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Gender Justice And Human Rights Symposium: Holistic Approaches To Gender Violence

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**GENDER JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM
HOLISTIC APPROACHES TO GENDER VIOLENCE**

*By Denisse Córdova Montes, Tamar Ezer, Reem Ali, Kayla Bokzam, Renu Sara Nargund, Megan Norris, Maxwell Zoberman**

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BACKGROUND

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a pandemic that is globally ubiquitous and pervasive, despite decades of efforts to address it through the criminal justice, public health, education, and social welfare sectors. GBV refers to violence targeting or disproportionately impacting individuals due to their gender or prevailing gender norms. Under international human rights law, **GBV includes intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and stalking and encompasses “physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering . . . threats of such acts, harassment, coercion and arbitrary deprivation of liberty.”**¹ GBV undermines fundamental human dignity and the rights

¹ Comm. on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, General recommendation No. 35 on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19, ¶ 14, U.N. Doc. CEDAW/C/GC/35 (July 14, 2017) [hereinafter CEDAW Gen. Rec. 35].

to equality and non-discrimination,² life,³ health,⁴ security of person,⁵ privacy,⁶ and freedom from torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment.⁷ Moreover, GBV prevents individuals from exercising additional economic and political rights.

According to United Nations (UN) agencies:

- One in three women worldwide have experienced physical and/or sexual violence at some point in their lives (and this figure does not include sexual harassment); in some countries, lifetime prevalence is 50-60%;⁸
- Two in three victims of intimate partner/family-related homicide are women;⁹
- An estimated 7.9% of men and 19.7% of women globally experienced sexual abuse prior to the age of 18;¹⁰ and

² G.A. Res. 217 (III) A, art. 7, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Dec. 10, 1948) [hereinafter UDHR]; International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights art. 26, Dec. 19, 1966, 999 U.N.T.S. 171 [hereinafter ICCPR]; Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women art. 2, Dec. 18, 1979, 1249 U.N.T.S. 13 [hereinafter CEDAW].

³ UDHR, *supra* note 2, art. 3; ICCPR *supra* note 2, art. 6(1).

⁴ International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, art. 12(1), *opened for signature* Dec. 16, 1966, 993 U.N.T.S. 3; CEDAW, *supra* note 2, art. 12(1).

⁵ UDHR, *supra* note 2, art. 3; ICCPR, *supra* note 2, art. 9(1).

⁶ UDHR, *supra* note 2, art. 12; ICCPR, *supra* note 2, art. 17(1).

⁷ ICCPR, *supra* note 2, art. 7; Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, art. 10, *adopted* Dec. 10, 1984, 1465 U.N.T.S. 85 (entered into force June 26, 1987).

⁸ UNITED NATIONS STAT. DIV., THE WORLD'S WOMEN 2015: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 2 (2015), https://unstats.un.org/unsd/gender/downloads/Ch6_VaW_info.pdf. For additional facts and figures regarding violence against women, please see *Facts and figures: Ending violence against women*, U.N. WOMEN (Feb. 2022), <https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/facts-and-figures>.

⁹ UNITED NATIONS STAT. DIV., *supra* note 8.

¹⁰ Noemí Pereda et al., *The prevalence of child sexual abuse in community and student samples: A meta-analysis*, 29 CLINICAL PSYCH. REV. 328, 333 (2009).

- Between 2008–2014, at least one transgender person was murdered every two days.¹¹

GBV statistics are likewise dire in the United States (U.S.):

- Approximately three women die per day as a result of domestic violence, and for every woman killed, nine more are critically injured;¹²
- Nearly one in five women (19.1%) have been raped;¹³ and
- Half of transgender people and bisexual women will experience sexual violence at some point in their lives.¹⁴

GBV respects no geographic, social, or economic boundaries, although it poses especially complex challenges to marginalized populations who experience intersecting discrimination, including racism, homophobia, xenophobia, and economic exploitation, impacting their safety and ability to access support. According to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Native American and Alaska Native women experience sexual assault at a rate 2.5 times higher than other women with 86% of perpetrators non-Native men.¹⁵ The U.S. government has recognized that Black transgender women “face epidemic levels of violence” and account for

¹¹ U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, *Discrimination and violence against individuals based on their sexual orientation and gender identity*, ¶ 28, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/29/23 (May 4, 2015).

¹² U.S. DEP'T OF JUST., IDENTIFYING AND PREVENTING GENDER BIAS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO SEXUAL ASSAULT AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE 6 (2015), <https://www.justice.gov/opa/file/799366/download>; *see also* BUREAU OF JUST. STAT., U.S. DEP'T OF JUST., FEMALE VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE, 1994-2010 3 (2013), <http://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/fvsv9410.pdf>.

¹³ NAT'L CTR. FOR INJ. PREVENTION & CONTROL, CTRS. FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION, THE NATIONAL INTIMATE PARTNER AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE SURVEY: 2010-2012 STATE REPORT 18 (2010), <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/NISVS-StateReportBook.pdf>.

¹⁴ *Sexual Assault and the LGBTQ Community*, HUM. RTS. CAMPAIGN, <https://www.hrc.org/resources/sexual-assault-and-the-lgbt-community> (last visited Oct. 11, 2022).

¹⁵ Victoria Tauli Corpuz (Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples), ¶ 47(d), *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples*, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/30/41 (Aug. 6, 2015).

66% of all victims of fatal violence against transgender and gender nonconforming people in the U.S.¹⁶

GBV has further intensified with the COVID-19 pandemic, leading UN Women (UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women) to refer to rising rates of GBV, and particularly domestic violence, as a “shadow pandemic.”¹⁷ As the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women explained, due to COVID-19 women experience a disproportionately increased burden in domestic roles, which in combination with “restriction of movement, financial constraints and generalized uncertainty embolden perpetrators and provide them with additional power and control.”¹⁸ Furthermore, stay at home orders have increased economic instability, disrupted services and support networks, and confined victims with their abusers.¹⁹

Moreover, George Floyd’s painful murder at the hands of the police reignited a conversation in the U.S. on state violence, endemic racism, and overreliance on the criminal justice system to address social issues, including GBV. As the Black Lives Matter movement has emerged on an unprecedented scale and the “defund” and “abolition” movements have gained steam, advocates and scholars are taking a critical look at the role of law enforcement in addressing GBV and underscoring the need for transformative and more expansive responses. This includes holistic support, greater focus on prevention and addressing intersecting and structural discrimination, and greater engagement with communities.

On April 21-22, 2022, the *Gender Justice and Human Rights Symposium: Holistic Approaches to Gender Violence* (Gender Justice Symposium) sought to provide a space for deep reflection, innovative

¹⁶ THE WHITE HOUSE, NATIONAL STRATEGY ON GENDER EQUITY AND EQUALITY 15 (2021), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/National-Strategy-on-Gender-Equity-and-Equality.pdf>.

¹⁷ *The Shadow Pandemic: Violence against women during COVID-19*, U.N. WOMEN, <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/in-focus-gender-equality-in-covid-19-response/violence-against-women-during-covid-19#facts> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

¹⁸ *States must combat domestic violence in the context of COVID-19 lockdowns – UN rights expert*, UNITED NATIONS OFF. OF THE HIGH COMM’R (Mar. 27, 2020), <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25749&LangID=E>.

¹⁹ *The Shadow Pandemic: Violence against women during COVID-19*, *supra* note 17.

thinking, and joint strategizing with regards to ending GBV. This symposium was hosted by the University of Miami School of Law's Human Rights Clinic and Program, in collaboration with the *University of Miami International and Comparative Law Review*, *University of Miami Inter-American Law Review*, Human Rights Society, Institute for the Advanced Study of the Americas (MIA), the George Washington University Global Women's Institute (GWI), UN Women, and the Lancet Commission on GBV and Maltreatment of Young People.²⁰

I. DAY 1

A. Day 1 Welcome Remarks

Dean Nell Jessup Newton (Interim Dean and Visiting Professor, University of Miami School of Law) kicked off the symposium by welcoming the participants and thanking the faculty, staff, students, and global partners who made the symposium possible. She highlighted the multiple forms of GBV and the disproportionate toll they take on marginalized populations who experience intersecting forms of discrimination. She pointed to the urgent need for innovative strategies focused on holistic approaches to GBV. Dean Newton further noted that the symposium celebrates the ten-year anniversary of the Human Rights Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law²¹ and a first conference on Gender Justice in the Americas.²² The Human Rights Clinic is now embedded in a new Human Rights Program, which serves as a hub for human rights

²⁰ For additional information on the Gender Justice Symposium, including speaker biographies and videos of the various sessions, see *Gender Justice and Human Rights Symposium*, UNIV. OF MIA., https://events.miami.edu/event/gender_justice_and_human_rights_symposium (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

²¹ For information on the Human Rights Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law, see *Human Rights Clinic*, UNIV. OF MIA. SCH. OF L., <https://www.law.miami.edu/academics/experiential-learning/clinics/human-rights/index.html> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

²² For additional information on Gender Justice in the Americas, see *Miami Law Clinics*, UNIV. OF MIA. SCH. OF L., <https://www.law.miami.edu/academics/clinics/human-rights-clinic-gender-justice> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

community, education, programming, scholarship, and advocacy on campus.²³

Dr. Felicia Knaul (Director, Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas; Professor, Miller School of Medicine; First Lady, University of Miami) next provided welcome remarks in both her roles at the University of Miami, as well as co-chair of the Lancet Commission on GBV and Maltreatment of Young People. She referred to GBV as a pandemic, impacting at least 1/3 of women and 1/5 of children. However, she emphasized, “**Our expectation should be for zero instances GBV.**” “**There is no other global health issue that affects so many human beings . . . and is so blatantly, erroneously, and shamefully ignored.**” At the same time, GBV is highly susceptible to change. Dr. Knaul welcomed the symposium as an opportunity for leaders, advocates, survivors, and scholars from around the world and across disciplines to come together and develop solutions, along with students, who will take lessons and continue work for decades into the future.

Gloria Estefan (World-Renowned Singer, Actress, Songwriter, Humanitarian) then shared moving testimony of her own experience as a GBV survivor and the healing role music can play, serving as a source of strength and connection. She emphasized that “**prevention is of primary concern**” and that the current prevalence of GBV is “just unacceptable.” She charged participants with thinking through how to empower parents to provide their children with the tools to prevent GBV, pointing to the need to involve schools and incorporate age-appropriate instructional materials. She concluded by underscoring the importance of the symposium and thanking the University of Miami for hosting it.

Next, Professor **Tamar Ezer** (Acting Director, Human Rights Clinic; Faculty Director, Human Rights Program, University of Miami School of Law) thanked the various cosponsors, who were instrumental in developing the symposium and provided an overview of the symposium agenda. She explained that Day 1 of the symposium would draw on work from around the world, delving into four

²³ For information on the Human Rights Program at the University of Miami School of Law, see *Human Rights Program*, UNIV. OF MIA. SCH. OF L., <https://www.law.miami.edu/academics/programs/human-rights/index.html> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

dimensions critical for addressing GBV: prevention, systemic accountability, access to justice, and support for survivors and their communities. Then, Day 2 would examine lessons and opportunities for practical implementation at the global, national, and local levels.

B. Introductory Panel

The symposium's Introductory Panel, moderated by **Kalliope Mingeirou** (Chief, End Violence against Women (EVAW) Section, UN Women), brought together local, national, regional, and global perspectives on holistic approaches to GBV. In framing the discussion, Mingeirou remarked on how the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the scale of existing challenges and the insufficiency of current infrastructure to address GBV. She urged leveraging the momentum produced by the pandemic to generate novel solutions and better meet the needs of survivors.

Mingeirou further highlighted the following:

- A holistic approach to GBV requires more than just response, but rather investing in prevention and institutional change through comprehensive, whole-of-government approaches that mainstream GBV prevention across various policy areas.
- Survivor-centered approaches to GBV must be integrated in policy and support sector responses, including by the police, justice, health, and social services.
- Partnerships are critical, particularly with civil society and research organizations, to implementing long-term strategies to address GBV.

Mayor **Daniella Levine Cava**, Miami-Dade County's first woman serving as Mayor since November 2020, shared local initiatives addressing GBV in which she had the opportunity to participate. In 2015, while a Commissioner, she helped pass an ordinance for Miami-Dade County to "locally adopt the spirit underlying the principles of CEDAW" (UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women),²⁴ joining the "Cities for CEDAW"

²⁴MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLA., CODE 2020 art. XXXI, § 2-271.

movement in the U.S.²⁵ The county has subsequently produced annual reports on the status of initiatives pertaining to women and girls, providing baseline data to work towards goals like closing the wage gap. While the Mayor admitted progress has been slow, she touted some important achievements, including updates to the county's sexual harassment policy—the first ones in two decades, changes to law enforcement documentation to distinguish between human trafficking and sex crimes, and resource provisions for women experiencing homelessness to provide protection against recurring violence. Noting that “**violence begets violence**,” the Mayor further emphasized the need to focus on prevention and interrupt generational cycles of violence. She highlighted the county's new gang violence efforts, recognizing the victimization of women in gang contexts, and training for hospitality and transportation workers to enable them to prevent violations during mega-sporting events.

At the national level, **Rosie Hidalgo** (Senior Advisor on GBV and Special Assistant to the President, White House Gender Policy Council) discussed the current U.S. administration's efforts to address GBV. She noted that these efforts date back to 1994 when then-Senator Biden championed the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Since then, the President's commitment has remained unwavering.

On International Women's Day, the President signed an executive order creating the first-of-its-kind White House Gender Policy Council, which is tasked with working with every federal agency and cabinet official to advance a unified vision of gender equity. The Council engaged in a series of listening sessions with stakeholders over the course of 200 days to develop a national strategy on GBV that enumerated ten interconnected priorities. The priorities focus on not just the criminal justice, but also the economic, educational, and social realms. Fundamental to the Council's work is the recognition that combating GBV requires addressing the intersections of different forms of discrimination and oppression. With regards to these intersections, Hidalgo highlighted the administration's efforts to protect the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals and immigrants by executive order.

²⁵ *Cities for CEDAW: Resources*, WOMEN'S INTERCULTURAL NETWORK, <http://citiesforcedaw.org/resources> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

Additionally, the President's executive order called for the development of the first ever National Action Plan on GBV, which seeks to build on past milestone legislation, including VAWA, the Family Violence Prevention Services Act, the Victims of Crime Act, and Title IX, and chart a coherent course toward progress. Hidalgo noted that **"the elimination of GBV cannot be realized through a one-size-fits-all approach."** Rather, it requires providing Native American communities with jurisdiction to address GBV at the hands of non-Indian perpetrators; increased efforts to confront sexual assault, human trafficking, and child abuse; and work with actors in the criminal justice system to improve training for law enforcement and prosecutors, while simultaneously creating different pathways to safety for survivors who opt not to engage in traditional criminal justice approaches. **"GBV stems from an abuse of power, and we all have the power to be part of the solution."**

Next, Dean **Tracy Robinson** (Deputy Dean at the University of the West Indies; Former President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights) presented a tripartite framework for approaching GBV. First, she focused on "orientation" and explained that we are all oriented in a certain way in our thinking about gender. Our orientation—the cumulative effect of our experiences and surroundings—leads some issues, rights violations, and solutions to be more salient and readily accessible than others. Dean Robinson went on to explain that **"the consequence of our individual orientations is that they may cause us to automatically and unconsciously look past possible holistic and collaborative approaches to GBV."** She emphasized that expertise can often obscure issues of orientation as we become entrenched in our field of study and encouraged participants to seek moments of **"disorientation"** as they **can provide an opportunity for recentering, reorientation, and ultimately transformation.**

Dean Robinson further discussed "the ethics of attention." She described the phenomenon of **"anti-attention,"** or the **"public and self-satisfied narrative of a situation in which the perspective of the other has been fully obscured, colonized, misread, and glossed over."** We see this play out when violence against women makes the front page when a woman has been killed, "as if we see women most when we cannot hear them." This pattern is part of what Dean

Robinson described as **“the precariousness of empathy—a process through which witnesses, in giving expression to violence, supplant the victim with their own righteousness.”** She further referenced a case in Antigua, where moral panic over a masked serial rapist, focusing on the pathology of an individual, obscured discussion of the pervasiveness of sexual violence by known perpetrators. Dean Robinson noted that attention is important because it commands resources. Thus, **cultivating productive attention to GBV is essential for productive solutions.**

Finally, Dean Robinson addressed the metaphors used in GBV discourse. GBV, she argued, is often described in metaphorical terms and it derives some of its force from those metaphors. Earlier in the day, for instance, GBV had been referred to as a “global pandemic” and “scourge.” Robinson urged participants to keep in mind the metaphorical quality of discussions about GBV and the meanings attached to the metaphors we invoke; for example, our routine use of certain metaphors to emphasize the gravity of GBV might also imply that GBV calls for extreme responses or muted public discourse on the solutions.

Bringing a global perspective, **Reem Alsalem**, the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, its Causes and Consequences, closed out the introductory session. Alsalem began with a powerful reminder that the symposium space—where women and men came together to discuss issues of GBV—is a privilege that many all over the world do not enjoy in safety and security. Alsalem noted that domestic violence by intimate partners is one of the most common forms of GBV that has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, in part, because response measures adopted by governments were gender-blind. Stay-at-home orders have confined victims with their abusers and disrupted services and support networks. Moreover, COVID-19 has underscored the challenge of adequate data collection. Alsalem expressed her hope that this systemic failure to account for the needs of survivors and the risks they face will serve as a lesson for addressing future pandemics, as well as the climate crisis, which is also testing the extent to which our disaster risk mitigation is responsive to women. Environmental degradation is exacerbating the experience and risk of GBV and is the focus of her

first report as Special Rapporteur to the UN General Assembly in the fall.

Alsalem also highlighted progress in addressing GBV. She noted that over 150 nations have passed legislation in some form to address domestic violence. However, they are not always compliant with human rights standards. For example, many states have yet to recognize marital rape or forcible acts of a sexual nature outside of penetrative sex as a crime. These laws miss the need to focus on consent. Additionally, while data collection is a gap, there has also been progress with femicide observatories and online monitoring at national and local levels.

In terms of challenges, Alsalem addressed many, including the need for gender-sensitive and child-centered custody proceedings— even in nations that pride themselves on having strong protective measures to prevent violence. Currently, custody processes are disruptive of the rule of law, and the pseudo-scientific concept of “parental alienation syndrome,” which posits the manipulation of an “alienated child” by one parent against the other, has been used to separate mothers from their children, despite lacking in credible evidence. Moreover, due to ingrained gender stereotypes in the justice system, courts tend to favor the testimony of the father and discredit the mother. Thus, **“judges and prosecutors must be trained to become aware of their biases and the intersecting nature of discrimination and to equip them with a gender-centered perspective from which to analyze the cases before them.”** Additionally, **“we need more women in the justice system.”**

C. Preventing GBV

Dr. Mary Ellsberg, the Director of GWI, moderated the first topical panel of the symposium on preventing GBV. She noted that while prevention is fundamental to addressing GBV, it is all too often neglected in a focus on violence that has already occurred. However, significantly, this symposium has placed prevention upfront as a starting point for discussion. Dr. Ellsberg further underscored the critical role of social movements, and particularly the feminist movement, in addressing GBV. The newly formed WEAVE (Women Engaging Against Violence Everywhere) Collective is now

documenting these stories of movement-building and weaving together the narratives of women from the margins. Dr. Ellsberg introduced the panelists as pioneers in GBV prevention, who bring decades of experience from around the world.

