

Liberation Based Healing: Just Therapy for a Just Society

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Rutgers University

Presentation Abstracts & Biographical Sketches

Sponsored by:



Institute for Family Services

DRAWING OUR STRENGTH FROM A CARING COMMUNITY

Keynote Speaker: Salome Raheim, PhD ACSW

PRESENTATION ABSTRACT

Families and communities of color and those with low incomes face new challenges as social and economic policies give rise to increasing disparities in health, education, child welfare and juvenile justice. Understanding the current socio-political context is critical for therapists, community organizers, educators and activists to effectively engage as partners in progressive change. This presentation examines opportunities to interrupt social practices that contribute to disparities and promote social and economic justice. Initiatives at the family, community and state levels will be discussed.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dr. Salome Raheim is Dean and Professor of Social Work at the University of Connecticut. Dr. Raheim is internationally known for her work in addressing privilege and oppression. In Australia, England, Guatemala, Mexico, South Africa and the United States, Dr. Raheim has provided consultation and training to educational institutions, human service agencies and businesses. Details of an on-going international project in which she is a collaborator can be found at: The Privilege Project <http://www.dulwichcentre.com.au/privilege.htm>.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Professor Raheim earned a doctorate in communication studies from the University of Iowa in 1990. She holds the MSW degree from the Catholic University of America and the BSW from Bowie State, a historically Black college. She served as the Chair of the Council on Social Work Education Commission for Diversity and Social and Economic Justice, 2004-2007. Professor Raheim was selected as the 2007 Council on Social Work Education Carl A. Scott Memorial Lecturer for her work and commitment to social and economic justice.

PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

Panel 1: Transcending Racial & Gender Micro-aggressions Across Multiple Contexts

This panel addresses the professional development needs of mental health and human service providers interested in mapping and navigating the racial & gender challenges institutional systems present. It will distinguish between micro and macro-aggressions, identify a typology and discuss ways of coping and resisting aggressions.

Panel 2: Sensuality, Sexuality & Sex

(Mimi Kim) *Gender-based Violence and Gender*. What is the relationship between intimate violence, "violence against women" and gender? As we recognize the complexities of gender, the categories some of us have taken for granted have been challenged by the realities of people's lives. They have also been challenged by forces seeking to change the ways we think about and practice violence intervention. This presentation represents one practitioner's view of the current ways in which these debates and realities challenge, change and enrich our practice.

(Emmett Gill) *Sex and Social Capital Among Latino and Dominican Adolescent Females* will explore the role of sexuality in the lives of adolescent females in Arlington, VA and Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. In the Arlington case study, a series of focus groups and interviews were used to explore underlying causes for early teenage pregnancy. In the Dominican case study, interviews and observations were conducted to explore the absence of sports opportunities and its impact on adolescent female involvement in the sex trade. The implications for domestic and international social work will also be discussed.

(Chic Dabby) This presentation will focus on how women whose sexual experience has been violated can reclaim their sexual liberation; how this is influenced by violations in public and private domains, perpetrated by state and non-state actors; and raises questions about how women negotiate and assert their sexual agency given society's attempts to police their sexuality.

Panel 3: Justice For All: Immigration and Domestic Violence Policies

(Sonia Watson) This presentation will highlight current statutes in Domestic Violence in the state of New Jersey. Participants will learn how to prepare their clients who are victims of domestic violence to obtain protective orders. They will also be informed about ethical programs for batterers in the state.

(Asma Warsi) This presentation will review the role of the Violence Against Women Act and its relationship to the protection of immigrant and undocumented women. Clinicians will be given specific pointers that they can use in their assessments of battered women that will be helpful in establishing legal residence in the US.

(Maneesha Kelkar) This presentation will outline Manavi's community based approach towards working with battered women, including peer supportive counseling/advocacy,

support groups, and a rent-free, culturally specific safe home for South Asian women and their children displaced by violence, that facilitates the creation of culturally familiar support networks in a familiar environment.

