



**Invitation to CWI Zoom Meeting, Tuesday, April 26, 2022 (12:00-1:30 PM)**

**April 2022 Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Newsletter**  
**<https://womensclearinghouse.org>**

**Plugging the School-To-Prison Pipeline/Stopping School Push-out**

[LinkRegistration](#)

CWI's April 26<sup>th</sup> Noon Zoom Meeting will focus on the discussion of the disproportionately harsh effect of school discipline policies in pushing out students, marginalized due to intersectional markers such as color, ethnicity, gender orientation and economic status. Our speakers will present facts and statistics that will outline the crisis that social justice advocates recognize and are united in working to create a nondiscriminatory administration of school discipline. This meeting will be hosted by CWI's Board co-president, Connie Cordovilla. Our distinguished presenters are:

**Sabrina Bernadel** (*She/ her/hers*), Equal Justice Works Fellow, National Women's Law Center, will focus her portion on how Black girls are disproportionately disciplined and policed in schools, leading to school pushout and their involvement in the school-to-prison pipeline. She will explain concepts like "adultification bias" and intersectionality and how they play out in the education context. Sabrina will discuss what advocates can do to ensure safe, inclusive schools for girls of color and all students.

**Dara Baldwin** (*She/her/hers*), National Policy Director for the Center for Disability Rights, which is a co-convenor of the Federal School Discipline and Climate Coalition. She will discuss the difference between equality & equity; the reason both political parties are causing harm in this work; the federal legislation which her coalition supports and those they oppose; and finally the solutions and how we as a society can actually create a new world order, one where there is truly equal educational opportunities for all.

**Valerie Slater, Esq.** (*She, her, hers*) is Co-founder/Executive Director of RISE for Youth, a nonpartisan organization committed to dismantling the youth prison model and ensuring every space that impacts a young person's life encourages growth and success. Her portion of the discussion will address the effects of school discipline policies and practices on youth in communities with high incidence of poverty, Black and Brown families, and the overuse of law enforcement to address the issues resulting from a failure to resource these communities appropriately. She will also touch on the erasure of childhood for students in these communities by the education system and other systems tasked with supporting their healthy transition to adulthood.

**Please join us at this meeting by registering at**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsdO2przMIGNBHh2119StBIPsyDHvi0XLI>**

**May 24 CWI Noon Zoom Meeting Urging Sport Governance to Develop New Structures to Welcome Transgender Athletes, While Prioritizing Competitive Fairness and Safety for Females featuring Nancy Hogshead Makar, Donna Lopiano and Colleagues**

## Summary of March 22, 2022 Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Zoom Meeting on "Women and the U.S. Judiciary" by Sheila Wickouski and Sue Klein

The Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) was delighted to celebrate President Biden's Nomination of the First Black woman, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, to the SCOTUS with a discussion by distinguished panel on "Women and the US Judiciary" on Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

Prior to the meeting, CWI's Vice President Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook, had issued this statement to endorse her confirmation.

*The Clearinghouse on Women's Issues is an organization that addresses progress towards greater equity for women and girls in economic, health, education, social, political, and legal issues.*

*Accordingly, we wholeheartedly support President Biden's nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court of the United States. This highest Court of the land should have representation of all citizens and the nomination of a Black woman to the Court is long overdue. Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson is eminently qualified as a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law school. She is a respected and experienced jurist with a life-long dedication to public service.*

The video recording of this 3-22-22 CWI meeting is available here: <https://youtu.be/sU1s0hjMb8c>

We are delighted that the Senate has now confirmed Ketanji Brown Jackson as Justice Jackson with a bipartisan 53-47 Senate vote on April 7, 2022. She will take over the Supreme Court position of Justice Breyer after he leaves at the end of this term in June 2022. **CWI joins many others in Congratulating Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson!**

CWI Co-President, Dr. Sue Klein, introduced this meeting by explaining that the topic, Women in the U.S. Judiciary was picked by the CWI Board of Directors last summer to celebrate Women's History Month because it is so important especially when the Supreme Court and some other Courts are likely to overturn important precedents like Roe V Wade and weaken other equal rights protections. We are delighted that in addition to these concerns, the meeting turned into a celebration of President Biden's nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson as the first Black Woman Supreme Court Justice.