Karma Cottman (Executive Director, Ujima: The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community), discussed Ujima's work addressing GBV in the Black community by centering Black women and girls, while including men and boys as partners. Cottman explained that to get to systemic change, it is important to first address the personal. Ujima engages with high school students on healthy and loving relationships and the ability to work through conflict without resorting to violence. Ujima further focuses on GBV prevention on campuses, providing training and technical assistance to colleges and universities. Cottman underscored the intersection of GBV with racism, an oppression which props up violence: **"We can't address GBV without also addressing racism."**

Next, **Neil Irvin** (Executive Director, Men Can Stop Rape) discussed the role of men and conceptions of masculinity in GBV. He noted, **"GBV is not just a women's issue. It is central to how we, as men, define ourselves."** Men Can Stop Rape, which has just celebrated its 25th anniversary, aims to support a diversity of inclusive masculinities and to create healthier and safer environments, reducing experiences of violence as early and systematically as possible. Men have a critical role to play in changing social norms. Even if men may not be directly engaging in GBV, by remaining silent, they are validating and contributing to rape culture. Men Can Stop Rape engages in public campaigns in every military installation and provides trainings to help develop skills and attitudes in men and boys. Irwin pointed to the importance of terminology, cautioning that "toxic masculinity" is an exclusionary term that causes men to put a wall up, as they hear it as "anti-male." Instead, Men Can Stop Rape espouses a strength-based approach, focusing on the value men should have and creating a nurturing environment for men to do the right thing even when it is hard. The current dominant gender narrative establishes a hierarchy and quickly penalizes men and boys who dare step outside. Men and boys need to develop the skills to resist the dominant narrative and develop counter stories, enabling them to be their authentic selves as full human beings and as allies and

partners with women. Encapsulating this approach is the organization's slogan, "**My strength is not for hurting.**"

The next panelist, **Bertha Nayelly Loya Marin** (UN Chief of Cybercrime, Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Financing of Terrorism Department, UN Office on Drugs & Crime (UNODC)) brought a focus on prevention of digital GBV, including cyber-dependent and cyber-enabled crimes. A main problem is that people believe they are anonymous online and can escape responsibility for their actions, not behaving as they would in the real world. The UN Office works with both the public sector and tech companies to build their capacity to address digital GBV. They further provide training for law enforcement and prosecutors on how to investigate these crimes. To address cyberbullying, sextortion, and sexting for which girls are the main victims, they train teachers on how to respond to cyberattacks and provide them with multimedia tools to teach children to safely navigate cyberspace. They further provide cybersecurity training for women and engage in awareness campaigns.

Tina Musuya (Senior Technical Expert on Violence against Women, What Works II Programme, Social Development Direct) then discussed GBV prevention at the community level. She helped develop the groundbreaking SASA! Together toolkit to prevent violence against women, which was initially piloted in Uganda, but is now used all over the world.²⁶ Musuya explained, "**The starting point of GBV prevention is an understanding of unequal power relations and how to disrupt oppressive hierarchies of power.**" Training must be transformative and create critical thinking without insulting and condemning people because otherwise they will shut down. Additional important components are mentorship, self-care, a focus on prioritizing rights and the leadership of women, and accountability to communities and affected women.

Dr. Ellsberg then asked the panelist to reflect on what is needed at the national and global levels to make structural change. Irwin pointed to the need for more resources and professionals who can focus on prevention and "**lifting up what right looks like.**" Violence is a learned behavior that can be addressed or normalized.

²⁶ For the SASA! Together toolkit, please see *A renewed approach: SASA! Together*, RAISING VOICES, <https://raisingvoices.org/women/the-sasa-approach/sasa-together> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

He further called for going further upstream in confronting violence, emphasizing the roles of early childhood education and parenting in primary prevention. Additionally, we need safer and healthier virtual spaces for young people.

According to Cotton, we must reframe how we talk about safety by shifting from a criminal justice response to a community safety response: **“We need to invest in safe and affordable housing and access to fresh food and transportation. If communities aren’t safe, the individuals aren’t safe.”** Fundamentally, **“we need to invest in prevention, not just intervention.”** We can invest in both, centering the experiences of those on the margins.

Musuya explained that there are no quick fixes, and change requires time and resources. We need to invest in transformative change at the community, individual, and institutional levels so that feminist values drive norms and practices. The key is to be accountable to women and communities and ensure they help define programs and solutions.

Focusing on cybercrime, Loya Marin called for cybercrime prevention and cybersecurity classes at early ages at school. Just like math and language courses, this should be a regular course at all levels: primary, secondary, and high school. Classes need to be ongoing because technology keeps changing.

Dr. Ellsberg then closed out the panel, echoing the recommendation for deep investment in GBV prevention throughout the life cycle. She emphasized the need to address power imbalances and gender inequality from a feminist perspective, as well as the importance of an intersectional lens, focusing on the experiences of women and girls on the margins. Preventing GBV requires work on an individual level with boys and girls, as well as bringing the lived experiences of affected communities into our national policies and institutions. She further highlighted the need for more evaluation and participatory research and resources available through the What Works to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls Global Programme.²⁷

²⁷ For the What Works to Prevent Violence against Women and Girls Global Programme online resource, please see *We can prevent VAWG*, WHAT WORKS TO PREVENT VIOLENCE, <https://www.whatworks.co.za> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

D. Systemic Accountability for GBV

Professor **Tamar Ezer** (Acting Director, Human Rights Clinic; Faculty Director, Human Rights Program; Lecturer in Law, University of Miami School of Law) moderated the next symposium panel, Systemic Accountability for GBV. This panel looked beyond individual perpetrators to focus on the role of the state and other systemic actors in addressing GBV. Professor Ezer explained that human rights recognize that GBV is not just a private matter, but rather entails government responsibility to actively intervene and address it. **“Human rights call for the government to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, punish, and provide reparation for acts of violence.”**²⁸ Moreover, **“human rights explicitly link GBV to discrimination and violations of equality, recognizing the role of intersecting discrimination.”**²⁹

Professor Ezer further shared that the panel’s topic is of particular importance to Miami Law’s Human Rights Clinic. Professor **Carrie Bettinger-Lopez**, the Clinic’s founding director, represented Jessica Lenahan in a groundbreaking case before the Inter-American Human Rights Commission on domestic violence. The Commission found the U.S. in violation of the rights to non-discrimination, equality, and life in failing to enforce a restraining order and investigating the abduction of Jessica’s three daughters by their father, which ultimately led to their tragic death.³⁰ Significantly, the Commission called for both individual and systemic remedies and recommended investigation of “systemic failures” and updated legislation, policies, and protocols.³¹ This sparked a movement that led to city resolutions across the U.S. declaring freedom from GBV a human right and, at the national level, to Department of Justice

²⁸ E.g., Eur. Consult. Ass., *Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)*, art. 5, ¶ 2, Doc. No. 210 (2011).

²⁹ CEDAW Gen. Rec. 35, *supra* note 1, ¶¶ 12, 15 (recognizing that “women experience varying and intersecting forms of discrimination, which have an aggravating negative impact” and that GBV “may affect some women to different degrees, or in different ways”).

³⁰ Lenahan v. United States, Case 12.626, Merits, Inter-Am. Comm’n. H.R., Report No. 80/11 OEA/Ser.L/V/II, doc. 69, ¶ 5 (July 21, 2011).

³¹ *Id.* at ¶¶ 201, 215.

Guidance on Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias in Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence.³² The Human Rights Clinic has been inspired by Jessica's courageous advocacy and has had the opportunity to work on implementation of this Guidance.

This panel featured five incredible women who have been at the forefront of systemic accountability efforts for GBV in different parts of the world. First, **Brisa de Angulo** (Founder, A Breeze of Hope in Bolivia) is a survivor herself who is taking a pioneering case before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights focused on addressing sexual violence against children. De Angulo recounted the crushing impact of the sexual abuse she endured for months at the hands of her family. She was forced to reinvent herself after she developed eating disorders and attempted suicide twice. When she finally found courage to ask for help, she went to local authorities and experienced secondary trauma when she was blamed and ostracized everywhere she went. In response to her speaking out, de Angulo was called a liar, had her house set on fire, and her family was forced to flee the country. After realizing that this is a widespread problem among girls and boys, at the age of 17, de Angulo founded the first program in Bolivia for children who have been sexually abused. A Breeze of Hope provides legal services to survivors and brought the conviction rate for these crimes from 2% to 95%, the highest conviction rate in the world. To understand trauma's impact on the brain, de Angulo studied psychology and neuropsychology and shared this training with others. During her second year of law school, she helped the school open a human rights clinic to take her case, which is now before the Inter-American Human Rights Court. In addressing GBV, de Angulo urged a focus on consent and what it means. Moreover, incest is a specific type of crime, accounting for most sexual abuse children endure, which requires reform of the current narrow statute of limitations. Instead, **"the legal process needs to be according to our healing process."**

Next, **Joanna Evans** (Legal Director, European Human Rights Advocacy Center (EHRAC), Middlesex University School of Law)

³² See *Improving Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence by Identifying and Preventing Gender Bias*, DEP'T OF JUST. (May 31, 2022), <https://www.justice.gov/ovw/policing-guidance>.

discussed her advocacy in the European region and current challenges and opportunities. First, she brought attention to the egregious use of rape and sexual violence as a tool in war, as occurring right now in Ukraine. She further highlighted that across many countries, rape and sexual violence definitions are far from consent-based, and domestic violence is not considered a criminal offense. Rather than stopping domestic violence, the priority is keeping a marriage or family together. Additionally, she called attention to unnecessary and traumatizing procedures in the justice system, such as a vaginal exam in cases of oral or anal rape. Challenges facing the European Court of Human Rights include a huge backlog of cases, successfully implementing judgments, and balancing tensions between human rights and culture. Evans further made the point that **“Prevention is part of proper accountability.” “We should push courts to take more of a role in preventing harm through interim measures, which can be taken in cases with a risk of irreparable harm, of which there is no shortage when it comes to GBV.”** Lastly, Evans called for recognition by courts of not just the physical, but also the psychological harms of GBV and greater openness to psychological evidence.

Turning to the African region, **Sibongile Ndashe** (Executive Director, Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA)) discussed the need to develop feminist jurisprudence addressing GBV and a pool of lawyers to litigate these cases. Currently, the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) Court has been the most prolific in terms of tackling accountability for GBV. Courts often fail to recognize GBV and the link to discrimination, seeing it as an interpersonal matter with no public interest element for which the state has no responsibility. To close these normative gaps, ISLA has partnered with lawyers and judicial institutes to build their capacity to better respond to GBV.

The next two panelists presented country case studies with wider lessons regarding systemic accountability. Professor **Shanaaz Mathews** (Director, Children’s Institute; Professor, University of Cape Town) shared lessons from South Africa and the role of the women’s movement in ensuring accountability. The women’s movement in South Africa dates back to the 1960s and intensified during the mobilization against apartheid in the 1990s with the formation of the

Women's National Coalition, a non-partisan coalition that ensured gender equality was enshrined in the Constitution. Feminist activists entered the first democratic parliament as parliamentarians championed the development of progressive legislation. While other activists worked on advocating and lobbying for policy change through NGO and grassroots organizations, with the Constitution as foundational to the development of new legislation. In the late 1990s, the National Network on Violence against Women mobilized women from communities through provincial networks to contribute to the Domestic Violence Act of 1998 and ensured key provisions to increase women's protection from violence in the home. In addition, research evidence helped ensure stricter control measures in cases of intimate partner violence and the movement was able to use the rate of femicide, which was double that of gun homicides in the U.S., to advocate for strict regulation. The burden of femicide and failures of the criminal justice system sparked outrage across the country, with mass mobilization of women and the use of social media amplifying the call for President Ramaphosa to urgently address the high rates of rape and murder of women. This culminated in a landmark Presidential Summit on GBV and Femicide in November 2018 and the establishment of an interim steering committee that led to the development of a National Strategic Plan (NSP) to address GBV and femicide. However, Professor Mathews remarked, "**A plan is only as good as its implementation.**" Funding for grassroots groups to monitor implementation is thus critical.

Professor **Pam Palmater** (Professor and Chair in Indigenous Governance, Ryerson University) then addressed GBV against Indigenous Peoples in Canada, as well as the role of national inquiries in accountability.³³ In both Canada and the U.S., there is a history of violence, rooted in colonialism. "**The pursuit of settlement has always treated Indigenous women and girls and land as exploitable and**

³³ In Canada, though Indigenous women comprise only 4% of the population, they are 25% of all female murder victims and are twelve times more likely to be murdered or go missing than other women in Canada. For additional information on this topic, please see HUM. RTS. CLINIC, UNIV. OF MIA. SCH. OF L., CANADA'S NATIONAL INQUIRY INTO MISSING AND MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND GIRLS: A CASE STUDY OF GENDER AND ENVIRONMENTAL VIOLENCE, <https://miami.app.box.com/s/18ehds1e29aqsj39pbek37bmuhw61tes>.

expendable." Canada's National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, in fact, concluded that this ongoing violence amounts to a genocide in law.³⁴ Violence thus goes back to the country's founding. Children were violently ripped from their parents' arms and put in boarding schools where they experienced medical experimentation, sexual violence, and torture. In its place came the foster care system, which was used to facilitate forced adoption of Indigenous children by white families. Additionally, Indigenous women and girls were trafficked all over the world. Moreover, Indigenous women have been forcibly sterilized without their knowledge or coercively sterilized to get their children back from the foster care system. The Indian Act in Canada further linked recognition of Indigenous status to association with a man. Indigenous status could not be passed through women, essentially eliminating thousands of women and children from their communities who still need to be reinstated. Professor Palmater explained, "**State condoned sexism is one of the root causes of GBV.**"

Despite the National Inquiry, however, abuse has only worsened. Food rations are used to extort sex from Indigenous women and girls. Moreover, one of the biggest barriers to addressing the GBV crisis is law enforcement themselves, including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who engage in sexual violence with impunity. The state continues to send a message that women and girls do not matter, and Canada's Prime Minister remarked that the high number of girls and women who are victims of trafficking "are not high on our radar." To address these issues, there needs to be a specific focus and resources allocated to Indigenous women and girls.

In response to the panelist presentations, Professor Ezer noted that the justice system all too often retraumatizes and revictimizes survivors, leading to a double violation. She asked the panelists for their reflections on how current inadequacies in the justice system can be addressed and what are important remedies to provide beyond

³⁴ For information on Canada's National Inquiry into Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, including the Inquiry's Final Report, please see *Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*, NAT'L INQUIRY INTO MISSING & MURDERED INDIGENOUS WOMEN & GIRLS, <https://www.mmiwg-ffada.ca> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

criminal justice reform. De Angulo highlighted the importance of raising awareness and breaking the silence around GBV at all levels: in the family, in academia, and in government. She reminded the audience, **“We all have the chance to make a difference. Be that mosquito that buzzes until people wake up, turn on the light, and finally take action.”** Evans recommended scrutinizing and critiquing court decisions dealing with GBV, waking up a dysfunctional system, and providing gender training for judges and lawyers so that they can correctly identify and address these issues. Evans further questioned whether the adversarial system is even appropriate for GBV cases and pointed out that Spain is taking a different approach. Ndashe called for the development of jurisprudence and precedent addressing GBV cases so that there is more certainty and consistency in the law, clarifying remedies and encouraging people to seek legal recourse. Professor Mathews emphasized the importance of monitoring policy implementation to improve the system, better support survivors, and prevent violations. Professor Palmater underscored the value of engaging with international and regional human rights bodies and calling out countries for their violations, which led Canada to undertake the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls in the first place. She also highlighted the role of public education and media, which needs to do a better job of avoiding stereotypical depiction of Native women as either promiscuous or helpless victims of sexual violence. While Indigenous women should take the lead in advocacy, allies can provide critical support, and Professor Palmater called for solidarity across women’s groups.

E. Access to Justice for GBV: How Should we Define Justice?

The panel on access to justice, moderated by **Professor Donna Coker** (Professor of Law, University of Miami School of Law), focused on how justice for GBV is defined from the perspective of survivors. In her introduction, Professor Coker emphasized the symposium’s call that the **“need for deep reflection, innovative thinking, and joint strategizing with regard to [GBV] is urgent.”** Professor Coker noted that the call for this systemic shift relies on the need to rethink social

justice strategies by re-defining the word justice in a way that adequately reflects the realities of GBV survivors and the current measures available to provide justice. Access to justice is often defined as access to court, police, and legal protection, yet, as Professor Coker noted, police are often biased and corrupt. Moreover, the criminal justice system is a significant perpetrator of violence; **“survivors are often criminalized because system resources are shaped by hostility based in gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, and colonialism.”** Given these realities, Professor Coker explained that this panel will try to define meaningful access to justice.

Dr. Chelsea Ullman (Research Scientist, GWI, the George Washington University) focused her presentation on the findings from her doctoral research on access to justice for campus sexual assault survivors in the U.S.³⁵ Dr. Ullman conducted in-depth interviews primarily with survivors of campus sexual assault, but also with administrators and advocates. Survivor reflections on justice focused on the impossibility of justice; the need for accountability; remorse on behalf of the perpetrator; and a desire for freedom, fairness, belief, and affirmation. However, the most consistent and prominent response was that justice is prevention. Dr. Ullman noted, **“Discussion of justice always found a way to turn into a conversation about prevention: ‘justice means that he will never do that to another girl.’”** In addition, Dr. Ullman’s research further found that structural inequalities have a significant impact on LGBTQ+ and BIPOC survivors. Dr. Ullman concluded by encouraging all symposium participants to think about how different the world could be if justice and prevention could be more intimately linked.

Kelli Dillon (Survivor, Reproductive Justice Advocate, Violence Intervention Specialist, and Founder of Back to the Basics Community Empowerment Organization in Los Angeles, California) continued the discussion of access to justice from her own experience as a survivor and survivor advocate. While sharing her story, Dillon stressed, **“how first responders engage with the survivor sets the**

³⁵ Dr. Ullman’s research, corresponding with other research on this topic, found that one in five college women will experience some form of sexual violence. Chelsea Ullman, *The Just Prevention Theory for Policymaking on Campus Sexual Assault*, 20 ANALYSES SOC. ISSUES & PUB. POL’Y 638 (2020).

stage for how that person recovers and moves forward.” In Dillon’s case, police officers were hesitant to consider her a victim because she “did not look like a victim” and threatened to call child protection services if she kept calling them for help. Ultimately, she ended up protecting herself and her children from their abuser by buying a gun and killing him. At the age of 19, Dillon was arrested for first degree murder and faced 35 years to life in prison. Dillon highlighted that even though 30 years have passed since she was first arrested, today, “we’re still having to defend ourselves and advocate against criminalizing survivorship.” First and foremost, **“Justice looks like believing survivors.”** Dillon further emphasized the need to put survivors at the forefront of advocacy. As someone who was grossly mistreated by the justice system in the context of GBV, Dillon believes it critical for survivors to be in leadership roles to achieve substantive change. In addition, survivors need to be compensated for sharing their stories of exploitation and empowered to shape prevention and intervention policies. Dillon added, **“You cannot have true justice unless the people that you are fighting for are able to define it.”**

Next, **sujatha baliga** (Former Victim Advocate and Public Defender, Restorative Justice Facilitator) echoed the need to listen to survivors to end the cycle of trauma and violence. Only by hearing what survivors have been through and their needs can the system provide them with the tools and mechanisms to heal and move forward. She stressed that violence is caused by things we learn and the structures in which we live and that **“trauma begets more trauma.”** However, individual and collective accountability is possible to build “when oppressive structures get out of the way.” In both her personal and professional experiences, baliga found that there was nothing in the criminal legal system that looked like justice. A survivor herself, baliga “opted out” since **“the very systems that were designed to protect me also ensured my silence.”** She noted that she was not alone in her experience since 50% of survivors do not contact the justice system at all, and of those who do, 25% say the experience with law enforcement made them feel less protected. As a result, baliga advocates for restorative justice, drawing on Navajo Nation

traditions.³⁶ She explained that **“restorative justice involves, to the extent possible, all those who have a stake in a specific harm or offense in order to identify and address harms, needs, and obligations in order to put things as right as possible.”**³⁷ The goal is for a harm to stop and never recur. Instead of “putting people in cages,” which does not solve anything, restorative justice calls for a paradigm shift and centers solutions around survivors self-identifying their needs, together with their families and communities. It focuses on who was harmed, what they need, and who has the obligation to meet those needs, rather than what law was broken, who broke it, and who should be punished. Restorative justice tries to address root causes and achieve healing, both individually and collectively, through face-to-face dialogue. There is also no pressure to participate. baliga concluded by highlighting the importance of restorative justice processes at the community level and warning against the co-option of these processes by the state, including through VAWA. Separation from state authorities enables survivors and perpetrators to speak freely without fear of having their statements used in a court of law.