Panel 4: Beyond Empowerment and Advocacy: Accountability in Mental Health and Social Services Systems

(Carolyn Tubbs) When children are involved, "leaving an abusive relationship" does not equate to being "free of an abusive relationship" for battered women. Shared parenting with an estranged partner who has been abusive extends the trauma of leaving, in general, and challenges women's empowerment, specifically. This presentation shares research focused on the impact of shared parenting on African American battered women, and options for empowering them through the process.

(Rhea Almeida & Andraé L. Brown) This presentation focuses on the converging points of accountability, gender, perpetrator intervention and the criminal justice system when creating interventions for healing and reparations.

Panel 5: From Cultural Competency to Social Justice (Interactive Panel)

Promoting social justice is a defining feature of social work practice. The panel focuses on moving beyond cultural competency towards promoting social justice. The panel discussion will focus on why social workers and service providers must consider white privilege/anti-racist pedagogy within a context of critical consciousness and accountability to promote social justice. This is an interactive panel in which participants will be invited to interrogate their professional contexts.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Rhea V. Almeida

Presentation: Beyond Empowerment and Advocacy: Accountability in Mental Health and Social Services Systems

Contact: Care4UIFS@aol.com

Rhea V. Almeida, MS, Ph.D., LCSW, founder of IFS, is a family therapist and Columbia Graduate. She has 25 years experience as a teacher, therapist, consultant, speaker, author and mother of two daughters. Creator of the Cultural Context Model, Dr. Almeida is the author of *Expansions of Feminist Theory Through Diversity*, *Transformations in Gender and Race: Family and Developmental Perspectives* and co-author of *Transformative Family Therapy: Just Families in a Just Society*. She has been featured in the Los Angeles Times, CNBC, National Public Radio, USA Today and Pure Oxygen.

Andraé L. Brown

Presentation: Beyond Empowerment and Advocacy: Accountability in Mental Health and Social Services Systems

Contact: Affinitygrp@optonline.net

Andraé L. Brown, PhD., Co-Director of Affinity Counseling Group, NJ, Assistant Professor in the Marriage, Couples and Family Therapy program at Lewis and Clark College, OR, and Council on Contemporary Families Research Fellow. Dr. Brown earned his Masters in Education in School Counseling at The University of Maryland Eastern Shore and Ph.D. in Marriage and Family at Seton Hall University, NJ. Dr. Brown's research agenda focuses on the development of treatment modalities that use the social ecology of families, schools and communities to address trauma, violence and substance abuse. Research and clinical interests also include resilience in street-life-oriented Black men, participatory action research, the psychosocial development of adolescents living in the urban context, liberation psychology, social justice and cultural competence in service provision.

Firoza Chic Dabby

Presentation: Sensuality, Sexuality & Sex

Contact: Cdabby@apiahf.org

Firoza Chic Dabby is the Director of the Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence /APIA Health Forum, a national resource center engaged in advocacy, research, policy, training, technical assistance provision and analyzing critical issues on violence against Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women. She has been in the domestic violence field over twenty-four years and along the way has acquired some expertise on violence against women in Asian communities; strategies for advocacy, community engagement and system change; the psychological effects of violence on women; trafficking; intimate homicide; child custody and mediation; battered mothers in

the child welfare system; sexual violence and economic self-sufficiency for abused women. She writes, trains and presents extensively about these and many other issues.

Ms. Dabby speaks Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi and French with varying degrees of fluency. Between Bombay and Berkeley, she has lived in London, Cambridge, Paris and Kathmandu.

