- 5 PM EDT. Advanced Womanufacturing STEM Network Meeting-Strategies for recruiting Females into Advanced Manufacturing Pathways sponsored by NAPE [Register](#)

From the Feminist To-Do List, United State of Women 9-4-20

September 14th [Supporting Working Moms through COVID](#) with The Riveter at 10am PDT!

September 15th [Careers & COVID: Tips for Finding a Job and Working Remotely During COVID-19](#) with The Riveter at 1pm PDT!

September 23rd [Youth Leaders Redefining Safety In Our Communities](#) with the President's Youth Council of the California Endowment at 5pm EST!

September 24th-September 26th [Survivors' Summit](#) with the Survivor's Agenda!

September 29th - October 1st [FORTUNE Most Powerful Women Virtual Summit](#) with Fortune Live Media!

October 7th [Stand Up Against Street Harassment](#) with Hollaback!, L'Oréal Paris, and the NYC Commission on Gender Equity at 5pm EST!

*CWI's newsletter is endowed by friends in loving memory of our previous longtime editor, Roslyn Kaiser
Meeting summary by Feminist Majority Foundation Intern, Katarina Watson and the meeting presenters.*

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 and VP Global Issues, Megan Corrado, VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis; VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook; VP Technology, Sherry Klein; VP Organizational Management, Alotta Taylor, VP Diversity; 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

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

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.