The next panelist, **Andrea Ritchie** (Attorney, Police Misconduct, Social Justice Institute of the Barnard Center for Research on Women) argued that our starting point should not be how to get the existing system to work, but rather how to reach our ultimate goal, which is safety. This would shift the question from “how do we define justice?” to “what would it take for Black, Indigenous, and other women of color to be safe?” **There needs to be a multiplicity of tools to escape violence because there is no “one-size-fits-all answer.”** Ritchie advocated for a radical change in our approach that focuses on the economic, social, and political conditions that contribute to violent behavior. We further need to make sure survivors have the means to survive, such as housing, income, and mental health care services. Ritchie noted that **the current system is insufficient because it is a “product of not just individual acts of violence, but of the structural, centuries-long acts of violence of the nation . . . dating back to slavery, imperialism, and war.”** The current system fails survivors

³⁶ See Donna Coker, *Restorative Justice, Navajo Peacemaking and Domestic Violence*, 10 THEORETICAL CRIMINOLOGY 67 (2006).

³⁷ baliga referred to Howard Zehr’s work for a definition of restorative justice. HOWARD ZEHR, THE LITTLE BOOK OF RESTORATIVE JUSTICE 37 (2002).

because it is doing what it has been designed to do. **“Policing is as much about policing crime, as it is about policing the lines around gender and sex, race, and class, and it has always been about that.”** Prisons only beget more violence. The criminal justice system does not encourage accountability, but rather increases guilt and punishment. **“Rather than delegating accountability to one group of people with limited tools, we need to all take responsibility and create accountable communities. Ultimate justice is prevention and ensuring GBV does not happen in the first place.”**

Next, **Raluca Popa** (Gender and Law Specialist, International Development Law Organization) echoed the need for survivor-led transformative justice. Popa reported on findings from a study that explored lessons, practices, and approaches to justice-related programming to respond to GBV in complex situations, including post-conflict and the context of widespread organized crime. Popa’s project used international human rights law as the framework for analysis, which stressed that all forms of GBV must be defined as crimes; require effective investigation and prosecution methods that satisfy due diligence standards; provide protective measures before, during, and after legal proceedings; make transformative remedies accessible; eradicate gender stereotyping in laws; enable feminist civil society to have a key role; and implement gender balance in the justice system. Popa argued that a survivor-centered approach to justice is necessarily multi-faceted and must prioritize women’s safety and security, collaborate with and support local women’s organizations and mobilization, decolonize the GBV evidence base, and address intersecting forms of discrimination. Popa’s study found that complex situations require a deeper understanding of how survivors experience justice, and that gender equality and human rights are foundational to address GBV.

F. Rethinking Protection to Mitigate GBV: Engaging Survivors and Offenders

Professor **Denisse Córdova Montes** (Acting Associate Director, Human Rights Clinic; Faculty Advisor, Human Rights Program; Lecturer in Law, University of Miami School of Law) moderated the final panel of the day. This panel focused on reframing

and redefining protection to mitigate GBV. Professor Córdoba Montes explained that under international law, the duty to protect is narrowly defined. **“Typically, the duty to protect frames women as individual victims in need of immediate safety and protection by the criminal justice system.”**³⁸ The panel sought to shed light on what a redefined duty to protect might look like and why it should also include the long-term needs of survivors and the collective needs of the community, including offenders.

Professor Córdoba Montes shared that the work of Miami Law’s Human Rights Clinic has pointed to the need for a more expansive understanding of the duty to protect. In 2020, the Clinic interviewed domestic violence providers in South Florida to find out the challenges they faced during the onset of COVID-19. Many providers reported that during the pandemic, survivors’ primary needs revolved around housing, food, transportation, and technology, which required a shifting of providers’ time and attention. While COVID created new challenges for survivors, it also threw into sharp relief challenges that had been in existence for a long time. Professor Córdoba Montes highlighted that the five panelists will seek to further this conversation by speaking about their experiences with holistic and long-term notions of protection and safety, such as the role of economic justice and social protection, and what it means to engage the whole community, including offenders and other historically excluded groups, such as LGBTQ+ and immigrant survivors, when addressing GBV.

First, **Melina Milazzo** (Senior Policy Counsel, National Network to End Domestic Violence) provided an overview of economic justice policies as a way of offering long-term protection from GBV. Milazzo started by highlighting that **“economic justice policies are key components in order to ensure that GBV is not only prevented, but also mitigated.”** Personal safety and economic security go hand in hand for GBV survivors. Milazzo noted that **“access to resources that increase economic stability are essential for preventing abuse and building a life afterwards”** since the need to provide for their children and themselves is one of the main reasons

³⁸ CEDAW Gen. Rec. 35, *supra* note 1, ¶ 40 (recognizing that “to protect and assist women complainants and witnesses of gender-based violence before, during and after legal proceedings,” effective measures are required).

survivors stay in and return to an abusive relationship. Milazzo discussed many policies that could be put in place to ensure economic security for survivors to mitigate GBV, which include job security, employment protection, living wage jobs, and barrier-free access to cash assistance, among others. She noted that while some states have enacted these policies, national uniformity and federal support for these policies are lacking. More specifically, Milazzo explained that **survivors of GBV need paid safe leave policies because “they need time off to seek protection, to meet with advocates and therapists, to file or attend legal proceedings, to relocate, or to recover emotionally or physically without risking their job or income.”** Milazzo also noted that equal pay initiatives and increasing the minimum wage would benefit GBV survivors, who are primarily women and women of color, that are disproportionately employed in low-wage jobs. Milazzo concluded by highlighting one of the things survivors need the most is access to no or low-barrier direct cash assistance, which are small amounts of money to pay their rent, utilities, food, childcare, or other necessities. Under President Biden’s Administration, direct cash assistance has gained some traction in Congress; however, related provisions were not included in the Omnibus Appropriations package that was ultimately passed by Congress this year. Finally, she noted that increasing income support for low-income families, such as through food assistance programs and access to tax credit, can lift survivors out of poverty and lead to reductions in GBV. Milazzo ended her presentation by emphasizing that **“survivors know what they need the most to be safe”** and that centering survivors in these policies also means ensuring that programs are flexible, have no or low barriers to access, and include a strong intersectional approach.

Next, **Tara Cookson** (Canada Research Chair at the University of British Columbia’s School of Public Policy and Global Affairs; and Cofounder of Ladysmith) provided the state of the evidence base of social protection and GBV. Cookson began her presentation by discussing her experience during the early stages of COVID at the Colombia-Venezuela border, when requests for cash transfers and food vouchers that could help GBV survivors cover food and rent increased dramatically. Cookson and colleagues observed that there was a clear link between vulnerability for GBV and lack of social protection, not just in South America, but across the world. With

support from UN Women, Cookson and colleagues responded by conducting a scoping review of policies and asking, **“What do we know about the use of social protection instruments to reduce GBV?”** Cookson found that social protection can reduce GBV because (1) it softens financial stress within the household and reduces drivers of violence, (2) it can enable women to leave violent situations by reducing dependency, (3) the routine interactions with service providers can provide entry points for survivors to access referral pathways, and (4) parental leave reduces stress over lost income and balances parental responsibilities with the potential to shift gender norms. They also found that coordination between national social protection strategies and GBV action plans at the highest level can create a clear mandate to jointly tackle these two areas over time. Cookson ended by noting that further research is needed to better understand family leave policies and pensions, synergies between social protection and housing policies, and what happens to survivors once social protection mechanisms cease to exist.

Next, Professor **Deborah Weissman** (Reef C. Ivey II Distinguished Professor of Law, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) discussed her work on Project Restart, which was a study of domestic violence intervention programs (DVIPs) or batterer intervention programs and the importance of focusing on offenders to identify and correct transgressive behaviors in addressing GBV. Professor Weissman argued that **“GBV is a function of structural issues as opposed to idiosyncratic behaviors; indeed, it is no longer plausible to ascribe criminal acts as individual failings.”** She explained that studies show that social disempowerment, lack of employment, and community stressors, such as racism, all contribute to GBV. She further highlighted that desistance theorists, who explore the sources of transgressive behavior to identify useful strategies of remedy, have observed that **“most predictors of desistance are the reverse of risk factors predicting offenders.”** Therefore, the incorporation of people who commit criminal acts into social networks promotes a sense of civic legitimacy, improves self-esteem, and inspires individuals to desist from harmful conduct. Professor Weissman pointed out that studies demonstrate that **the successful creation of social bonds “indisputably is the most important factor that causes men to alter or terminate their criminal careers.”** For

example, social justice movements are important to correct transgressive behavior because these groups help offenders stop criminal behavior by giving them mutual support, solidarity, and mutual commitments. She further recommended DVIPs to collaborate with different social justice organizations to reintegrate offenders into communities, noting that housing and labor advocacy groups are particularly important partners for DVIPs. Professor Weissman concluded by stating that DVIPs are a space of great potential for creating hope for the future for both survivors and offenders, as long as these are continuously centering and assessing the agency and safety of the harmed person.

Next, **Melissa Scaia** (Director of International Training, Global Rights for Women) discussed the importance of engaging men who commit crimes as well as the role of women in their own protection. Drawing on her experience conducting weekly sessions with perpetrators, she described her work as revolving around getting to know offenders to understand how they came to see the world in that way and to deconstruct that worldview. One clear lesson she has learned is that demonizing and judging men is not helpful to protect women. Her work with perpetrators led Scaia to also conduct consultations with survivors who had been arrested and convicted. With support from UN Women, Scaia is developing a step-by-step guide on how to conduct safe consultations with survivors without retraumatizing them. The guide hopes to support focus group discussions with survivors and equip those meetings with tools to evaluate their consultations. Scaia's work with survivors has helped her understand that not every survivor is the same, and survivors are also victims of the criminal justice system. For example, Scaia noted that overwhelmingly, survivors who have been arrested and convicted said they could not find housing after conviction, which made them more dependent on their abuser. Scaia concluded by highlighting that it is important to center survivors in perpetrator programs to make sure their priorities are being considered throughout this process.

Finally, **Francesco Duberli** (CEO, Survivors' Pathway Corporation), who works with GBV survivors from LGBTQ+ communities in Miami, discussed the unique needs of LGBTQ+ survivors and how service providers and the systems in which they work can best protect survivors belonging to marginalized groups.

Duberli began by saying that LGBTQ+ individuals' needs are not considered in the broader GBV framework in South Florida because there is a collective rejection to understand the complexities of LGBTQ+ communities. **"It is not the same to be gay, Latino, and immigrant or to be gay, white, and American. It is not the same to be gay and to be poor or to be gay and to be rich."** Duberli continued by arguing that the collective homophobia and discrimination prevalent in our society is translated into the systems that are supposed to serve survivors. **"The system is not structured or prepared to understand the dynamics of DVSA in the LGBTQ+ community because our society continues to place LGBTQ+ people in the invisible part of society."** For example, most DV shelters do not accept LGBTQ+ men who are survivors. This makes it harder for LGBTQ+ survivors to confront or leave their abuser if they do not have anywhere to go. This problem is made worse when identities intersect, as many LGBTQ+ survivors of color do not feel comfortable to go to the police or to court to hold their abuser accountable. These barriers make it more challenging for LGBTQ+ survivors, especially those of color, to access justice. Similarly, LGBTQ+ communities are deeply connected to their safe places, like gay clubs; however, because of the collective exclusion of LGBTQ+ communities, there are very few places exclusively for LGBTQ+ individuals. As a result, a survivor who reports a perpetrator will continue seeing their abuser in their safe places because they will both continue to frequent them. Duberli challenged all to think about whether our current justice system is effective for LGBTQ+ communities and noted that there is a deep mistrust of justice amongst these communities that will only be disrupted through deep societal change, and not through superficial trainings.

In response to the panelist presentations, Professor Córdova Montes noted that many speakers alluded to the fact that there are several community actors that need to be part of the discussion as we seek to reframe the duty to protect and asked, what other actors need to be part of the expanded ecosystem to protect survivors and how do we engage them in the conversation? Professor Weismann stated that partners who serve and provide resources to both offenders and survivors are important to implement restorative justice that is victim-centered, safety-oriented, community-oriented, and open-minded. More specifically, Professor Weissman noted that housing advocacy

and labor activist groups should be core partners. **“First of all, housing is a human right.”** Professor Weissman argued that the lack of housing is a structural cause of being a survivor of GBV and destabilizes offenders. She noted that there are several intersections between housing and GBV, and between GBV and unemployment for both survivors and offenders. Professor Weissman concluded by emphasizing the importance of community partners looking inside their own membership and tackling GBV as an integral part of their work to avoid these issues from being siloed. Similarly, Cookson agreed that partnering with housing and labor groups is crucial and emphasized the importance of considering partnerships with labor activist groups outside of traditional unions in contexts where informal labor is the norm. Cookson also underscored the importance of **partnering with “implementers of social protection programs, whether that is the people who deliver conditional or unconditional cash transfer programs, or food or in-kind transfers, early child development programs, and people who interface with households, families, women, and male partners on a regular basis.”** Cookson concluded by saying that coordination at higher levels between GBV national action plans and national social protection strategies would enable collaboration of these sectors at the community level.

Professor Córdoba Montes followed up by asking: what leadership and action is required for effective social protection and economic justice policy? Milazzo stated that there needs to be a whole-of-government approach because there are roles for everyone in the civil and private sector, the media, as well as individual citizens to educate, intervene, and be a part of the solution. Similarly, Scaia underscored the importance of making a concerted effort to meaningfully include the voices of survivors when developing a national action plan. Scaia further noted that it was especially important to include both marginalized and rural communities, and to compensate survivors for their time.

Professor Córdoba Montes closed the session by asking Duberli to reflect on how to meaningfully incorporate the social determinants of GBV into the expanded protection framework. Duberli emphasized the importance of data collection and knowing what the issue is and how big it is before anything else can be done.

Without statistics, “there is a lack of funding, programming, visibility, and sensitivity,” Duberli concluded.

G. Day 1 Closing Remarks

Dean **Rosa Celorio** (Dean for International and Comparative Legal Studies, The George Washington University Law School) provided closing remarks for the first day of the symposium. Dean Celorio was inspired by the resilience of the survivors who shared their experiences and the various perspectives raised during the discussions. She emphasized the importance of international law that sets global benchmarks to guide states. However, international law needs to be better known, and training needs to be provided on how to apply it at the national level. International courts should further place greater focus on prevention and push states to act before violations occur. **An interweaving of international and national law is critical for rights to be adequately protected.**

Dean Celorio also highlighted the evolving definition of GBV to recognize its many forms, including obstetric violence, environmental violence, and violence against the LGBTI community, as well as the role of intersecting burdens on individual experiences. Legislation and policy need to likewise capture this expanded definition, bridging the gap between theory and practice. Moreover, laws need to be monitored and evaluated, and data addressing intersecting identities needs to be collected.

Finally, Dean Celorio underscored the importance of women’s autonomy, leadership, and participation. **“Ending GBV requires women to have a seat at the table and to be leaders in our societies.”**

II. DAY 2

A. Day 2 Welcome Remarks

President **Julio Frenk** (President, University of Miami) welcomed participants to the second day of the symposium. He shared how the symposium linked with the University of Miami’s strategic aspirations. This included aspirations for relevance by translating knowledge into policy and practice, for interdisciplinary and problem-

based inquiry into the complex problems facing humanity, and for creating a safe and open space for a diversity of perspectives, connecting academics, policymakers, and communities. The topic of addressing GBV could not be more important. Just as GBV, rooted in attempts by men to subordinate women, has been a cultural constant across space and time, the universal framework of human rights provides a powerful instrument for transformative solutions. The symposium's deliberations are critical for communities, workplaces, and academic institutions, including the University of Miami. President Frenk expressed his commitment to ending GBV on campus and his interest in the outcomes from the rich symposium discussions.

B. Rethinking Training for Law Enforcement

Bianca Joseph (International Association of Women Police (IAWP) Region 5 Coordinator; IAWP Board Member; Senior Police Officer) moderated the first substantive panel of the day on rethinking training for law enforcement on GBV. Law enforcement officers are often first responders to GBV and can have an important impact. However, current law enforcement trainings on GBV vary widely and are often meaningless. Moreover, trainings are rarely linked to accountability or rigorously evaluated. The panelists are all pioneers, rethinking training for law enforcement to address gender bias and better respond to GBV.

Professor **Lien Tran** (Assistant Professor, DePaul University School of Design) presented on a new training tool her team is developing using simulation and immersive technology to improve trauma-informed interviewing by law enforcement, needed to build rapport and trust with survivors. The experience takes place through a virtual reality headset, and there is also a desktop option. Users move through the experience based on choices that govern the success or failure of their investigation. By practicing dialogue, officers learn to recognize bias and develop more survivor-centered approaches. The platform further offers multiple opportunities for future development, including different survivor interviewing scenarios and chaotic, on the scene investigations. Professor Tran invited participants to pilot the training simulation at a later symposium session and provide feedback.

David Thomas (Program Manager, International Association of Chiefs of Police) highlighted the need for a paradigm shift in law enforcement when it comes to addressing GBV. Such change needs to begin with education and training that is ongoing. Domestic violence is a root cause of many of our social ills, including individual and gang violence. Officers need to examine patriarchy, implicit bias, and how power and control are exerted in society. Reform requires an attitudinal change even at the conversational level and in the language officers use in their reports and with one another. For instance, rather than describing a victim as “uncooperative,” officers need to understand that a survivor has agency and may have chosen not to pursue a case. **Officers need to learn to “meet communities where they are,” providing services without judgment.** Additionally, if a domestic violence call comes in, officers should be taught to screen for comorbid offenses like sexual assault, stalking, and strangulation and should be coordinating with other agencies. The process reform is not about blame and is not one-size-fits all. Not only are GBV crimes complex and multi-layered, but some agencies are further along in development than others. **“If officers know the story of GBV, they can help write a different ending, saving lives.”**

In her remarks, **Deborah Friedl** (President, International Association of Women Police) stressed the importance of investing in training and building the capacity of women in law enforcement so that they are better positioned for career advancement. She then remarked that a major challenge for law enforcement in addressing GBV is that it is not responsive to traditional metrics of success. Effective law enforcement leads to increased GBV reporting so incidents, somewhat paradoxically, go up, instead of down. Additionally, increased cases do not necessarily lead to increased prosecutions since survivors may not want to press charges. Moreover, 50% of calls come from the same houses and involve repeat offenders. Consequently, domestic violence cases are seen as tedious and never-ending and are not highly regarded in the police force. The officers who work on these cases may further be stigmatized as not “real detectives.”