Lisa Dressner

Presentation: Keynote Moderator

Contact: Affinitygrp@optonline.net

Lisa Dressner, LCSW, Co-Director; is a founding member of Affinity Counseling Group. She earned her Masters Degree in Social Work from Rutgers University, completed a three year post graduate training program in family systems therapy at the Multicultural Family Institute, and a specialized post graduate training program in domestic violence and the Cultural Context Model at the Institute for Family Services. She has authored and presented She has written and secured several grants providing clinical and family case management services to youth and families involved with the juvenile justice system. In addition to developing and overseeing clinical programs, Lisa trains mental health professionals on topics which include: families experiencing trauma through domestic and community violence, antiracism, sexual abuse, adoption and juvenile justice reform.

Emmett Gill

Presentation: Sensuality, Sexuality & Sex

Contact: Egill@rci.rutgers.edu

Prior to coming to Rutgers, Emmett Gill, Ph.D., worked at the U.S. Military Academy Center for Enhanced Performance where he supervised student athletes in men's and women's basketball with academic and athletic performance enhancement.

Previously, he was a learning specialist with the University of Maryland football team with a caseload that included eight honor roll student-athletes. Also, while living in the Washington, D.C. area, Dr. Gill was a beat reporter for Blackathlete.com assigned to the Washington Mystics and Washington Wizards. During his first year there, he covered Michael Jordan's final season in the NBA. Dr. Gill has provided expert commentary on the NCAA's APR rates, the Isaiah Thomas sexual harassment case and on Title IX to the Birmingham News, Houston Chronicle, Orlando Sentinel, Black Athlete Sports Network, and several print and radio outlets.

Dr. Gill's latest work, *The Duke Lacrosse Scandal: A Case of White Privilege in College Sports*, was published in the Spring 2007 issue of the *Journal for the Study of Sports and Athletes in Education*. A former student athlete himself, Dr. Gill holds a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, an MSW from Howard University and Ph.D. from the University of Maryland.

Alan Green

Presentation: Beyond Empowerment and Advocacy: Accountability in Mental Health and Social Services Systems

Contact: Agreen@jhu.edu

Alan G. Green, PhD, is associate professor and chair of the Department of Counseling and Human Services, Johns Hopkins University School of Education, where he joined the faculty in 1999. He earned a doctorate in counseling psychology from Howard University in Washington, DC and a master's degree in school and community counseling from California State University in Sacramento. Dr. Green was the recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship for his doctoral work in Guyana on adolescent stressors, coping responses and psychological adjustment. Prior to his appointment at Johns Hopkins, he was an adjunct professor in the Department of Applied Psychology at New York University and a clinical psychology intern at the Maryland Department of Safety and Corrections. In addition to his academic duties, Dr. Green currently serves as Associate Director of the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute, member of the Hopkins Provost Advisory Committee, board member of Advocates for Children and Youth, and previously executive board liaison for the Empowerment Academy Charter School.

His research interests include urban school counseling, contextually relevant mental health interventions for African-American adolescents, and individualized supplemental education. His current research projects are funded by the Johns Hopkins Urban Health Institute and the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Green was the principal investigator for "Project Inspiration", a federally funded Urban School Counseling demonstration program for the Baltimore City Public School System.

Maneesha Kelkar

Presentation: Justice For All: Immigration and Domestic Violence Policies

Contact: Maneesha@manavi.org

Maneesha Kelkar is the Director of *Manavi*, a New Jersey based organization committed to ending violence against South Asian women. Maneesha graduated with a Master's degree in Economic Development from American University, Washington, D.C. Her professional experience spans the World Bank, teaching Economics, and corporate as well as non profit work. She serves on various state-wide advisory committees and is currently a Fellow of the Women's Policy Institute, an endeavour of the Women's Fund of New Jersey.