Our first presenter was **Kimberly Humphrey**, the Senior Legislative Counsel at the **Alliance for Justice (afj.org)** where she leads and coordinates federal advocacy to elevate the importance of the courts and judicial nominations for AFJ. She previously worked as a senior policy analyst in Baltimore's Dept of Human Resources and as a Legislative Counsel for ACLU of Maryland. She has a J.D. from Catholic Univ. and an undergraduate degree from Spelman College.

Kimberly provided an overview of the demographics of women in the US Judiciary and the strong progress of advocates and the Biden administration in adding women of color, and particularly Black women, to the federal bench. She said that AFJ supports and works for judges

who are well qualified, fair minded, representative of all our diverse communities demographically and experientially and support equal justice for all.

She cited statistics that 73% of Federal judges are men and 80% are white. Women are 51% of the population but only 27% of federal judgeships. While women of color are 20% of the population, they are represented by only 4% of federal judgeships. The first women to serve on the Federal bench was in 1928 and the first woman, Sandra Day O'Connor, was not selected to the Supreme Court until 1981.

Kimberly further pointed out that while 3,843 people have served on the federal judiciary, only 71 have been black women and noted that the Biden administration pace of appointing women to judgeships in his first year exceeds other presidents including President Obama. Biden has had 73% women judicial nominees compared to 42% for Obama and 24% for Trump. Biden has appointed 11 Black women so far and Obama appointed 26 and Clinton 15 during their 8 years as President. The most Black women appointed by Republicans was 8 by President George W. Bush.

Kimberly then discussed the Biden nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court and her many qualifications and that her hearings were going on during this CWI meeting.



Our second presenter was **Samantha Cyrulnik-Dercher, (Sam)** Senior Manager of the **Fair Courts Program at The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights and The Leadership Conference Education Fund. ([civilrights.org](http://civilrights.org))**. The Leadership Conference is composed of over 220 organizations who work together to advance justice in the U.S. She previously served as Federal Policy Director of SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change, where she advocated for LGBTQ-inclusive comprehensive sex education. She also worked for then Congressman Tim Walz (MN-01) working her way from intern to Acting Legislative Director. She earned her B.A. in political science from The George Washington Univ. and her

J.D. from American Univ. Washington College of Law.

Sam updated us on the vetting and confirmation process for Judge Jackson including the role of Civil Rights groups in supporting her confirmation. The Leadership Conference created a Justice for All Campaign to support Judge Jackson for the Supreme Court. She is first justice in 30 years since Thurgood Marshall to have criminal justice background and she also has a strong civil rights background and very impressive Harvard education credentials.

Sam described the hearing process and questioning and then the expected final Senate vote starting April 7, which is what happened. She said there were 187 organization signatures on the Leadership Conference letter to the Senate supporting Judge Jackson. She described Days of Action to support Judge Jackson. She encouraged advocates to uplift the joy but to ignore the expected Republican attacks on Judge Jackson. Kimberly also described AFJ Building the Bench strategies to connect with advocate groups to get the nominations of women and people of color to the lower-level federal

courts which also have lifetime appointments and she pointed out that we want diversity there as well as on the Supreme Court.

Sam then mentioned that proposed judicial reforms include the Judicial Accountability Act, the need for ethics reform for the Supreme Court including enforceable ethical standards, term limits, and expanding the numbers of justices. How to make Supreme Court reform is important but there is no consensus among Leadership Conference groups on expansion of the Supreme Court by four justices or term limits. However, there is more agreement on a need to reform lower courts. In almost 30 years little has been done to add more judges to these courts to get the work done. Also, the current system dealing with sexual and racial discrimination for court employees needs fixing. They are not protected from this discrimination like other Federal workers. The Judicial Accountability Act is needed to protect federal court workers since these judges also have life-time appointments. All lower courts must follow judicial code of conduct standards and lawyers take ethics exams but the Supreme Court does not have enforcement procedures that exist for lower courts. This issue has received attention with the lack of recusal by Justice Thomas on a decision when his wife Ginny's involvement in the Jan. 6 insurrection became public. <https://youtu.be/sU1s0hjMb8c>