Addressing GBV thus requires redefining success. **Good measures of success can include survivor satisfaction and access to services.** Friedl explained, **“An effective response to GBV is not just**

a matter of good policing, but rather involves collaboration with service providers.” Moreover, law enforcement can help people stay safe and lead to a reduction in homicides. As first responders, police are entering people’s lives when they are in crisis and need help the most. Tackling GBV cases can also help build rapport and trust with communities, particularly lower socioeconomic populations, newly arriving immigrant groups, and other historically disenfranchised people. As such, these cases should be elevated as important work.

Next, **Novelette Grant** (Deputy Commissioner of Police (Retired) of the Jamaica Constabulary Force and UN Women Consultant for the Spotlight Initiative) provided a snapshot of the ethos within the Jamaican Constabulary Force, which is paramilitary, hierarchical, authoritarian, and focused on maintaining order. Within this rigid structure, training is largely lecture-based and non-participatory. However, to learn to address GBV, officers need the opportunity to engage in simulations, role play, and test their own biases. Grant helped develop a participatory two-day workshop with these elements. The training further stresses that domestic violence is a crime and human rights violation and should be treated as such. Additionally, the workshop connects trainees with government agencies and community-based organizations to break through cultural barriers that lead to victim-blaming and shaming, instead of empathy for survivors. **“For law enforcement training on GBV to be effective, it needs to be transformative and engage at the level of culture and values.”**

Next, **Mirko Fernandez** (Project Coordinator and UN Women Consultant) and **Jane Townsley** (Senior Police Advisor and UN Women Consultant) presented on their work developing a *Handbook on Gender-Responsive Policing for Women and Girls Subject to Violence*,³⁹ which is currently being implemented in over 20 countries in partnership with IAWP, UN Women, and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime. Townsley explained that while police globally tend to provide services that are more aligned to the needs of men and boys, gender responsive policing entails also considering the distinct safety needs of

³⁹ U.N. WOMEN ET AL., THE HANDBOOK ON GENDER-RESPONSIVE POLICING FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS SUBJECT TO VIOLENCE (n.d.), <https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2021/01/handbook-gender-responsive-police-services>.

women and girls. Moreover, gender responsive policing requires equality and equity of opportunity for women and men in law enforcement. This includes not just benchmarks for the recruitment and retention of women, but changes to policies and procedures to make the environment more inclusive of women. Townsley further emphasized that gender responsive policing practices are important for all types of crime, not simply for GBV. Women should be visible in policing and not simply pigeonholed into roles that deal with women and girls. **The police force should be representative of the community, including intersecting identities.**

The Handbook is written by police for police and draws on policing experience in conjunction with the testimony of survivors. It is more of a guiding reference document than a training manual and is meant to operationalize values so that officers on the ground can integrate them in service delivery. It aims to fill a gap expressed by police, who often find themselves struggling to respond to violence against women and girls. Townsley identified five gender responsive policing principles: (1) institutional change, (2) strengthening prevention work, (3) committing to transformative learning, (4) committing resources to advance a stronger relationship with survivors and support services, and (5) demonstrating leadership in empowering and enabling the delivery of the services and in monitoring and evaluating their impact. Fernandez shared three essential gender responsive policing strategies to help law enforcement realize a vision of success based on greater access to coordinated multisectoral services for all women and girls who experience GBV: (1) partnership-building with women or organizations representing groups placed into positions of vulnerability,⁴⁰ (2) standardized quality control and gender-sensitive police interventions, and (3) training, education, and professional development for police in the area of gender sensitive prevention and perpetrator-focused investigation practices. Fernandez further emphasized the role of police leadership in promoting healthier and

⁴⁰ Fernandez stressed that people are not vulnerable per se, but rather are placed into positions of vulnerability due to social or economic discrimination. When empowered, however, they are powerful allies toward justice. It is thus critical to dismantle harmful barriers to the meaningful participation of survivors in law enforcement interventions.

safer working environments, as well as the continuous reinforcement of gender responsive policing practices.

In response to a question on what transformative training looks like in practice, Grant stressed an opportunity for self-reflection and an understanding of assumption and biases, as well as a focus on practical application. Transformative change further requires training for both officers and leaders, who all too often do not avail themselves of training opportunities. Townsley echoed the importance of practical application in training and noted that the handbook recommends a two-tiered approach, targeting both first responders and operational commanders and managers. She explained that **it is not enough to train first responders; middle managers need to be enabled to hold first responders to account.** Fernandez shared that in evaluations of police capacity-building projects, traditional training models often did not lead to the changes they sought. Peer to peer interventions, however, led to the most sustainable results and should be the focus of redesigned training models.

In response to a question regarding strategies to address repeat domestic violence calls, Friedl shared that an effective approach has been an in-person visit, along with partner entities and service providers. If this initial intervention was perceived positively enough by survivors, they were then more likely to call on law enforcement before another assault occurred. It is also important for arrests not to be the preferred response, but to respect the wishes of the survivor. Additionally, considering that domestic violence often impacts children, it is useful to provide services for children. These services can also be preventive, interrupting generational cycles of violence. Thomas underscored the value of operational tools. A checklist for officers in responding to domestic violence calls can help guide them on needed steps, as well as help supervisors in assessing officer performance. **Training needs to be linked to accountability,** and there should be greater emphasis on procedural checks, which should include lethality assessments and mandatory investigation of possible comorbid offenses. Thomas closed by suggesting a powerful reframing of **“domestic violence units in law enforcement as homicide prevention units.”**

C. Implementing National Action Plans

Lynn Rosenthal (President, Center for Family Safety and Healing) moderated the panel focused on implementing National Action Plans (NAPs). Rosenthal noted that the panelists will explore how NAPs can (1) support survivors of GBV who are in the margins; (2) address the connection between racial justice and GBV; and (3) advance issues like economic injustice.

Professor Caroline Bettinger-López (Senior Advisor on Gender & Equality, Office for Victims of Crime, U.S. Department of Justice) explained that NAPs are forms of policy-and-vision-making from governments that create “long-term, strategic government activities that are designed to address some major problem in the country.” Currently, 80 countries around the world have NAPs. The U.S. has recently taken important strides on GBV, and President Biden has committed his presidency to ending violence against women. On International Women’s Day, March 8, 2021, he issued an executive order establishing the Gender Policy Council and called for the development of a national strategy on gender equality and equity and, as part of its implementation, the development of the first U.S. NAP on GBV. This NAP is fundamentally connected to executive orders on diversity, inclusion, and accessibility – all of which call for continued implementation of policies on sexual violence and domestic assault at the federal agency level. The administration is currently developing a vision statement for the NAP on the basis of listening sessions with civil society. This vision statement is focused on “**proactive, survivor-led, holistic support that addresses the diverse needs of survivors.**” Professor Bettinger-López noted that her team has “challenged themselves to rethink what our work should look like using a public health lens.” They are also looking at what other countries, including South Africa, Australia, and Argentina, among others, have done with their NAPs. Key themes to serve as guiding pillars for the U.S. NAP include prevention, public health, trauma-informed care, economic security and housing, culturally specific approaches centered on well-being and wellness, and promoting responsive and accountable justice systems. Professor Bettinger-López added that they are also looking at emerging areas, such as technology-facilitated GBV, emergency preparedness response and climate impacts, and the importance of

research and data. The core guiding principle is a focus on those who are experiencing GBV by providing a platform for survivor voices and learning from how other countries have captured survivor-based narratives.

Next, **Nicolette Naylor** (International Program Director for Gender, Racial, and Ethnic Justice, Ford Foundation) addressed the NAP experience in South Africa, which is renowned for its progressive policies, but struggles with implementation. Naylor started by noting that the South African NAP is grounded in the country's history, which is one of colonialism and apartheid. The NAP came about because of popular mobilization by the feminist movement taking to the streets and demanding change, particularly around femicide.⁴¹ South Africa's NAP reflects the needs of numerous communities and represents a whole of society of approach that involved the government, the media, and children's, disability, LGBTQI+, and feminist groups. Survivors were integral to the NAP's development and the recognition that greater attention needed to be given to structural and economic violence. Naylor highlighted some lessons learned in South Africa from their first year of implementation. She stressed that implementation at federal and provincial levels requires different strategies. For example, she noted that in South Africa, government departments progressed the most where civil society remained actively engaged at provincial levels. She also pointed out that while leadership from the President's office helped nationally, it did not help locally, and highlighted that the lack of technical capacity for reporting at some levels of government was an impediment to implementation. Naylor further identified the need to address intergenerational and collective trauma through community healing and recognition of the links between different forms of violence across gender, race, sexual orientation, age, and context. She concluded by highlighting that one of the biggest lessons learned is that **survivors are not a monolithic group and addressing tensions and ideological disagreements is crucial to maintain momentum and engagement.**

Emma Fulu (Founder and Director, Equality Institute in Australia) described lessons learned from Australia's 12-year NAP

⁴¹ See WORLD HEALTH ORG. & PAN-AM. HEALTH ORG., UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN (2012), https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/77421/WHO_RHR_12.38_eng.pdf.

process. The current NAP is set to expire later this year and the hope is that a new 10-year NAP will go into effect. Fulu remarked that **“NAPs are valuable for building a collective understanding, setting a vision, and serving as an advocacy tool with roles, responsibilities, and targets for the next decade.”** At the same time, NAPs are inevitably signed off by a political party and have their limitations. Fulu first emphasized that the political process behind the NAP’s development has resulted in the politicization of violence against women in Australia. Fulu noted that this challenge is embedded within systems of oppression that have historically excluded First Nation voices from political processes. As a result, the feminist movement in Australia is dominated by white women, which has affected the legitimacy of the NAP. To protect the new NAP from politicization, civil society engaged in a two-year consultation phase. This process sought to address existing inequities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians; meaningfully include groups that had been previously excluded, including children’s rights groups and LGBTQI+ communities; and center survivor-led solutions. Moreover, the new NAP seeks to build infrastructure to support implementation of policies addressing GBV. Specifically, the supportive infrastructure now includes a commissioner, survivor-led advisory board, detailed outlines of the roles and responsibilities, and more focus on community-led work. Fulu further stressed the importance of setting **benchmarks to measure change, including short, medium, and long-term targets.** Fulu concluded by noting that **“there is a temptation to think about NAPs as just about actions, but significantly, they create a shared understanding about what violence against women, its root causes, and collective actions needed.”**

Next, **Daniela Ligiero** (Director & CEO, Together for Girls) emphasized the importance of taking a life course approach and the need to elevate and support survivor leadership in the development, implementation, and accountability for NAPs. Ligiero underscored that prevention, healing, and justice are the three pillars of the life course approach to GBV, which are portrayed differently for different people. Plans further need to create safe and ethical spaces for survivors to lead decision-making processes. Ligiero pointed to Germany as a wonderful example of progress in this direction by establishing a survivor’s council to guide GBV policy. Ligiero

concluded by briefly presenting important input—the U.S. National Blueprint to End Sexual Violence Against Children and Adolescents and the Brave Movement to End Childhood Sexual Violence, which are the result of survivor-centered processes—that she hoped would offer guidance and support to the development of the U.S.’s NAP.

Mary Kathryn Nagle (Attorney, Playwright & Social Justice Advocate) highlighted the urgency of addressing violence against Native women through the NAP. Nagle argued that **violence against Native women “was the tool that the U.S. used to create itself as a nation and gain land.”** She provided accounts of the historic violence against Native People and how the U.S. used rape to force Native communities to leave their territories, as well as how federal law has allowed both private and public actors to get away with such egregious conduct for centuries. **“Native women,”** she stated, **“continue to be more likely to be raped, murdered, and abused than any other population in the U.S.”** The vast majority of perpetrators of violence against Native women are non-Native; yet, as a result of the 1978 Supreme Court *Oliphant* decision, tribal nations do not have the authority to arrest or prosecute the majority of perpetrators who are harming their citizens. Moreover, state and federal governments have historically failed to investigate cases, or worse, have been part of the problem when their own law enforcement rape and murder Native People. Native communities have two main requests concerning GBV: (1) to restore the inherent right of tribal nations to protect their own citizens in their own homes (known as a full *Oliphant* fix); and (2) for the U.S. to recognize its responsibility for the historical harms it has caused to Native women and to correct its practices. She urged that Native women be compensated for the violence they have endured.

Sonya Passi (Founder & CEO, FreeFrom) closed the panel by sharing findings from her organization’s data collection on survivors’ needs. Passi has predominantly worked at the intersection of GBV and economic insecurity and addressed seven major points that all nations should consider when developing NAPs. First, **“[States] must recognize the undeniable financial causes and consequences of GBV.”** The financial burden should shift from survivors and onto society, which is ultimately accountable for the problem of GBV. Based on FreeFrom’s data, the number one struggle of GBV survivors is economic insecurity, with 99% of survivors experiencing some form of

economic abuse. Second, “[States] have to be driven by the needs and desires of survivors across different and intersecting identities of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, immigration status, and disability.” Passi added that they are beginning to look at the cost of GBV disaggregated by identity and ask: “Is it more expensive to be a Black, queer survivor than a white, heterosexual survivor?” Passi reported that when FreeFrom asked survivors what they needed, 64% of survivors responded with a need for cash to spend as necessary. Survivors also reported needing utility bill relief and credit and/or debt relief. Passi noted that there are a lot of misconceptions that survivors do not know what they need, but when asked, Passi has found that they know to the dollar what they need to get relief.

Third, Passi recommended that “**solutions and strategies have to be as varied and diverse as the experiences of survivors.**” Passi’s research has found that different people want different means of receiving money. For example, Black and Latinx survivors most commonly want cash from a bank or credit union, Indigenous survivors want cash from culturally specific community-based organizations, Asian survivors want to receive the money from a domestic violence organization, and white survivors want the money directly from the government, such as through a stimulus check.

Fourth, “[States] must invest in survivor safety long before the moment of acute crisis, so that it never reaches that point, and then invest long after.” Passi noted that while we know that this form of trauma is systemic, pervasive, and generational, the solutions that society puts forth are too focused on addressing the acute and severe impacts. Fifth, Passi noted that survivors need a normalized way to recover from their trauma and not be adversely affected by their job. FreeFrom’s data has found that it takes an average of fifteen sick or vacation days to recover from GBV, but the reality is that survivors are neither sick nor on vacation during this recovery.

Sixth, “[States] must build a sustainable movement and that begins with investing in the survivors working day in and day out to do this work and tak[ing] care of other survivors in our community.” Passi highlighted that according to one FreeFrom survey, one in two working in the movement are survivors themselves, five people in the movement do not feel safe in their own homes, and not a single person interviewed for the survey was making

a living wage. Funding this work must cover the cost of a living wage for people working in the movement. Finally, Passi concluded by stating that **this movement “needs time, money, and space for innovation.” “Until you have experienced something, it is really hard to imagine it, and so advocacy to end GBV requires trying things out that might expand the notion of what is possible to protect survivors.”**

D. A Conversation on Local Implementation of Holistic Approaches to GBV

Moderator **Professor Alexis Piquero** (Professor & Chair of Sociology, Arts & Sciences Distinguished Scholar, University of Miami) introduced the next panel focused on local implementation of holistic approaches to GBV. Professor Piquero shared his work in this area, including a study he led a year ago on domestic violence before and after the pandemic hit. The study’s results confirmed that GBV cases skyrocketed during the pandemic, and survivors were looking for support and services. He emphasized that while important, data and research only go so far, unless they “help inform and guide policy to improve the human condition.”

First, **Laura Capobianco** (Senior Policy Advisor, Ending Violence against Women and Girls, UN Women) shared that UN Women has supported local governments, businesses, and NGOs in the implementation of integrated, comprehensive, safe, and sustainable approaches focused on ending sexual harassment in public spaces since UN Women’s inception in 2011. This is part of UN’s initiative on Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces for Women and Girls. Capobianco notes that this global initiative was informed by the results of a global women’s safety review that noted gaps and responded to requests made by global and local women’s rights organizations to respond through these catalytic partnerships in 54 cities in 32 countries. Capobianco described that this global initiative has helped address gaps in data, legislation, and policies on sexual harassment in public spaces and transportation at national and local levels (e.g. Canada, Egypt, India, Morocco, Philippines, Guatemala, and Mexico). Along with legal and policy reform, she described how **“participating cities focused on addressing the normalization of violence and**

sexual harassment that women experience on city streets, in markets, schools, parks and on public transport, and the culture of silence that surrounds GBV.” Capobianco noted that evaluations of comprehensive safe city programs reveal an improved sense of safety, hygiene and comfort among women and girls in marketspaces. She concluded by describing how the global initiative leveraged partnerships to enhance opportunities for economic empowerment and public transport in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, and resulted in a significant increase of bystander willingness to support women during sexual harassment incidents that occur in public transport in Quito, Ecuador.

Next, **Darci Flynn** (Director of GBV Strategy and Policy, Office of the Mayor of Chicago) explained that before serving Mayor Lightfoot’s office, she helped to lead an anti-trafficking program for almost eight years, which served hundreds of survivors locally and thousands nationally. She found that the vast majority of trafficking survivors faced various other forms of oppression, especially poverty, in addition to GBV and required additional services. Understanding survivors as whole people with histories of oppression is crucial in order to adequately serve them. Flynn brought this perspective to her position at the Mayor of Chicago’s Office where she was tasked with establishing a coordinated response to human trafficking. Since joining the Mayor’s office, Flynn has focused on a campaign to address the holistic needs of domestic workers, who are predominantly women of color and immigrants, facing high rates of exploitation. The campaign, which was built alongside domestic workers, has changed laws requiring contracts and raised the minimum wage. Thus, the campaign provides a holistic response for survivors beyond the immediate need for safety from intimate partner violence. A seven-month community engagement process culminated in the city’s first strategic plan to address GBV and human trafficking, which includes domestic violence, sexual assault, workplace violence, and human trafficking. Flynn noted that they are now in the implementation phase of the plan and an implementation taskforce made up of survivors and community stakeholders is advising the city and keeping them accountable. Moreover, Chicago is now “looking at ourselves,” which includes mandatory training to address GBV inside the City of Chicago.

Next, **Jason Smith** (Director of Equity and Engagement, Miami-Dade County Mayor's Office) began by stating that his goal when he first joined the Miami-Dade Mayor's Office was to pass policy that would make long-term change. One of the most significant pieces of legislation that Smith worked on was an ordinance endorsing CEDAW. Although the U.S. has not ratified this international treaty protecting women's rights, there has been a movement among U.S. cities to espouse CEDAW's principles. Smith's efforts culminated in Miami-Dade becoming the first county in the U.S. to join this movement. The CEDAW Ordinance has led Miami-Dade County to set benchmarks and consider women and girls in its various policies. Smith also noted that Miami-Dade County works closely with law enforcement and that many of these officers have attended and learned from this symposium.