Mimi Kim

Presentation: Sensuality, Sexuality & Sex

Contact: Mimi@creative-interventions.org

Mimi Kim, MSW is a long-time anti-violence advocate primarily working in Asian communities. She is a steering committee member of the Asian & Pacific Islander

Domestic Violence Institute, a national resource center. Mimi is also a founding member of Incite! Women of Color against Violence where she has been working collectively with women of color nationally and internationally to create community-based solutions to violence. Mimi continues her domestic violence advocacy as the Founder and Executive Director of Creative Interventions, a resource center supporting community-based interventions to domestic violence and other forms of intimate violence based in Oakland. She is also a program consultant for Shimtuh: Korean Domestic Violence Program, an Oakland-based program which she co-founded in 2000. Mimi is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Social Welfare at University of California, Berkeley. When she really needs to make some noise, she drums with Jamaesori, a Korean women's drumming (pung'mul) group.

Caroline Hann

Presentation: Sensuality, Sexuality & Sex

Contact: Hanncar@comcast.net

Caroline Hann, LCSW, is a team member at The Institute for Family Services in Somerset, NJ as well as, Affinity Counseling Group in North Brunswick, NJ. Ms. Hann earned her Master of Social Work from Hunter College School of Social Work in New York City, and completed a two-year post graduate program at the Institute for Family Services in Transformative Family Therapy. At IFS, Ms. Hann is director of the children and adolescent program and is currently authoring an article “Remembering children within a social justice landscape: therapeutic strategies of intervening with children”.

Pilar Hernandez

Presentation: Transcending Racial& Gender Micro-aggressions Across Multiple Contexts

Contact: Pilarhw@jhu.edu

Pilar Hernandez, Ph.D., is professor at the Department of Counseling Education at John Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, and faculty at the Institute for Family Services. As an author, teacher, clinician and researcher, she is recognized internationally in the area of trauma and resilience with human rights activists. Her clinical and research interests reside within the feminist analysis of intimate violence in the context of gender, race, class and ethnicity clinical supervision and racial microaggressions.

Judy Lockard

Presentation: From Cultural Competency to Social Justice

Contact: Judithlockard@comcast.net

Judith Lockard, LCSW, CAC, is a postgraduate trained family therapist and addictions specialist. She has maintained a private family therapy practice in the Princeton area for 15 years and is a member of IFS faculty since 1996. She has particular scholarship in the areas of addictions and domestic violence. Since 2001, she has facilitated the Alliance for Racial and Economic Justice. She has done numerous trainings over the last 20 years in

the areas of domestic violence, addiction, and their cross-over implications in family life. She has published on these topics as well as colonization and its impact on couples.

Teresa McDowell

Presentation: Transcending Racial& Gender Micro-aggressions Across Multiple Contexts

Contact: Teresamc@lclark.edu

Teresa McDowell, EdD is an associate professor in the Graduate School of Education and Counseling at Lewis & Clark College. Teresa has spent much of her career working to revision marriage and family therapy education in ways that better support social equity and cultural democracy. Her scholarship has focused on race/racism in family therapy practice and education, critical multicultural family research, and internationalizing family therapy programs. Recently her research agenda has included expanding critical multiculturalism in family therapy to include an international focus that addresses disparity and promotes global citizenship.

She recently completed a "Women in Development" project with colleagues from UConn and Menoufia University in Shebin El-Kom, Egypt. She also recently took a group of Lewis & Clark graduate students to India and another group to Egypt to explore the effects of cultural immersion on therapist multicultural competence.

Sonia Watson

Presentation: Justice For All: Immigration and Domestic Violence Policies

Asma Warsi

Presentation: Justice For All: Immigration and Domestic Violence Policies

Contact: Asmawarsichaudry@boazcommunitycorp.org

Asma J. Warsi Chaudry is an attorney with the Boaz Community Corporation, an immigration legal resource center in New Jersey. Ms. Chaudry received her B.A. from Rutgers University in History & Mid-East Studies, an M.A. from New York University in Near-Eastern Studies, and a J.D. from Rutgers University, School of Law, Newark.

Mabel Quinones

Presentation: Justice For All: Immigration and Domestic Violence Policies

Contact: Mabelequinones@gmail.com.