Additionally, Stephanie Dalton heard about this CWI meeting and asked to interview CWI Co-President, Sue Klein about it and Judge Jackson's nomination to the Supreme Court for her Hawaii show on [thinktechhawaii.com](http://thinktechhawaii.com). The show has been uploaded to [youtube.com/thinktechhawaii](https://youtube.com/thinktechhawaii). You can view it there at <https://youtu.be/Rd2xxPL1Qdl>. You can also view it on the YouTube playlist

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQpkwcNjny6kM9iSIOM9VYSO4dIoRJXz1>) for The State of the State of Hawaii. The show has likewise been uploaded to <https://vimeo.com/thinktechhawaii>. You can view it there at <https://vimeo.com/693381537>. Photos Stephanie Dalton (left) Sue Klein (right).

## Area and National Feminist Resources and Events

Please send your upcoming feminist events to post in CWI newsletters to [sklein@feminist.org](mailto:sklein@feminist.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 and provider. <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>. Paid-up CWI members will receive additional forwarded email messages on feminist meetings and activities. Times given are Eastern Time. Events are usually virtual unless noted. Special thanks to Montgomery County, MD NOW for information on many of these events.

## RESOURCES

- ERA

Carol Jenkins Discussion of book by Kate Kelly *Ordinary Equality: The Fearless Women and Queer People Who Shaped the U.S. Constitution and the Equal Rights Amendment*. Era Coalition. Watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIISgMU33Dk>

[See Recent Analyses](#): Released by **Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney** and prepared by constitutional scholars **Professor Laurence Tribe** and former **Senator Russ Feingold**, these analyses address the validity of the ERA as the 28th amendment to the Constitution.

ERA 50th Anniversary Celebration Kick-off Video: [The Time is Now!](#)

View Jan. 19, 2022 [ERA Coalition's Black Maternal Health Town Hall](#)

- **ATHLETICS**

High School Girls in Athletics experience lots of sex discrimination, and this PBS NewsHour segment showed how it is up to them to remedy: PBS lack of Compliance with Title IX in Sports - Here's the link: <https://www.pbs.org/neshour/show/decades-after-title-ix-girls-face-tough-battles-on-and-off-the-sports-field>. The PBS Special features Nancy Hogshead Makar whose organization, *Champion Women*, has been working with the Povich Center in collaboration with the Howard Center for Investigative Journalism which published an enterprise project on Title IX and high school sports. These Students did a fantastic job! Here's the link. <https://cnsmaryland.org/titleix/>

Separately, Nancy Hogshead-Makar and *Champion Women* are facing a \$250 million lawsuit from Rick Butler, a volleyball coach who was banned by USA Volleyball, the AAU and the Junior Volleyball Association for sexually abusing his minor athletes. *Champion Women* is being sued for letting folks in the education community know about these bans. Our friend Esther Warkov (SSAIS) sent the go fund me link to help *Champion Women* and others with their defense.

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/being-sued-for-\\$250-million-wed-do-it-again](https://www.gofundme.com/f/being-sued-for-$250-million-wed-do-it-again)

- **GLOBAL**

4th Women of the Diaspora Summit: The Struggle for Climate Justice <https://www.ardn.ngo/wotd/4/>.

## EVENTS

Wednesday, April 20, 1PM Criminalization in Schools: How to Develop Healing-Focused Schools, She Matters Webinar. [Register](#)

Wednesday, April 20, 2PM. The M in STEM: Math in Everyday Life: Webinar. National Girls Collaborative Project. [Register](#)

Wednesday, April 20, 5-7PM. Abortion is Essential to Democracy, Melissa Murray, Michele Bratcher Goodwin, Kathy Spillar, etc. Women's Leadership Network, Brennan Center for Justice, Ms. Magazine. Livestream on YouTube: [tinyurl.co/ReproDemocracy](https://tinyurl.co/ReproDemocracy).