However, more work is needed to break down silos. Currently, Smith is working to bring a GBV lens to Miami-Dade County's approach to gun violence, understanding that violence may be rooted in trauma that starts with sexual abuse or violence in the home. This approach would lead to different resolutions, like addressing the affordable housing crisis and providing services to women leaving domestic violence shelters. Moreover, Smith asserted the need to analyze arguments over social media that spill over into gun fights in the streets. Mayor Levine Cava approaches addressing GBV collaboratively, and the county has created an office of neighborhood safety to engage in coordinated work with numerous women's organizations to help advise on policy and approach. Smith concluded by highlighting the goal to "be seen by the U.N. as the third city to be a 'safe city' and bring some commonsense and on-the-ground solutions to GBV."

Panelist Professor **Kathryn Nowotny** (Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Miami) discussed a community survey she is developing with others, including University of Miami academics and community advocates, that seeks to assess gender bias in police responses to GBV. This survey, which is launching this summer, was born out of discussions with the COURAGE Initiative at Miami Law's Human Rights Program. It will be surveying community service providers that work with domestic violence survivors, but have not been traditionally perceived as being part of the system that serves

survivors, such as food pantries, racial groups, and disability groups, to ask about their experiences with law enforcement. In this survey, the study team will also ask about alternative responses to GBV that go beyond law enforcement.

Professor Nowotny further noted that **women who are impacted by the justice system are often overlooked and left out of these conversations “because they are not the perfect victims.”** The vast majority of women who have been incarcerated face high rates of GBV, child sexual assault, and child physical assault. This is not just unique to women, as almost 20% of incarcerated men also experienced child sexual assault. Many women’s incarceration is the ultimate result of their trauma. For example, homelessness is usually a response to trauma by escaping abuse, which leads to engaging in sex work, substance abuse, or trespassing, which leads to criminalization. In Florida, women are the fastest growing subgroup of incarcerated people, and Florida has a higher rate of female incarceration than the national average. Not only is incarceration often a result of trauma, but it can further traumatize people, creating a continuous and vicious cycle. Professor Nowotny underscored that all people are worthy of our empathy and trauma-informed services, no matter their criminal background.

In response to a question about addressing the intergenerational impact of GBV, especially when children are observers of violence, Professor Nowotny recommended a preventative approach and focus on economic distress, housing, and other structural issues that contribute to violence. Moreover, services should be provided to children who experience abuse to stop the cycle of violence, and children’s wellbeing should be prioritized, which includes gun prevention, clean neighborhoods, and safe parks and sidewalks.

E. Policy Working Sessions

The final part of the symposium involved parallel working group sessions that delved deeper into the policy recommendations that emerged throughout the two days. These sessions focused on local, national, and global policy, as well as practical considerations for using data and training to address GBV. Annex 1 to this report

includes a detailed summary of the discussions and recommendations from each of the six policy working groups.

F. Closing Remarks

In closing, the Editors-in-Chief of the *University of Miami International and Comparative Law Review*, **Micaela Carou-Baldner**, and the *University of Miami Inter-American Law Review*, **Alexa Garcia**, thanked the symposium speakers for sharing their insights on how best to address GBV and welcoming participants into their most personal experiences. They shared that the symposium provided a platform for an important conversation that they are looking forward to memorializing in their journals. In addition to publishing a synopsis report from the symposium, the journals will also be publishing articles by some of the speakers, providing an opportunity to deepen analysis. Through publication, they hope to bring greater exposure to the critical issues the symposium raised and support greater accountability for GBV.

Professor Caroline Bettinger-Lopez closed out the symposium, emphasizing the importance of grounding standards in practice and “bringing human rights home” to work in the U.S. and urging participants to always apply a gender and intersectionality lens. She thanked all the participants and speakers and highlighted the contributions of the organizing partners, who collaborated with the Miami Law Human Rights Program and Clinic, including GWI, UN Women, MIA, the Lancet Commission, the Human Rights Society, and the student journals. She further commended the student rapporteurs, who had been diligently note-taking and memorializing the symposium discussions. Finally, Professor Bettinger-Lopez invited participants to join for a reception, celebrating the 10-year Anniversary of the Human Rights Clinic.

III. ANNEX 1: POLICY WORKING SESSIONS

1. *Policy Working Session 1: Local Policies to Address GBV*

Professor **Kathryn Nowotny** (Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Miami) moderated a working session on policy recommendations and ideas for models to implement in Miami-

Dade County to address GBV. The discussion emphasized the importance of (1) early intervention through youth education, mentorship, and psychological support, (2) reimagining mid-stream wrap-around service provision at the county level, and (3) taking bold actions to improve access to immediate resource and housing provisions for survivors.

The group discussed the **“importance of interrupting cycles of inter-generational trauma and violence through creative mentorship of youth.”** Group participants recommended the development of a campaign akin to the Men Can Stop Rape (MCSR) youth development model through which young men engage in understanding inclusive models of masculinity to counteract exposure to heteronormative models. As the group envisioned it, such a program would necessarily include the development of strong peer networks, coaching on coping strategies, and education on identifying unhealthy practices, especially around technology-facilitated abuse and harassment. The group addressed the possibility of collaborating with school administrations to allow the implementation of a parallel curriculum. However, the group expressed concerns around whether state level government would be willing to enact curricular reforms around consent, the viability of a mandatory model, and the appropriate age at which to introduce this kind of material.

Next, the group discussed the **“need to reimagine wrap-around services to address GBV.”** One suggestion was the **“establishment of a hotline for would-be perpetrators of GBV”** experiencing high levels of aggression to call and be supported in real-time. The group pointed out that while Miami has a domestic violence switchboard, it currently lacks the requisite expertise in de-escalation. It was noted that the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSA) is launching a similar national initiative for people struggling with mental health issues (988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline). The conversation then turned to the multiplicity of “numbers to call” in the county and the challenge faced by survivors when trying to navigate them. The consensus of the group was that **“the onus should not be on survivors to sort out the web of overlapping hotlines, and that call-center centralization is needed to ensure adequate service provision.”**

Similarly, the group considered approaches to fully integrated wrap-around services at the county level. It was noted that with Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding earmarked for restorative justice practices, **“the county should endeavor to create a wrap-around service model that emphasizes violence prevention and includes both a gender and sociological structural lens to address social determinants of violence.”** As a possible solution, the group talked about the potential for Miami Dade County to fully integrate the Family Justice Center model by expanding the existing Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council of Greater Miami (DVSAC). However, the group underscored potential issues of confidentiality as well as the potentially injurious effect of housing such a center under the Office of the State Attorney, which is how the model is implemented in other jurisdictions, such as New York. Arrest, or the possibility of arrest, can often serve to preclude service provision and survivor engagement.

The group then discussed the development of a psychological trauma center, like one that currently exists in San Francisco, to address GBV. The idea of such a center would be to respond to the experience of trauma and begin to provide intervention services with the understanding that experiencing violence can often perpetuate violence. The group repeatedly referred to the Healing and Justice Center founded in Miami by Dream Defenders, Dade County Street Response, Beyond the Bars, and Circle of Brotherhood as a potential model. The recently opened Health and Justice Center provides an alternative to a 911 mobile crisis team, a trauma recovery center focused on providing therapy and resources to survivors of violence, legal services, and after and in-school youth programming. The group agreed that **“any model that is implemented would need to ensure that the provision of services is culturally sensitive”** and must be designed to reach communities in which GBV is often normalized.

Finally, the group turned to the involvement of law enforcement and the potential institution of a family violence co-responder model, like a mobile victims' advocacy clinic. Such a model would expand the existing role of the law enforcement victims' advocate program, which the group acknowledged is critical but not sufficiently comprehensive. Participants noted that one barrier to the establishment of such a model is the fact that individuals often do not

remain in the position of victim advocate for a long time. The group concluded that increased wages and job retention for victim advocates within law enforcement must be addressed to make any solution viable in the long term. Relatedly, the group also noted that “**training for law enforcement requires improvement,**” as the current model, which emphasizes “learning on the job,” is insufficient.

The group’s discussion concluded with a conversation regarding material resource support for survivors beginning with rethinking victims’ compensation distribution. At the state level, the group noted that victims’ compensation must be made more universally available to survivors countywide. In addition, participants recommended “**for the county to enact policy to provide funding flexibility for safe housing and immediate needs,**” potentially drawing on the food and beverage tax. This funding would address immediate needs such as food insecurity, emergency hotel placement, and housing.

2. *Policy Working Session 2: National Policies to Address GBV*

Michelle Kaminsky (Domestic Violence Bureau Chief, King’s County District Attorney Office) facilitated the working session on *National Policies to Address GBV*. Kaminsky started the conversation by asking participants to reflect on what a comprehensive national prevention plan might look like. Participants highlighted that tackling inequality and providing economic support are the most effective strategies to prevent GBV. One participant summarized the discussion by declaring that “**Investing in survivors is investing in prevention.**” More specifically, some noted that tax credits are helpful for low-income families, and more specifically for survivors. Participants also called for loans and other economic assistance that typically have a lot of legal barriers to be made more accessible, particularly for BIPOC communities. Additionally, many participants explained that survivors need cash and other economic resources, so they can leave their situations. They further argued that “**providing cash to survivors without asking questions is not only recommended, but feasible through state and local cash assistance programs.**” Lastly, participants called for addressing the root causes of economic

inequality, including racism, xenophobia, inadequate wages, and the lack of job opportunities as important strategies to prevent GBV. In particular, participants called for **“immigrants to be included in national-level economic aid programs”** and criticized that they had been left out of pandemic aid programs for victims of domestic violence.

Next, participants highlighted the need to address GBV across the lifespan through education programs. Florida-based participants condemned the “Don’t Say Gay Bill,”⁴² which prohibits any discussion on gender identity before the third grade as the “horrific context for this conversation.” Participants noted, “We are in a time of extreme rollbacks in Florida targeting core principles of our work and values.” Participants suggested education through extracurricular activities like Girl Scouts or other student-led or student-initiated groups as ways to get around the barriers placed on educating students about GBV in school. Other participants also highlighted the importance of national organizations to serve as resources to local groups by sending materials and information needed for students to create programs in their own communities. Finally, working group participants noted that students need to be empowered to recognize that they are more than just a commodified product and that they have the capacity to effect change. This requires combatting the capitalist mindset by pulling away from profit-based educational models and giving decision-making power to the people who directly interact with students as opposed to individual school boards. Bringing those who directly work with students into the conversation will encourage community-based decisions.

Kaminsky then led a discussion on the role of law enforcement in addressing GBV and noted that **“national policies must be grounded in local experiences, with law enforcement as a key player.”** For example, the Miami-Dade Police Department has numerous youth groups that teach children about cyberbullying, sexting, vaping, financial literacy, and much more. Some groups are voluntary, and others are specifically designed for children in the juvenile justice system. In these programs, children are provided with mentorship and sometimes employment. One of these programs even

⁴² See H.B. 1557, 2022 Leg. (Fla. 2022).

acts as an alternative to incarceration for children found guilty of crimes. After discussing these programs, participants reflected on other important roles for law enforcement and noted that **“police would make an important contribution by making the statistics they collect on domestic violence, hate crimes, and mental health calls publicly accessible.”**

Similarly, participants discussed the importance of law enforcement training and noted that while police officers have psychological services available to them, they do not use them due to the stigma surrounding mental health issues. **“Combating mental health stigma is critical, as police experience a lot of secondary or vicarious trauma on the job,”** which has an impact on the quality of their services. Participants suggested imposing mandatory monthly evaluations to address the stigma; however, others were concerned that officers would lie during these evaluations since there are career consequences if somebody is found to be mentally ill.

Participants highlighted the importance of creating programs and supporting systems that engage survivors and perpetrators as members of their communities. Domestic violence agencies have reported that the most frequent request from survivors is to get the offender help. Community acceptance gives offenders a sense of legitimacy as a citizen, which can greatly help with their transgressive behavior. There is an important role for **“social justice groups that focus on housing and employment, as well social and mental health services, to be part of the support system for offenders.”**

Next, participants called for the **“establishment of survivor leadership councils at the national level”** because they humanize survivors, offer a space to hear survivor voices, and enable participation in decision-making processes. Additionally, participants called for the entire community, including survivors, law enforcement, faith-based organizations, workplaces, financial institutions, and housing advocates, among others, to be involved in supporting GBV survivors. For example, participants called for **the entire community to be trained in de-escalation techniques, given that “every single person, institution, or actor can bring about justice and everyone must be explicitly and openly anti-sexual violence.”**

Kaminsky concluded by asking for recommendations on how to hold systems accountable. Participants criticized pro-arrest

approaches or mandatory arrests for domestic violence, noting that these had traditionally been the way to hold police accountable. Instead, participants noted that **“systems should be held accountable by demanding transparency, specifically through data collection about each domestic violence encounter between police officers and civilians.”**

3. *Policy Working Session 3: Global Policy Working Group*

Dr. Beverley Essue (Associate Professor of Global Health, University of Toronto) led a conversation focused on opportunities to leverage and improve current global policy infrastructure to strengthen prevention mechanisms and responses to GBV. The discussion started by drawing attention to the term “GBV” as having been coined to ensure a holistic understanding of violence, the populations that are impacted, and the ways that this issue manifests. However, most policies focused on violence protect only the rights of women and children without explicitly including other groups at risk, such as the LGBTQ+, Indigenous, and migrant communities. Moreover, a shift to an ostensibly gender-sensitive approach has been met with significant backlash, with lasting impacts on marginalized groups that experience violence at disproportionately higher rates. Participants called for **“global policy organizations to take a firm stance on supporting a shift from “violence against women” to “GBV,” an umbrella term designed to cover a broader range of systemic and social issues, against all marginalized groups, including children.** This shift must go beyond language and should be reflected in data collection and analysis, relief efforts, and leadership.

Additionally, participants noted that while there are global treaties that specifically address violence, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention (CEDAW) on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), these standards do not protect all survivors in all settings and have not always strengthened advocacy for violence prevention. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) are important frameworks that can also be used to hold states

accountable to prevent and respond to violence. Participants noted that **“a mapping of existing global instruments through a gender lens is needed to better understand what global treaties can be used to collectively address GBV holistically.”**

Since GBV sits at the intersection of different systems, there is the opportunity to use different international frameworks to address violence from various angles. More specifically, participants noted that **“while the experiences of survivors, from pre-victimization to survivorship, are framed by the intersection of the financial, social, political, legal and health sectors, these are not always part of the systems that respond to GBV.”** Participants recommended for the financial and development sectors, particularly the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, to initiate efforts against GBV. Similarly, participants recommended that leveraging intergovernmental organizations other than UN Women can contribute to a more comprehensive approach to violence prevention.

Next, participants highlighted that **“the value of international frameworks is intimately tied to implementation.”** Participants noted that many countries have ratified human rights conventions but have failed to effectively implement them. Ratification is merely the first step of using global policy instruments to enact change at the national and subnational level. Furthermore, **“international organizations lack the necessary resources and evidence about effective interventions to guide countries through the process of translating global policy into actionable initiatives at the national level.”** Participants called for **stronger relationships between global and local organizations to improve the implementation of international recommendations and standards.** However, they also noted that changes in national governments have also had deep impacts on the ability of local movements to make national policies in their country align with global policy and standards. Moreover, shifting political will and power impacts available resources and funding needed to continue advocacy efforts, which has left subnational social movements fatigued. To address this, participants recommended that **“global institutions should form alliances with local movements to preempt the impacts of changing leadership and build resilience among local actors so progress can continue through different transitions.”**

Finally, participants argued for stronger and more inclusive mechanisms for holding states accountable. A first step towards strengthening accountability mechanisms is for **global institutions to create spaces for survivors, who have largely been left out of conversations about policy**, to share how they think state actors can aid in the process of healing and provide reparations. Additionally, participants noted that **“global treaties have failed to recognize the impact of violence conducted by non-state actors, including de facto organizations, corporations, and extractive industries.”** Participants argued that there is a need to hear from non-traditional actors, such as leaders of insurgent groups, to open channels of communication about adhering to basic standards of human rights. The group concluded the conversation by noting that one of the major challenges to accountability is the limited power international human rights bodies have over state and non-state actors responsible for human rights violations.

4. Policy Working Session 4: Addressing GBV in Education

Silvia Zenteno (Senior Director of Education and Research, It's On Us) moderated a session focused on addressing GBV in educational institutions. First, participants discussed the lack of adequate instruction on sexual safety in post-secondary institutions by noting that most colleges only require online video training on sexual harassment that is often limited in scope. These oversimplified trainings tend to show a stereotypical view of GBV in college—for example, at parties and while consuming alcohol—but they do not address how GBV can occur in relationships, or by a known perpetrator. Most significantly, participants noted that these trainings hardly discuss sexual coercion, which is extremely common in college campuses. Participants recommended that **“trainings in post-secondary institutions should be comprehensive and discuss predatory behavior, red flags, and the many ways that sexual violence and abusive relationships can happen.”** Additionally, participants noted that these trainings should be held in person and led by students.

Next, participants noted that the major challenge of tackling GBV in elementary and secondary educational institutions is that

young children often model their parents' behavior, which makes it harder to address as a teacher. Participants noted that prevention needs to start early, and the onus cannot be on teachers and school staff alone to correct these behaviors. Instead, **“addressing GBV in young children requires the active involvement of the entire community, including teachers, school staff, neighbors, and families, and should focus on teaching about consent from a very early age.”** The group highlighted the importance of talking to children about consent outside a sexual context from an early age by teaching them to ask before hugging or touching people.

Group participants concluded by discussing how adequate responses in school settings would encourage people to report, thus, discouraging abusers from committing violence. In this context, the group discussed how **“social workers, who are culturally sensitive and empathetic, would be better suited than law enforcement to respond to GBV incidents”** in educational institutions and help survivors at any stage after the harm has occurred.

5. *Policy Working Session 5: Drop-in Session to Experience a Virtual Reality Solution for Law Enforcement Interviewing and Investigating GBV*

Prof. Lien Tran (Assistant Professor, DePaul University School of Design) and **Brighten Jelke** (Graduate Research Assistant, DePaul University School of Design) conducted a live onsite demonstration of a trauma-informed interviewing training module virtual reality (VR) prototype.⁴³

The prototype is being developed by an interdisciplinary team within The Jarvis College of Computing and Digital Media at DePaul University with the understanding that victims of GBV are often met with hostility and skepticism by law enforcement personnel, which increases the trauma victims experience and hinders their access to justice. This is especially true of victims who are also members of marginalized communities. The aim of the project is to employ the advantages of VR to provide high-quality training experiences to

⁴³ For more information about the Gender Justice Virtual Reality project, please see *A Just Reality: VR simulation training for Gender Justice*, MATTERS PLAY, <https://mattersatplay.com/projects/gender-justice-vr> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

improve law enforcement's responses to GBV through increasing trauma-informed awareness and improving interviewing techniques. The demo's goal was to gain feedback on the authenticity of the experience and the ease of technology use and to raise awareness of the project to recruit additional victim advocate resources.

The demo entailed a virtual reality experience consisting of a headset in which participants interacted with an avatar representing a female victim of alcohol-assisted sexual assault from a known male offender, a former romantic partner. Participants observe the victim as she makes her statement and respond from a set list of choices through speech or gaze selection.