Carolyn Tubbs

Presentation: Beyond Empowerment and Advocacy: Accountability in Mental Health and Social Services Systems

Contact: Cyt24@drexel.edu

Carolyn Tubbs, Ph.D. Dr. Tubbs is an Associate Professor in the Programs in Couple and Family Therapy Program at Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA. She earned her masters degree in Human Development and Family Studies at Texas Tech University and her doctorate in Marriage and Family Therapy at Purdue University. Dr. Tubbs completed her doctoral internship in marriage and family therapy at the Houston-Galveston Institute. She is an Approved Supervisor and Clinical Member of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT). In addition, she is a member of AAMFT's Minority Fellowship Program Advisory Committee and Elections Council, as well as a Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE) site visitor. She also served on the board of the Ontario Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and was its annual general meeting chair.

Dr. Tubbs was a Research Scientist and Postdoctoral Fellow at Penn State University for the Welfare, Children and Families: A Three City-Study, a multi-site ethnographic study on welfare reform. As part of her work, Dr. Tubbs has examined facilitators of family stability, family rituals, and parenting in low-income families. Dr. Tubbs has also been involved with the National Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community in researching the causes and solutions to domestic violence in African American communities located in both urban and rural regions throughout the United State, including San Francisco, Puerto Rico, Philadelphia, and Detroit. Her research interests include qualitative research methodology, shared parenting among couples with a history of intimate partner violence, health care disparities, mental and physical health issues, and parenting in low-income populations. Currently, she is collaborating with the Institute for Family Services on evaluation and dissemination research.

Dr. Tubbs has served as Faculty Mentor for honors undergraduates at the Schreyers Honor College (2000-2002); Board Chair, Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis (2006-2007); and member of the University of Guelph's Research Ethics Board (2007)

Nocona Pewewardy

Presentation: From Cultural Competency to Social Justice (Interactive Panel)

Contact: Npewewardy@csufresno.edu

Nocona Pewewardy (Ph.D) Social Work Education at Portland State University, Portland, Oregon. Her research interests include critical approaches to social work education; critical race theory; structural social work; cultural pluralism; strategies for challenging and deconstructing White privileges and other catalysts of structural inequalities. Her first book, *Challenging White Privilege: A Critical Approach to Social Work Education*, was published by the Council on Social Work Education in May 2007.

Nocona Pewewardy is an assistant professor in the School of Social Work at Portland State University. She earned a BA in social work (1989) and MSW (1993) from the University of Oklahoma and a PhD (2003) from the School of Social Welfare at the University of Kansas. Her research interests include critical approaches to social work education; critical race theory; structural social work; cultural pluralism; strategies for

challenging and deconstructing White privileges and other catalysts of structural inequalities. Her first book, *Challenging White Privilege: A Critical Approach to Social Work Education*, was published by the Council on Social Work Education in May 2007.

Eunjung Ryu

Presentation: Transcending Racial & Gender Micro-aggressions Across Multiple Contexts

Contact: Ejrwisdom@yahoo.com

Eunjung Ryu, LMFT, LCSW, ACSW, is a licensed marriage and family therapist in PA and a licensed clinical social worker in NJ with 15 years of experience in diverse areas of clinical social work, medical social work, and marital and family therapy. She earned her Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of Pennsylvania and completed two post-graduate training programs in family systems training at the Multicultural Family Institute and Drexel University. She is currently a therapist at Affinity Counseling Group in NJ.

Ms. Ryu has given numerous presentations in topics ranging from Family Therapy with Asian American Families, Domestic Violence, and Youth Counseling. She has also lectured in Korea and Japan. She was president of the Korean American Social Workers Association of NY/NJ in 2000-2001, and is currently senior advisor of the organization. She is an author of academic articles and a co-author of chapter on Korean American families in *Ethnicity and Family Therapy*. She is currently working toward her PhD in Couple and Family Therapy at Drexel University, Hahnemann Campus.