Thursday, April 21, 4PM to 5PM. Gender-Based Gun Violence: Virtual Town Hall, ERA Coalition. [Register](#)

Thursday, April 21, Mendez v. Westminster: 75 Years of Fighting for Education Justice, 5PM, Latinos for Education, [Register](#)

Thursday, April 21, Dolores Huerta 92 birthday Celebration, 8 PM, **Register at** [bit.ly/dolores92nd](https://bit.ly/dolores92nd)

Thursday, April 21, 7PM Sherry Boschert author "37 Words: Title IX and Fifty Years of Fighting Sex Discrimination" DC NOW, part of chapter meeting. RSVP [here](#) or through our meetup page [here](#).

Monday, April 25, 10 AM. Ensuring Accountability for Sexual Violence in Conflict . Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security. [Get Tickets](#)

Tuesday, April 26, Noon -1:30 Plugging the School-To-Prison Pipeline/Stopping School Push-out, Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (See page 1)

Monday, April 25-28, National Summit for Educational Equity: Pathways to an Equitable Workforce Online [Register](#)

Tuesday, April 26, 2PM -3PM Overlook: Economic Abuse Among Teen Dating Partners, Futures without Violence [Register](#)

Wednesday, April 27, 3PM-4PM, Movement Briefing: Freedom Rising, Independent Strategic Research Collaborative [Register](#)

Tuesday May 3, 2 PM Girls STEAM Ahead with NASA program: Webinar. National Girls Collaborative Project. [Register](#)

Wednesday, May 11, 3PM-4PM, Movement Briefing: Freedom Rising, Independent Strategic Research Collaborative [Register](#)

Tuesday, May 24, Noon CWI meeting.\_Urging Sport Governance to Develop New Structures to Welcome Transgender Athletes, While Prioritizing Competitive Fairness and Safety for Females, featuring Nancy Hogshead Makar, Donna Lopiano and Colleagues. See p. 1.

Saturday, June 4, 10 AM-12PM. Maryland Women's Heritage Center Grand Opening, Maryland Women's Heritage Center, In Person. [For More Info](#)

July 22-24 National NOW in person Conference, Save our Democracy, Vote for Womxn's Lives. Chicago, IL Palmer House Hilton. [Register here!](#)

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

*Meeting summary by Sheila Wickouski and Sue Klein.*

*Newsletter edited by Sue Klein*

#### **CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2021 - JUNE 2022**

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

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# Clearinghouse on Women’s Issues Membership Form

<https://womensclearinghouse.org/>

The CWI membership year is: **July 1-June 30**. Multi-year and Gift memberships are encouraged and discounted! Please fill in beginning and end years (e.g. 2022-2025 for a 3-yr membership). Members will receive CWI newsletters and meeting announcements as well as other feminist news and event notifications. Membership dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

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

OR

### ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

ORGANIZATION NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization website address (URL): \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME & EMAIL of Org. Rep.: 1) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME & EMAIL of Org. Rep.: 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ CELL \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Years Covered: 202\_ - 202\_ (Check your Membership Type)

	Individual	Organization	Young Adult (< 30 yrs. old)	Virtual (outside DC area)
One-year	\$25	\$40	\$15/yr.	\$20/yr.
Two-year	\$45	\$70	Gift Membership (insert information in individual or organization membership)	
Three-year	\$65	\$100		

Membership Dues Amount: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tax deductible donation: \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL ENCLOSED = \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Payment \_\_\_\_\_

- Mail form & check to Connie Cordovilla, Membership Chair, CWI, 7439 Patterson Rd., Falls Church, VA 22043-1332; or
- Pay through PayPal, by selecting the desired membership option on our website’s membership page <https://womensclearinghouse.org/membership/> & please send this form by mail to the above address or email it to [MembershipChair@womensclearinghouse.org](mailto:MembershipChair@womensclearinghouse.org); or
- Bring a check, payable to CWI, and this completed form to a CWI meeting. (Form Revised: 10/13/20)