In total, six participants experienced the VR prototype and provided feedback. One participant was from International Association of Chiefs of Police, three from Miami area law enforcement, and two subject matter experts were from the University of Miami faculty. The team gathered actionable feedback on realistic dialogue and how the prototype would fit into existing training, and what information would be helpful for trainers to receive. Additionally, the team uncovered technical challenges as part of a multi-user test environment. Overall, participants could see the value of the experience provided by filling a training gap, while understanding the caveats of such a training experience.

Future activities include utilizing voice actors to increase the realism of the avatar interview, integrating scoring and evaluation functions, and creating a second scenario focused on a same-sex male sexual assault victim interview.

6. Policy Working Session 6: Using Data and Quantitative Methods to Address GBV

Celia Davies (Director of International Programs and Director of Ethics at Moonshot) led a discussion on the value of mapping online risk through engagement and intervention—particularly, designing online campaigns and connecting vulnerable people with professional support services online. Davies explained that the internet creates a lot of opportunities to gather information and support people, but researchers need to continuously ask, “how might this form of help-seeking create more danger?” Davies opened the discussion by

describing Moonshot's research on the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on search traffic related to domestic abuse in Miami, FL.⁴⁴ The goal of the research, conducted between December 2020 and June 2021, was to improve the understanding of how lockdown conditions might be affecting people experiencing or concerned about domestic abuse, and to build an anonymized evidence base for how this was borne out in searches for help and information online.

Moonshot conducted a similar study in London during 2020-2021,⁴⁵ which also spanned the UEFA European Football Championship finals, when Italy beat England in London. The relationship between football culture and domestic violence is well documented, and Moonshot saw a 300% increase in online searches for support on the night of the game. Davies emphasized **"the value of public search data as 'non-performative,' providing a unique insight into what people really think."**

Next, participants discussed the importance of data in shifting policy conversations. As an example, participants discussed FreeFrom's work to understand the needs of survivors and the role of unrestricted cash grants.⁴⁶ FreeFrom's data demonstrated the importance of cash grants for GBV survivors, who overwhelmingly reported needing cash for food, utilities, and other basic needs as a main concern.⁴⁷ Participants noted that **"this type of data, directly collected from survivors, is crucial for informing how society can best support survivors through policies and programs that will enable their financial security and long-term safety."**

⁴⁴ See *COVID-19 and Domestic Violence in Miami*, MOONSHOT, <https://moonshotteam.com/resource/covid-19-and-domestic-violence-in-miami> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022); Caroline Bettinger-Lopez et al., *Domestic-violence service providers need our help as reports of abuse surge during COVID*, MIA. HERALD (FEB. 3, 2022, 2:49 PM),

<https://www.miamiherald.com/opinion/op-ed/article258011243.html>.

⁴⁵ See *March-July 2020: COVID-19 and Domestic Violence in London*, MOONSHOT, <https://moonshotteam.com/resource/march-july-2020-covid-19-and-domestic-violence-in-london> (last visited Nov. 2, 2022).

⁴⁶ SURVIVORS KNOW BEST: HOW TO DISRUPT INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE DURING COVID-19 AND BEYOND, FREEFROM (2020), www.freefrom.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Survivors-Know-Best.pdf.

⁴⁷ *Id.*

The discussion also highlighted that technology and GBV is a new and rapidly evolving area that requires us to seriously consider the following questions: (1) How do we build online solutions that don't increase risks for survivors? (2) How do we use online interactions and data advertising across platforms to lead survivors to a secure space with a practitioner? (3) How do we address abusers who use technology to harass, monitor, and surveil people? (4) How do we protect the integrity of devices?

Davies concluded the discussion by urging, **"Yes, the internet creates new risks for people at risk of domestic abuse and gender-based violence - but it also creates opportunities, and the solution is not to let the risks overwhelm us, but rather to work with survivors and practitioners to find safe, innovative ways forward."** It is promising that the COVID-19 pandemic has normalized online grassroots efforts and support. She expects more people to utilize online resources to access help once they reach a degree of familiarity because "we need to get used to things before we are comfortable asking for help."

IV. ANNEX 2: SPEAKER BIOS

Alexa Garcia

Alexa Garcia is a third-year law student at the University of Miami School of Law and the Editor in Chief of the Inter-American Law Review. Alexa graduated Cum Laude from the University of Miami, where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Journalism and Political Science while minoring in Modern Languages. In addition to her work for the journal, Alexa is a member of the Charles C. Papy, Jr. Moot Court Board. She was previously a fellow at the Center for Ethics and Public Service, and an intern at the UM Health Rights Clinic. Alexa also completed a judicial internship for Judge Ivan Fernandez at the Third District Court of Appeal and is a member of the Cuban American Bar Association as well as the Hispanic National Bar Association. After graduation, Alexa will be joining Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton as a first-year associate in their complex litigation department.

Alexis Piquero

Alex R. Piquero is Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology & Criminology and Arts & Sciences Distinguished Scholar at the University of Miami and Professor of Criminology at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. He was Co-Editor of the *Journal of Quantitative Criminology* from 2008 to 2013 and currently serves as Editor of *Justice Evaluation Journal*. Prior to joining the University of Miami in August 2020, he was Ashbel Smith Professor of Criminology at The University of Texas at Dallas, where he also served as Associate Dean for Graduate Programs in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences and Director of Social Impact in the Office of Research. He has also served on the faculties of Florida State University, University of Maryland, John Jay College of Criminal Justice/City University of New York, University of Florida, Northeastern University, and Temple University. He has published over 475 peer-reviewed articles in the areas of criminal careers, race/immigration and crime, crime prevention, criminological theory, and quantitative research methods, and has authored several books including *Key Issues in Criminal Careers Research: New Analyses from the Cambridge Study in Delinquent Development* (Cambridge University Press, with David P. Farrington and Alfred Blumstein), *Handbook of Quantitative Criminology* (Springer, with David Weisburd), and *Developmental Criminology and the Crime-drop: A Comparative Analysis of Criminal Careers in Two Birth Cohorts* (Cambridge University Press, with Jason Payne). In 2015, US Attorney General Eric Holder appointed him to the Office of Justice Programs Science Advisory Board. In September 2019, Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson appointed him to the Mayor's Task Force on Safe Communities and Dallas County District Attorney John Creuzot appointed him as a member of the DA's Urban Crime Initiative. In December 2020, Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine F. Rundle appointed him to the Executive Committee of the Continuing Justice Reform Commission. In March 2021, he was elected to the Council on Criminal Justice.

Andrea Ritchie

Andrea J. Ritchie is a Black lesbian immigrant and survivor who has been documenting, organizing, advocating, litigating, and agitating around policing and criminalization of Black women, girls, trans, and gender nonconforming people for the past three decades. She launched *Interrupting Criminalization* in 2018 with Mariame

Kaba, with whom she co-authored the forthcoming *No More Police: A Case for Abolition*. She is also a co-founder of the In Our Names Network, a network of over 20 organizations working to end police violence against Black women, girls, trans and gender nonconforming people. In these capacities and through the Community Resource Hub, she works with dozens of groups across the country organizing to divest from policing and invest in strategies that will create safer communities. She is the author of *Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women and Women of Color*, and co-author of *Say Her Name: Resisting Police Brutality Against Black Women*, and *Queer (In)Justice: The Criminalization of LGBT People in the United States*. She is a nationally recognized researcher, policy analyst, and expert on policing and criminalization.

Åsa Regnér

Ms. Åsa Regnér was appointed Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women in March 2018. Ms. Regnér served since 2014 as Minister for Children, the Elderly and Gender Equality of Sweden, where her focus was on concrete results in the implementation of Swedish gender equality policies as well as a shift towards prevention of violence against women and the involvement of men and boys in gender equality work. She has extensive experience in the area of gender equality and women's empowerment, having held various leadership positions in government, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and the United Nations. She has led important processes and campaigns as a leading advocate for feminism and gender equality in Sweden and beyond. She has built and managed strong partnerships with a range of key stakeholders, including women's movements and civil society, both at the global and in country contexts. She previously served as UN Women Country Director in Bolivia (2013-2014) and Secretary-General of Riksförbundet för sexuell upplysning, Swedish International Planned Parenthood Federation branch. She also served as Director of Planning, Ministry of Justice (2004-2006) and as Political Adviser in the Prime Minister's Office (1999-2004). She began her career in women's rights as a volunteer for a Swedish NGO in La Paz, Bolivia (1990-1991) and moved to the Ministry of Labour working on Gender and labour market issues for several years in the 1990s. Ms.

Regnér holds a Master's Degree in Democratic Development from Uppsala University. Born in 1964, she has two children.

Beverley Essue

Beverley Essue is an Associate Professor of Global Health in the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. She also holds a Visiting Scientist appointment at the Institute for the Advanced Study of the Americas, University of Miami and is an Honorary Senior Fellow at the George Institute for Global Health, India. She is a global health systems researcher and health economist who leads interdisciplinary research focused on strengthening financial risk protection, supporting effective and equitable priority setting and advancing equity, including gender equity, across global health systems. Her research tackles some of the most pressing issues facing global health and is conducted with a network of collaborators and partnerships across low-, middle- and high-income countries. She has led work for key global health initiatives including the Disease Control Priorities series and the Lancet Taskforce on Non-Communicable Diseases. She co-chairs the Scientific Advisory committee for the Lancet Commission on Gender Based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People and co-leads the Economics working group for the Commission. She is also a Commissioner on the Lancet Commission on Cancer and Health Systems and a Scientific Advisor to the Lancet Commission on Breast Cancer. In 2020, she was recognized on the list of Canadian Women in Global Health for her scholarship and contributions to the field.

Bianca Joseph

At a young age, Commander Bianca Joseph knew that a career in law enforcement was in her future because of the professionalism, respect, and lasting positive impressions she experienced during her interactions with officers in her community. A 16-year veteran with the City of Miami Police Department and a second-generation Haitian American, she has been integral in the department's progressiveness, leveraging her role to educate and mentor the youth around her. She also continues to exhibit leadership qualities in the areas of police management and, more specifically, in value-based decision-making through her analytical skills and dedication to research. Additionally, Cdr. Joseph has leveraged the knowledge she acquired through her

master's degree in disaster management to educate others and elevate the department's emergency management preparedness. Following her promotion, Cdr. Joseph was assigned to the Overtown district. Historically, the city's Overtown area has had a high propensity for violent crimes, with a reported 16.7 percent increase in crime in the month of July 2020. However, she welcomed the challenge to be an agent leading the fight against crime. She conducted analysis of crime data in the community and created an operational plan to support the proper deployment of resources to combat the influx of crime. This approach successfully led to a 42.9 percent reduction in crime by August 2020. Her principles on law enforcement as a profession has shaped her perspective and behavior to ensure exceptional services are provided to the community she serves. Cdr. Joseph is also a recipient of the Chief of Police Commendation for her invaluable contribution toward the successful management of several protests that erupted following the death of George Floyd.

Brighten Jelke

Brighten Jelke is a graduate student in Experience Design at DePaul University with a background in both Computer Science and Women's and Gender Studies. They work as a Graduate Research Assistant for two labs at DePaul, Matters at Play and PUSH Studio, where they design and develop educational virtual reality applications.

Brisa De Angulo

Brisa De Angulo is founder and CEO of A Breeze of Hope Foundation. As a lawyer, psychologist, and human rights activist, she dedicates her life to improving access to justice and healing for survivors of sexual violence against children. Brisa, herself an survivor, uses her story and expertise to challenge the status quo and promote legislation that safeguards children. At the young age of 17, Brisa mobilized her community in Bolivia and persuaded government officials, including the President, to pass a law declaring August 9th Bolivia's national day in solidarity with survivors and against childhood sexual violence. Every year since, tens of thousands of supporters across Bolivia have gathered that day to express their solidarity and challenge toxic social norms and practices. With 17 years of experience working with survivors, and 21 years working with early childhood development, Brisa's insights have created a remarkably

effective set of interventions. Her center for child survivors of sexual violence in Cochabamba, Bolivia implements these interventions on a daily basis, serving more than 500 children every year. In addition, Brisa is a public speaker, researcher, and author of many books. Her life story, her drive, and her outstanding accomplishments have garnered recognition from around the world. Brisa has received many international awards for her work, including CNN Heroes, BBC Outlook Inspirations Award, the World of Children Award, and Elevate Prize.

Caroline Bettinger-López

Caroline Bettinger-López is a Professor of Law and Director of the Human Rights Clinic and Human Rights Program at University of Miami School of Law, which she founded in 2011. She is currently on leave from teaching and serving as a Special Advisor on Gender & Equality at the U.S. Department of Justice. In Fall 2021, she served as a Special Advisor to the White House Gender Policy Council. Professor Bettinger-Lopez also previously served as an Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. From 2015-2017, she served in the Obama-Biden Administration as White House Advisor on Violence Against Women, Senior Advisor to Vice President Joe Biden, and member of the White House Council on Women and Girls. She practices in international legal fora, including the Inter-American, European, and United Nations human rights systems. Professor Bettinger-Lopez has taught at University of Chicago School of Law and Columbia Law School; and was a Skadden Fellow at the ACLU Women's Rights Project and federal law clerk. She is a Commissioner on the Lancet Commission on Gender-Based Violence. Recently, she received a Roddenberry Fellowship (COURAGE in Policing Project) and a TIME'S UP Legal Defense Fund grant (Voces Unidas Project, to support low-wage immigrant women workers).

Caroline Meenagh

Caroline is a policy specialist in the Ending Violence Women Section at UN Women in New York. She is currently leading the work of the section on multi-sectoral services and co-manages a UN Joint Global Programme on essential services for women and girls who have experienced violence. She has worked with the UN for fifteen years in the areas of gender justice and human rights at HQ, the Asia-Pacific and LAC regions, including in post-conflict and humanitarian settings.

Before joining UN Women, Caroline worked as a human rights officer in the Special Procedures Branch at the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, supporting several special procedures mandate holders, including the Working Group on discrimination against women in law and practice. She has worked with United Nations Population Fund as part of the integrated UN peace-keeping mission in Timor-Leste, advising Government on legal and policy developments relating to gender-based violence, including development of legislation, training of law enforcement and establishing and strengthening multi-sectoral support services for survivors of violence. She has also worked with OHCHR in Guatemala, providing technical support to Government and civil society in their reporting obligations to human rights treaty bodies. She has a degree in law from Cambridge University and an LL.M in international criminal law and criminal justice from Utrecht University in the Netherlands.

Celia Davies

Director of International Programmes and Director of Ethics, Moonshot. Celia oversees Moonshot's online interventions and safeguarding programming, with specialisms in gender-based violence and violent extremism. Celia leads the development of new technology-driven solutions to better understand the scale of GBV -- and to develop community-specific online responses. Her work continues to inform policy and best practice in the UK and US. Celia has broad experience of developing community-based solutions in complex environments, including almost a decade working in Russia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Georgia.

Chelsea Ullman

Dr. Chelsea Ullman is a Research Scientist at the Global Women's Institute (GWI). At GWI, Chelsea supports mixed methods research projects on violence against women and girls globally. Having joined GWI at its founding, Chelsea has contributed to the strategic growth of GWI, including the development of key education, communications, and outreach initiatives. She holds a PhD in Public Policy and Public Administration, focused in Gender and Social Policy, from the George Washington University. Her doctoral work explored theories of justice for survivors of campus sexual assault in the United States, with a goal of improved policymaking on the issue.

Chelsea is committed to amplifying the voices of survivors of violence in research and policy.

Daniella Levine Cava

Daniella Levine Cava was elected Miami-Dade County's first-ever woman Mayor in November 2020. She enters the Mayor's office following a 40-year career as a relentless advocate for South Florida families in public service and elected leadership. Mayor Levine Cava's administration is focused on building a stronger, more inclusive, more resilient Miami-Dade. A social worker, lawyer, and community activist, she was first elected in 2014, and re-elected in August 2018, to serve as the Miami-Dade County Commissioner representing District 8. As Commissioner, she invested in Miami-Dade small businesses and expanded economic opportunity, protected the environment and our water, increased the County police force for underserved areas, advocated for an expanded, reliable public transportation system, worked to create affordable housing and revitalize neighborhoods, and helped make local government more accountable and transparent. She came to elected office after having served as an advocate for South Florida families for over 30 years. She served special needs children, low-income families and immigrants at Legal Services of Greater Miami, and then represented children in foster care and adoption system as Acting, Associate and Legal Director for the Guardian Ad Litem Program. In the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew, she was recruited to create a new intake system for child abuse cases with the Department for Children and Families. In 1996, Mayor Levine Cava founded Catalyst Miami to help low- and middle-income families through service, education, and advocacy. Catalyst helps approximately 5,000 people each year to become more self-sufficient and civically engaged. She is the Immediate Past Chair of the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) and served as an SFRPC Council Member from 2015 - 2020. She has served on the Florida Bar Committee on Legal Needs of Children, the boards of League of Women Voters, Orange Bowl Foundation, North Dade Medical Foundation, South Florida Health Information Initiative, and several national boards. She's won numerous awards from various organizations including: the Commission on Ethics, Red Cross, American Society for Public Administration, ACLU, National Council of Jewish Women, League of Women Voters, among others. Born in

New York and raised partly in Latin America, Mayor Levine Cava received her bachelor's degree in psychology with honors from Yale University and graduate degrees in law and social work from Columbia University. She came to South Florida in 1980 to join her husband, Dr. Robert Cava, a Miami native, who returned home to join his father in medical practice. Daniella and Robert raised two children, Eliza and Edward, in Miami-Dade, supported by strong networks of friends, families, and co-workers.

Daniela Ligiero

Dr. Daniela Ligiero is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of Together for Girls, a global, public-private partnership dedicated to ending violence against children, especially sexual violence against girls. Dr. Ligiero has 25 years of experience working on gender equity, including as Vice President of Girls and Women's Strategy at the UN Foundation and as Senior Gender Advisor at the U.S. Department of State, where she led the integration of gender issues into all foreign policy and investments in global health. She is a survivor of sexual violence herself and has been speaking publicly about her story for the last decade.

Darci Flynn

Darci Flynn currently serves as the Director of GBV Strategy and Policy in the Office of the Mayor in Chicago. In this role, Darci coordinated efforts to draft and public the City's first-ever citywide strategic plan to address gender-based violence and human trafficking. Prior to this role, Darci was a Senior Policy Advisor in the Mayor's Office as part of the *Pathways to Freedom* grant from Humanity United and NoVo Foundation to create a coordinated response to address human trafficking at the local level. In her time in the Mayor's Office, Darci leads strategic planning and partnership to create better systems and policies that prevent gender-based violence and human trafficking and also help to intervene in trauma-informed, survivor-centered ways. Prior to joining the City, Darci was the Associate Director of the Freedom from Trafficking program at Heartland Alliance where she helped to design and grow services for survivors locally and nationally through a Federal program called the Trafficking Victim Assistance Program (TVAP). Throughout her

career, she has spoken on several local, regional, and national panels. Darci earned a Master's in Social Work from the University of Chicago and a B.A. Psychology as well as a B.A. in Justice Studies from the University of New Hampshire.

David Thomas

David R Thomas is going on his 35th year of providing training and technical assistance to law enforcement at the state, local, national, and international levels. He is a retired police officer who taught at Johns Hopkins University, served the Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program as a Highly Qualified Expert before working in his present position as a Program Manager II, International Association of Chiefs Police.

Deborah Friedl

Deborah entered the law enforcement field with a municipal police department shortly after graduating college. Entering as one of only 5 women on this department, Deborah advanced to a detective career specializing in victim-based crime. This experience served her well by building valued community relationships and experiences that enabled her to develop collaborative initiatives and innovative strategies to reduce violent crime. One such strategy secured more than 1 million dollars in grant funds to enhance domestic violence services in the city. Throughout her career and volunteer efforts, Deborah attained promotion and increasing assignments of responsibility and trust. She was promoted to Deputy Superintendent in 2008 and assigned to oversee Support Services which is the highly diverse administrative side of the organization and included such functions as Investigations, Professional Standards, Training, Emergency Communications, Detention, Personnel, Budget and Finance, Legal and MIS Sections. In 2013, Deborah was selected to lead the department as Interim Superintendent of Police during which she managed 240 sworn and 100 non-sworn personnel as well as a \$24 million budget including \$2.3 million in state and federal grants. She also initiated comprehensive investigations into several high-profile internal matters of alleged police misconduct while simultaneously hiring the largest class of recruit officers in more than 10 years. She has been a member of the Board of Directors for the International Association of Women Police for 20 years and is currently serving as President, the first US woman to do so in 11 years. The organization

represents member and affiliate organizations from 76 countries around the globe and works to strengthen, unite and increase the capacity of women in policing internationally. Deborah is a strong advocate to ensure police departments reflect the diversity of the communities they serve. Deborah is a subject matter expert and has provided consultation and presented training on topics including gender-based violence, leadership, recruiting and retaining women and increasing the capacity of women in policing and the security sector. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Administration in Criminal Justice and Psychology as well as a Master of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice.

Deborah Weissman

Deborah M. Weissman is the Reef C. Ivey II Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina School of Law. Her research, teaching, and practice interests include gender-based violence law, immigration law, and human rights in the local and international realm. Some of her recent relevant publications include *Gender Violence, The Carceral State, and The Politics of Solidarity*, 55 U.C Davis L. Rev. 801 (2021); *In Pursuit of Economic Justice: The Political Economy of Domestic Violence Laws and Policies*, 2020 Utah L. Rev. 1 (2020); *The Community Politics of Domestic Violence*, 82 Brooklyn Law Rev. 1479 (2017); *Countering Neoliberalism and Aligning Solidarities: Rethinking Domestic Violence Advocacy*, 45 Sw. L. Rev. 915 (2016); *Rethinking a New Domestic Violence Pedagogy*, 5 U. Miami Race & Soc. Just. L. Rev. 635 (2015). She is the Chair of the North Carolina Commission on Domestic Violence.

Denisse Córdova Montes

Denisse Córdova Montes is the Acting Associate Director and a Lecturer in Law with the Human Rights Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law. Her work focuses on human rights approaches to food insecurity and hunger, state and local implementation of human rights, and the links between economic and social protections and gender-based violence. From 2012 to 2018, she was based in Germany, where she coordinated the Gender and Women's Rights Program at FIAN International, an international human rights organization that promotes and defends the right to food. At FIAN, she oversaw human rights fact-finding and advocacy in Africa, Asia, and Latin America around rural, peasant, and Indigenous women's

rights. She also supported social movements' lobbying with the United Nations in Geneva, New York, and Rome in cases concerning access to land, water, adequate nutrition, and decent working conditions as well as in global standard setting processes, particularly concerning rural women's right to food. Prior to that, she conducted legal advocacy to advance health and human rights at the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in Geneva, Switzerland, supported the representation of asylum seekers and immigrant survivors of gender-based violence and wage theft in Pennsylvania and Florida, and supported efforts to halt the deportation of Haitian nationals to post-earthquake Haiti. Prior to her legal career, she conducted public health research and advocacy on access to sexual and reproductive health services for low-income and Latina women post-health care reform in Massachusetts. She received her B.A. from the University of Miami, M.P.H. from Boston University, and J.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. She currently serves on the board of FIAN International.

Donna Kay Coker

Donna Coker, Professor of Law & Dean's Distinguished Scholar, University of Miami School of Law - Professor Coker's scholarship focuses on criminal law, gender, and race inequality. Her research concerns the connection between economic vulnerability and intimate partner violence (IPV); restorative justice responses to IPV and sexual harm; and the intersections of gender and race subordination in criminal law doctrine, policy, and application. She is a leading critic of the US "crime-centered" response to gender violence. In 2014, she co-organized a national conference, *Converge! Reimagining the Movement to End Gender Violence*, to further gender violence activism and policy that is anti-racist, supports alternatives to crime-centered approaches, and addresses structural inequality. In 2015, she was the co-investigator for a national survey of 900+ service providers regarding police response to domestic violence and sexual assault.

Emma Fulu

Dr Emma Fulu is a feminist activist, social entrepreneur and one of the world's leading experts on violence against women. She is the founder and Executive Director of the Equality Institute, a global feminist agency working to advance gender equality and end violence

against women and girls. She is also the co-founder of VOICE, a non-profit organization that partners with women and girls in conflict and disaster settings to amplify their solutions to violence in their own communities. Before that she worked at the United Nations and led the ground-breaking UN Multi-Country Study on Men and Violence, the findings of which have been featured on BBC, Al Jazeera, and CNN. Emma is Co-Chair of the Gender and Rights Advisory Panel of the World Health Organization, and a member of the Global Women's Institute Leadership Council. She has a PhD from the University of Melbourne, is the author of *Domestic Violence in Asia*, and publishes widely on gender, violence, masculinities and feminist leadership. The mother of three young children, Emma lives in Melbourne Australia.

Felicia Marie Knaul

Felicia Marie Knaul is Director of the Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas, Hemispheric and Global Affairs, and Professor at the Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami. She is also Senior Economist at the Mexican Health Foundation and Founding President of *Tómatelo a Pecho*, a Mexico-based NGO that promotes research, advocacy, awareness, and early detection of women's health issues in Latin America. Knaul has over 250 academic and health policy publications and her research focuses on global health, cancer care and control (particularly women's and pediatric cancers), women and health, health systems and reform, health financing, access to pain relief and palliative care, poverty and inequity, gender equity, female labor force participation, and children in especially difficult circumstances. Dr. Knaul has created and coordinated many international research and advocacy networks. She currently chairs the Lancet Commission on Gender-based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People and the Lancet Commission on Cancer And Health Systems. From 2014-2017, she founded and chaired the Lancet Commission on Global Access to Palliative Care and Pain Relief. She has held senior federal government positions at the Ministries of Education and Social Development of Mexico and the Colombian Department of Planning and worked on health reform and social development in both countries. Dr. Knaul also worked as a consultant and advisor for bilateral and multilateral agencies such as the World Health Organization and the World Bank. Knaul received her BA in

International Development from the University of Toronto and MA and PhD in Economics from Harvard University.

Francesco Duberli

Mr. Francesco Duberli, founder and Chief Executive of Survivor's Pathway, is a clinical psychologist with master's degrees in both public health and clinical mental health. He is known nationally and internationally for his work developing and implementing advocacy programs that promote equality, inclusion and social justice in the United States and Latin America. His work has focused on developing awareness about the challenges; needs and barriers faced by the immigrant Latino community giving especial attention to Latino immigrant women and the LGBTQI communities living in the United States. His work has focused on the analysis and development of cultural and gender-oriented interventions to prevent different types of violence experienced by these communities such as domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and other violent crimes. Mr. Duberli was elected in January 2019 as the chairman of the Miami Dade County, Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board. Furthermore, Mr. Duberli was elected on 2013 as chairman of the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Council of Greater Miami (DVSAC) where he has led different community initiatives that have benefited victims of domestic and sexual violence in Dade county. Mr. Duberli has received numerous recognitions such as the Justice for All Award from the Florida Attorney General and the Coral Gables Police Department in 2012, The "Justice for All Award" from Coral Gables Police Department in 2016. In 2013 he received the Hispanic Initiative award by the Florida department of health recognizing his work and contribution with the Hispanic community And 2019 he received the 2019 *Presidential Citation*- Awarded by National Latino Psychological Association, the 2019 *Congressional recognition*- Recognized by U.S Congresswoman Federica Wilson for the outstanding and invaluable services to the community and 2019 *Diversity Champion* awarded by The Global Innovative Consulting Network and The Florida Association of Non- Profits. Mr. Duberli has dedicated his career to advance the dialogue about the impact of violence in the Latino community and the development of policies that allow these communities to access justice.

Gabriela Valentín Díaz

Gabriela Valentín Díaz is a recent graduate of the University of Miami School of Law. She is currently a Bertha Justice Fellow at EarthRights International in Washington, D.C. Gabriela is from Puerto Rico and is passionate about anti-colonialism work and Indigenous people's rights. She is a former Miami Law Human Rights Clinic Intern and Fellow and has conducted advocacy work on the right to food and the rights of Indigenous women and girls. During her time at Miami Law, she worked to advance equity for Latine and first-generation law students and co-founded the First-Generation Law Association at Miami Law. Gabriela has also worked with the Miami-Dade Public Defender and Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights. She is an alumna of the 4-H program. In her spare time, you can find her at the movies or the beach. Gabriela is admitted to practice law in Florida.

Gita Howard

As a Miami Law Human Rights Program Accountability Fellow, Gita Howard supports Human Rights First's work to facilitate the use of targeted sanctions to hold human rights abusers and corrupt actors accountable around the world. During law school, Gita interned at the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs and the Tibetan Legal Association in Dharamshala, India. She also served as a legal intern and fellow at Miami Law's Human Rights Clinic. Prior to law school, Gita worked as a research assistant and interned as a reporter. Gita received her J.D. and graduated cum laude from the University of Miami School of Law. At Miami Law, she co-founded and served as president of Miami Law's Human Rights Society. Gita was also published in and a member of Miami Law's International and Comparative Law Review. Gita holds a B.A. in psychology from Scripps College. During college, she participated in a study abroad workshop at the Oxford Consortium for Human Rights.

Gloria Estefan

International Superstar, Gloria Estefan, is a Grammy award-winning singer, actress, songwriter, author of two New York Times best-selling children's books, philanthropist and humanitarian. She is considered one of the world's most recognizable and beloved performers. Billboard Magazine considers her the single most successful Latin crossover artist in music history. Having sold over 100 million records worldwide she's been awarded with 8 Grammy Awards, an Oscar nominated performance for the song "Music Of My

Heart,” a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, an American Music Award for Lifetime Achievement, an induction into the Latin Songwriters Hall of Fame, and the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song. In 2015, President Obama honored Emilio & Gloria Estefan with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation’s highest civilian honor, presented to individuals who have made meritorious contributions to the United States, to world peace, and to cultural endeavors. In 2017, Gloria was the first Cuban American, singer-songwriter to receive The Kennedy Center Honors. *ON YOUR FEET!* the Tony Award nominated Broadway musical based on the lives and music of Emilio & Gloria Estefan. As Executive Producers, it is the story of two people who—through an unwavering dedication to one another and their pursuit of the American dream— showcased their talent, their music and their heritage to the world in a remarkable rise to global superstardom. *On Your Feet!!* has received rave critical reviews and nominations for Tony Awards, Outer Critics Circle Awards and Drama League Awards and is now on tour around the world. She is the founder of the Gloria Estefan Foundation whose mission is to support charitable programs for disadvantaged children and empower young people through education and opportunity. The Foundation also supports spinal cord research through the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis. She recently released her new Grammy winning album, *Brazil305* which topped the charts around the world and is one of the hosts of the two-time Emmy nominated & GLAAD Award nominated Facebook Watch series, *Red Table Talk: The Estefans*, which premiered Fall of 2020 and its 20 episodes are streaming now. She also voiced, Marta, a character in the critically acclaimed animated film “*Vivo*” with music written by Lin-Manuel Miranda that was released on Netflix and she has filmed a role in the new ‘*Father of the Bride*’ film opposite Andy Garcia which is set to air on HBOMax in the Summer of 2022.

Jane Townsley

Jane Townsley (UK) is a UN Women Senior Police Advisor, as well as the co-author of the *Handbook on Gender-Responsive Policing Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence* (UN Women et al., 2021). Jane is a senior police officer (retired) with over 30 years’ policing experience in the UK, retiring in 2013 at the rank of Chief Inspector. Since retirement, she has established her consultancy specializing in

capacity building for gender-responsive policing and service delivery to local communities and a focus on the empowerment of women in policing. She also holds a Masters (MSc) in Security, Conflict & International Development. Jane is also the Executive Director of the International Association of Women Police (IAWP), having previously serving as President between 2009 and 2015. She has helped to lead the IAWP with members in over 70 countries, advising on both women's and general policing issues, strategic planning, leadership, gender-responsive policing and networking; she has been a keynote speaker at a range of international law enforcement conferences. Jane has been recognised for her services to policing by the British Transport Police, the British Association for Women in Policing and the IAWP.

Jason Smith

Jason Smith is the Director of Equity and Inclusion in the Office of Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava. He is a public policy professional with nearly two decades of economic development and community engagement experience. He most recently served as legislative director for then-Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava where he managed the commissioner's economic development and affordable housing portfolio. He led the successful effort to create new guidelines for the county's Community Redevelopment Agencies, ensuring that residents in CRA areas were protected from gentrification and small businesses were prioritized for funding. He also created the only formal competitive solicitation process to convey county property for a commission district. He developed legislation requiring all County ordinances include a "social equity statement," to inform the Board of County Commissioners of the real-world impact of legislation on County residents. On behalf of Commissioner Levine Cava, he also led the effort to provide paid sick leave to Miami-Dade County's contract employees. He has held various roles in county government including Senior Legislative Analyst in the Office of the Commission Auditor, aide to Commission Chairwoman Barbara Carey-Shuler and Commissioner Jean Monestime. Jason began his work in the community as a journalist for the historic Miami Times where he reported on such issues as the displacement of public housing tenants during the HOPE VI project, statewide elections, and the case of missing foster child Rilya Wilson. He has written for the Boston Globe, the Des Moines Register (Iowa), and the South Florida

Sun-Sentinel. He holds a bachelor's degree from Howard University; an MBA from Florida International University; and a law degree from the Shepard Broad College of Law at Nova Southeastern University where he graduated magna cum laude. Jason is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Iota Pi Lambda Chapter. He is the proud father of 12-year-old Jason Smith, II.

Joanna Evans

Joanna Evans is a barrister, part-time judge and Legal Director of the European Human Rights Advocacy Centre. She has more than twenty years' experience conducting strategic and social justice litigation at both domestic and international level including before the European Court of Human Rights; The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda; The International Criminal Court; The International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia; The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. She combines the expertise of both a criminal and human rights practitioner. Within her criminal practice she has acted at all levels including in cases of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. In her human rights practice, she has acted on behalf of hundreds of victims of the most serious violations committed by repressive regimes including enforced disappearances, extra judicial killings and torture. In the field of GBV she is experienced both as a barrister and judge in conducting criminal trials involving charges of physical, sexual and psychological violence against women. At international level, she has lengthy experience in challenging institutional and state failures to protect women and children. She was legal adviser to the Women's Initiative for Gender Justice in the first case before the International Criminal Court from the Democratic Republic of Congo (Prosecutor v Thomas Dyilo Lubanga). She acted for the applicants at merits stage in the CEDAW case of X and Y v Georgia (the first case on domestic violence to be decided against Georgia before an international body) and has represented multiple victims and survivors of GBV before the ECtHR. She is an international consultant to the Council of Europe Gender Equality Division in violence against women, domestic violence and gender equality and in this capacity, she recently co-authored an analysis of the Azerbaijani legislative and policy framework by reference to Istanbul Convention

standards. She is committed to supporting progressive change within the criminal justice system and most recently is developing judicial training with regard to the offence of non-fatal strangulation.

Julio Frenk

Julio Frenk is the president of the University of Miami since August of 2015. He also holds academic appointments as Professor of Public Health Sciences at the Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine, as Professor of Health Sector Management and Policy at the Miami Business School, and as Professor of Sociology at the College of Arts and Sciences. Prior to joining the University of Miami, he served for nearly seven years as the dean of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and the T & G Angelopoulos Professor of Public Health and International Development, a joint appointment with the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Dr. Frenk was the Minister of Health of Mexico from 2000 to 2006. There he pursued an ambitious agenda to reform the nation's health system and introduced a program of comprehensive universal coverage, known as Seguro Popular, which expanded access to health care for more than 55 million previously uninsured persons. He was the founding director-general of the National Institute of Public Health in Mexico, one of the leading institutions of its kind in the developing world. He also served as executive director in charge of Evidence and Information for Policy at the World Health Organization and as senior fellow in the global health program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, among other leadership positions. His scholarly production, which includes over 180 articles in academic journals, as well as many books and book chapters, has been cited over 23,000 times. In addition, he has written three best-selling novels for youngsters explaining the functions of the human body. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the U.S. National Academy of Medicine, the National Academy of Medicine of Mexico, and El Colegio Nacional. Dr. Frenk holds a medical degree from the National University of Mexico, as well as a Master's of Public Health and a joint Ph.D. in Medical Care Organization and in Sociology from the University of Michigan. He has received honorary degrees from ten universities.

Kalliope Mingeirou

Kalliope Mingeirou is currently the Chief of the Ending Violence against Women Section at UN Women in New York. She has

been leading global initiatives, including diverse interagency initiatives, on prevention of and responses to violence against women and girls in public and private spaces. She is a lawyer by training and holds an LL.M. in public international law. Prior to joining UN Women, Ms. Mingeirou worked as a lawyer in Greece, and at international level, she worked for UN agencies, as well as INGOs, in the areas of human rights, women's human rights and refugee protection in several countries, both in development and humanitarian settings.

Karma Cottman

Karma Cottman, pronouns she, her, hers, serves Ujima Inc.: The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community as Executive Director. In addition to leading the team, Karma's responsibilities include engaging in discussions with other programs, legislative officials and state and local government agencies. She works to change legislation and laws as they relate to domestic violence and the black community. Before joining Ujima, Inc., Karma led the DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence as Executive Director for a decade, and prior to that, served the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV), for a decade. As the Vice President of Policy and Emerging Issues, she directed the agency's policy agenda and supervised NNEDV's state coalition and housing technical assistance projects. Karma also worked closely with national policy partners to strengthen federal legislation to effectively respond to the needs of all survivors of domestic violence. Karma, a Washington, DC native, has worked with numerous national partners to address emerging issues in domestic violence service provision and sits on several national committees. She also served as the co-director of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence Rural Diversity Initiative where she assisted with the development of a community assessment tool used to identify service gaps in numerous local Florida communities. Karma currently serves on the steering committee of the Institute on Domestic Violence in the African Community and the Policy Partnership for Communities of Color. Karma enjoys spending time with family and friends and also reading.

Kathryn Nowotny

Dr. Kathryn Nowotny is Associate Professor of Medical Sociology at the University of Miami where she directs the Miami

Health & Justice Lab. Her research uses both quantitative and qualitative methods to examine the multilevel factors that create increased risk for poor health among justice-involved people and people who use drugs. She is particularly interested in the health syndemic of violence, drug use, mental health, and infectious diseases. Dr. Nowotny is currently site-PI of a multi-site longitudinal cohort study (NIMHD R01) examining barriers to PrEP for HIV prevention among people recently released from prisons and jails. She is Co-I on a study (NIMHD R01) examining the impact of immigration processes, including detention and deportation, on the health of immigrants, and a RADx-UP initiative (NIDA U01) focused on COVID-19 testing and prevention in correctional settings. She is also Co-Founder of the COVID Prison Project, the leading national effort to track COVID-19 outcomes and policies across U.S. prisons as well as advocating for data transparency in correctional institutions.

Kelli Dillon

Kelli Dillon is the founder and Executive Director of Back to the Basics Community Empowerment Organization, established in Los Angeles, CA. She is a survivor of Intimate Partner, gang violence, and State Violence. Her professional career in the field of Violence Prevention and Intervention Services spans from Domestic Violence (DV) services, to Gender-based Violence (GBV) program development, and Social and Reproductive Justice advocacy. In 2014, Kelli's advocacy towards women's rights in reproductive health helped pass the (SB 1135- Senator Beth-Jackson) Anti-Sterilization Bill to ban unlawful and uncivil acts performed against women in the California State Prison. In 2020, she co-authored the (AB1007- Assemblywoman. Carrillo), that influenced Governor Gavin Newsom to sign into action compensation and justice for Survivors of California Forced Sterilizations. A historic win for CA. Kelli is working to incorporate GBV awareness into Violence Interruption services and train Violence Interventionists/Interrupters on the *Dynamics of Female Experiences Impacted by Gang Culture and Involvement*. Kelli Dillon continues in service as she is currently a Commissioner for the Community and Family Services board for the Department Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment.

Laura Capobianco

Laura Capobianco is a Senior Policy Advisor on Safe Public Spaces in the Ending Violence against Women and Girls Section, UN Women headquarters. Since 2012, she has contributed to the development of a Global Framework on Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces and an accompanying global package of tools to support concrete action in over 50 Safe Cities/Safe Public Space free of Violence against Women and Girls programs, spanning 32 countries and adapted to context. The Global Initiative is aimed at preventing and responding to sexual violence in public spaces in urban, rural and other settings, and contributes to SDGs 4, 5, 11 and 16. Local and national governments, businesses and women's grassroots organizations, women's rights organizations, and UN Agencies are working to ensure a participatory approach to urban and transportation planning, including public infrastructure and economic development as part of their comprehensive and integrated safe city with women and girls' programmes-an approach which responds to the needs of women and men. Previously, Laura served as a Senior Analyst and Project Manager for 10 years at the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime based in Canada, where she conducted comparative research on women's safety, Indigenous peoples and community safety, and the roles of the police, private sector, local government, and the media in prevention. She has managed crime prevention programs working with diverse stakeholders in the Caribbean Region, Latin America, Europe, Africa, Norway, Canada, Australia, and the U.S., and has held various posts in the academia and the private sector.

Lien Tran

Lien Tran is an Assistant Professor of games and design at DePaul University (School of Design, College of Computing and Digital Media). She is an awarding-winning social impact designer and the director of Matters at Play lab, a transdisciplinary design lab partnering in the creation of interactive advocacy solutions for positive social transformations including for human rights and social justice. Matters at Play along with PUSH Studios is currently designing a VR training experience to improve law enforcement response when interviewing victims of sexual assault.

Lynn Rosenthal

Lynn Rosenthal is the President of The Center for Family Safety and Healing (TCFSH). In this capacity, Lynn oversees teams that provide medical care for abused children; counseling and advocacy for survivors of domestic violence; home visiting services for at-risk moms and their babies; and well-child care for children in foster care. From 2009-2015, Lynn served as the first-ever White House Advisor on Violence Against Women and a senior advisor to then-Vice President Biden. Prior to her federal service, Lynn held leadership positions in local and state domestic violence agencies and was the executive director of the National Network to End Domestic Violence from 2000-2006. Lynn is a social worker by training and an expert in public policy on gender-based violence. Most recently, Lynn was appointed by Secretary Austin to lead the 90-day Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military, delivering an extensive report and recommendations to the Defense Department on July 2, 2021.

Margarita Quintanilla

Margarita Quintanilla has extensively worked in the field of gender-based violence, with both governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations. She is currently the country representative of the international organization PATH, in Nicaragua, which works, among others, to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls, through community-based approaches and by strengthening the health services' responses to victims/survivors. She is also the coordinator of InterCambios Alliance, a regional network of organisations, created to coordinate different efforts that address violence against women in Latin America and the Caribbean. She is the author of numerous publications on gender-based violence and she carried out monitoring and evaluation of several interventions addressing violence against women in the region, which resulted in compilation of good practices and lessons learnt.

Mary Ellsberg

Mary Ellsberg is the Founding Director of the Global Women's Institute at the George Washington University, a university wide institute dedicated to producing policy-oriented research to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. She has more than 30 years of experience in international research and program work on gender and public health issues. Dr. Ellsberg's deep

connection to global gender issues stems not only from her academic work but also from living and working in Nicaragua for nearly 20 years in public health and women's rights advocacy. She was a member of the core research team of the World Health Organization's Multi-Country Study on Domestic Violence and Women's Health, and she has conducted research on violence against women and girls in over 40 countries. Dr. Ellsberg earned a doctorate in epidemiology and public health from Umea University in Sweden and a bachelor's degree in Latin American studies from Yale University.

Mary Kathryn Nagle

Mary Kathryn Nagle is an enrolled citizen of the Cherokee Nation. She is also an attorney that works to protect tribal sovereignty and the inherent right of Indian Nations to protect their women and children from domestic violence and sexual assault. From 2015 to 2019, she served as the first Executive Director of the Yale Indigenous Performing Arts Program. Nagle is an alum of the 2013 Public Theater Emerging Writers Program. Productions include *Miss Lead* (Amerinda, 59E59), *Fairly Traceable* (Native Voices at the Autry), *Sovereignty* (Arena Stage), *Manahatta* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival), *Return to Niobrara* (Rose Theater), and *Crossing Mnisose* (Portland Center Stage), *Sovereignty* (Marin Theatre Company), and *Manahatta* (Yale Repertory Theatre). She has received commissions from Arena Stage, the Rose Theater (Omaha, Nebraska), Portland Center Stage, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Yale Repertory Theatre, Round House Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Theater, Kansas City Repertory Theater, and the Santa Fe Opera. Her TV and film credits include PREY (Associate Producer). She is most well known for her work on ending violence against Native women. Her play *Sliver of a Full Moon* has been performed in law schools from Stanford to Harvard, NYU and Yale. She has worked extensively on Violence Against Women Act re-authorization, and she has filed numerous briefs in the United States Supreme Court, as a part of the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center's VAWA Sovereignty Initiative, including most recently, *United States v. Cooley*, *Oklahoma v. McGirt*, and *Oklahoma v. Murphy*, *Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta*, and *Brackeen v. Haaland*. She represents numerous families of Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women and Girls, including Kaysera Stops Pretty Places' family who have brought a public campaign demanding

an investigation into her murder. More can be read at www.justiceforkaysera.org.

Melina Milazzo

Melina Milazzo is Senior Policy Counsel with the National Network to End Domestic (NNEDV), where she conducts federal advocacy to advance policies and legislation to provide resources and services for survivors as well as lead economic justice policy efforts for the organization. She has over a decade of national non-profit experience conducting federal government relations, legislative and policy advocacy, coalition building, and communications work on a range of US and international human and civil rights issues. Prior to joining NNEDV, Melina was the Washington director for a legal advocacy organization that worked to free political prisoners from around the world. She previously worked in the DC offices of the Center for Victims of Torture and Human Rights First, where she successfully developed and executed policy and legislative advocacy strategies on US national security laws and policies to respect human rights. Melina has testified before Congress, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and UN bodies. She has appeared in major print, radio, and TV outlets, including the New York Times, Washington Post, CNN, the Guardian, and NPR. Prior to attending law school, Melina worked for over 10 years in the corporate sector. Melina received her J.D. with high honors in international law from Florida State University College of Law and her B.S. in Business Administration from the same university. She is a member in good standing of the New York State Bar.

Melissa Scaia

Melissa Scaia is the International Training Director for Global Rights for Women (GRW). In her position at GRW she brings a wealth of experience as the former executive director of Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP), also known as “the Duluth Model.” Prior to working in Duluth she was the executive director of Advocates for Family Peace (AFFP) 17 years, a local domestic violence advocacy program. She has also led and organized two Coordinated Community Responses (CCR) to address domestic violence in Minnesota, as well as co-facilitating groups for men who batter and women who use violence. She is also a consulting trainer for a number of national training organizations on domestic violence and child

abuse, including Praxis International and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. As a qualified expert in the state of Minnesota she testifies as an expert witness on domestic violence in criminal court cases. She wrote her master's thesis on the effects of domestic violence on children and wrote her doctoral dissertation proposal to address supervised visitation, children and domestic violence. She has contributed to numerous publications related to supervised visitation, children, and domestic violence. Recently she co-wrote a curriculum and DVD for working with men who batter as fathers entitled, "Addressing Fatherhood with Men Who Batter." She also co-authored a curriculum and DVD with Ellen Pence, PhD and Laura Connelly for working with women who have used violence in intimate relationships entitled, "Turning Points: A Nonviolence Curriculum for Women." Melissa has been selected for numerous roundtable advisory discussion groups for the Office on Violence Against Women through the National Judicial Institute on Domestic Violence related to: differentiating types of domestic violence, custody, working with domestic violence offenders, and batterers intervention programs. Most recently she was named to a National Consulting Group on Batterers Intervention Programs and as a National Advisory Committee Member for Mariska Hargitay's Joyful Heart Foundation for survivor-based healing. In addition, she participated at two United Nations Expert Meetings related to domestic violence.

Micaela Carou-Baldner

Micaela was born in Toronto, Canada and grew up in Weston, Florida. In 2018, she received her undergraduate degree from Nova Southeastern University where she majored in Legal Studies. During the summer of 2020, she interned at the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida. In January 2021, she joined Kozyak Tropin & Throckmorton as a law clerk and then as a summer associate. She currently works at Dilendorf Law where she handles matters involving digital assets, cryptocurrency, and blockchain technology. At Miami Law, Micaela serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the International and Comparative Law Review and Vice President of the Hispanic Law Students Association.

Michelle Kaminsky

Michelle Kaminsky is Chief of the Domestic Violence Bureau at the Kings County (Brooklyn) District Attorney's Office. Michelle started in the District Attorney's Office in 1992, right after graduating from Brooklyn Law School. In 1997, she joined the Domestic Violence Bureau as a felony trial attorney. In that capacity, she investigated, prosecuted, and tried numerous intimate partner assaults and complex homicides. As Bureau Chief, Michelle manages a staff of eighty employees; oversees the prosecution of ten thousand cases a year, including sexual assaults and homicides; advises prosecutors on their investigations and trials; coordinates all domestic violence policy initiatives on the local, state and federal level; and works closely with victim advocacy and women's rights organizations. Michelle oversaw the development and implementation of Brooklyn's first multi-disciplinary high-risk team through an Office of Violence Against Women, Department of Justice grant. Michelle has lectured throughout the country on best practices around domestic violence investigations and prosecutions. Michelle has also written a book on her experiences prosecuting domestic violence cases and her recommendations for reform.

Mirko Fernandez

Mirko Fernandez (CAN/CHI) is a Human rights and Policing Expert, as well as the co-author of the *Handbook on Gender-Responsive Policing Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence* (UN Women et al., 2021). Mirko has worked on security sector Governance (SGG) with the Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF) as well with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN Population Fund and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on human rights, gender and security issues. Mirko has also worked with civil society and Police organisations in Latin America on the rule law and femicide, including as an expert member of various fact-finding missions and evaluations to Colombia, Guatemala, and Ecuador. Mirko's international experience includes a civilian expert with UN International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the International Commission on Mission Persons, and the UN Serious Crimes Investigation Unit in Timor-Leste. Mirko is a Justice Rapid Response expert roster member for investigating gender-based violence as international crimes and a member of the UN Security Sector Reform Advisory Network.

Nayelly Loya Marin

Mrs. Nayelly Loya joined the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2010 and is the Officer in Charge of the Cybercrime and Anti-Money Laundering Section and also the Head of the Global Programme on Cybercrime. Based in El Salvador, she manages the program, which assists countries to strengthen their capacities to counter cyber-dependent and cyber-enabled crimes and to build international cooperation and cybercrime prevention capacities.

Neil Irvin

Neil Irvin is Men Can Stop Rape's Executive Director. Irvin recently served as Senior Director of Programs, a position he held since 2008, following five years as Director of Community Education. He joined Men Can Stop Rape in 2001. Neil Irvin is a highly committed and collaborative professional with over 25 years of youth development and leadership experience. Neil is the Executive Director of Men Can Stop Rape (MCSR), which seeks to mobilize men to use their strength for creating cultures free from violence, especially men's violence against women. He is responsible for leading the organization's national work, as well as cultivating strategic partnerships with state and federal agencies and private and corporate foundations; and overseeing all programs, which include the award-winning youth development program, training and technical assistance for youth-serving professionals, and Strength Media public awareness campaign. Well known throughout the country in the field of gender-based violence prevention, Neil currently serves on the Dept of Justice's National Advisory Committee and is a member of the NoVo Foundation's prestigious Move to End Violence initiative. He has also served as a consultant to The White House Commission on Violence Against Women and Girls, Boys and Girls Club, Ford Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Liz Claiborne Foundation. In addition, he is an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland's School of Public Health and has been a regular lecturer at American University, George Washington University, and Howard University. Neil has a long history of working to enrich the lives of youth, especially young men. Having worked as a basketball coach, camp counselor, and director of after-school programs at the YMCA,

he decided to dedicate his professional career to working with youth as it always felt “inspiring, energizing, and effortless.”

Nell Jessup Newton

Nell Jessup Newton is the Interim Dean of Miami Law and a Visiting Professor. Prior to this role Professor Newton served as the 10th dean from 2009 to 2019 of Notre Dame Law School where she is a tenured member of the faculty. Preceding Notre Dame, Professor Newton served as the dean at UC Hastings, and the law schools of the University of Connecticut and the University of Denver. During her decade as dean at Notre Dame, the school built curricular strengths in business and international law as well as intellectual property. Beyond her accomplishments as dean, Professor Newton is a renowned scholar of Indian Law and the editor in chief of the only treatise on the subject, *Cohen’s Handbook of Federal Indian Law*.

Nicholas Metheny

Nicholas (Nick) Metheny, PhD, MPH, RN: Dr. Metheny is an Assistant Professor at the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies whose research focuses on preventing and mitigating intimate partner violence (IPV) in women and sexual and gender minorities globally. Currently, he serves as Director of the Secretariat for the Lancet Commission on Gender-Based Violence and the Maltreatment of Young People, a pathbreaking commission that brings together global experts in IPV to make recommendations for future research and advocacy efforts. He is currently the Primary Investigator on three extramurally funded research studies funded through the National Institutes of Health and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Nicolette Naylor

Nicolette Naylor is a South African feminist human rights lawyer, who has completed an LLM in International Human Rights at University College London. Nicolette started her career practicing law in the public interest law arena. She led the Gender-Based Violence work at the Women’s Legal Centre, a public interest law centre in South Africa where she litigated key test cases involving child sexual abuse, rape and sexual harassment before the Supreme Court of Appeal and Constitutional Court of South Africa. She has also worked at Interights in London where she worked on key international women’s rights cases involving violence against women before the

European Court of Human Rights and African Commission of Human & Peoples' Rights. In 2007 she joined the global philanthropic community when she was appointed Program Officer at the Ford Foundation. In July 2015 she was promoted to Regional Director for Ford Foundation's operations in Southern Africa. In 2019 she was promoted to the role of International Program Director: Gender, Racial & Ethnic Justice responsible for directing the Foundation's global programming on gender, racial and ethnic justice managing a diverse team across New York, India, West Africa, Southern Africa and Latin America. Her work is focused on addressing gender-based violence and increasing financial support for Black women, girls and feminists in the global South by strengthening the feminist funding ecosystem for Black women, indigenous women and women of color. Nicolette has published extensively in the social justice philanthropy and gender fields. She is also the global civil society advisor for the European Union's €500 million Spotlight Initiative on ending violence against women and girls and the co-chair of the OECD Network of Foundation's Gender Working Group. She is also the co-leader for UN Women's Generation Equality Forum's Action Coalition on Gender Based Violence and has played a critical role in the development of the South African National Strategic Plan on gender-based violence working at the intersection of government, the private sector and the feminist movement.

Novelette Grant

Novelette separated from the Jamaica Constabulary Force August 2018, after serving for over 36 years. She left at the substantive rank of Deputy Commissioner of Police and had the privilege of serving as Commissioner of Police (Acting) from January to April 2017. She has extensive professional and academic training. She holds a BSc in Management studies (Hons) and MSc in Human Resource Development (Distinction) from the University of the West Indies (Mona) and a MA in International Studies (Merit) from King's College, University of London. She also holds a Certificate in Applied Project Management from the University of Boston. During her career in the JCF Novelette gained extensive specialized and general experience working in criminal investigations, operations, and administration; specifically, she spent over two decades working at various levels of police leadership in the Constabulary. She therefore gained

demonstrable experience in strategic leadership and management, organizational transformation, human rights practices and intervention, human capital development, governance, international relations, public safety and security, gender, urban crime and violence prevention. Miss Grant has presented papers at a number of conferences on policing and security both locally and internationally. The highlight of her international presentation was to the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly on the issue "How can an Arms Trade Treaty Help Deliver Real Security." Novelette is a trained learning and development specialist and facilitator who designs and delivers learning and development programs and manuals as well as facilitating workshops to address human and organizational needs. Transformative programs include Youth Empowerment & Mentorship that teaches core life skills, and Domestic, Sexual & Gender Based Violence Prevention and Intervention Training. Novelette is the recipient of the Medal of Honour for Meritorious Service and the Order of Distinction (Officer Class). She is a Justice of the Peace for the parish of St. Andrew, a charter member of the Rotary Club of Manor Park. She is a motivational speaker, an avid reader, enjoys watching documentaries, listening to music, meeting and talking to people.

Pamela Palmater

Dr. Pamela D. Palmater is a Mi'kmaw citizen and member of the Eel River Bar First Nation in northern New Brunswick. She has been a lawyer in good standing for 23 years and serves as Professor and the Chair in Indigenous Governance at Ryerson University. She has 4 university degrees, including a BA from St. Thomas in Native Studies, and an LLB from UNB and a Master's and Doctorate in Law from Dalhousie University in Indigenous law. She was one of the spokespeople, organizers and public educators for the Idle No More movement in 2012-13 and continues her advocacy work in solidarity with various social justice and climate action movements. She has been recognized with many awards and honors for her social justice advocacy on behalf of First Nations generally, and Indigenous women and children specifically, and most recently for her work related to murdered and missing Indigenous women. Pam's area of expertise includes Indigenous law, sovereignty and nation-building. She is a well-known speaker, presenter and educator on Indigenous issues

both across Canada and internationally, having spoken in Samoa, Peru, Switzerland, England, Belgium and the United States. She is frequently called as an expert before Parliamentary and United Nations committees dealing with laws and policies impacting Indigenous peoples. She continues her research and advocacy on murdered and missing Indigenous women and girls.

Raluca Popa

Raluca Maria Popa is Gender and Law Specialist for the International Development Law Organization (IDLO), at the organization's branch office in the Hague. IDLO is an intergovernmental organization with 37 member parties that works around the world, and mostly in conflict and fragile contexts, to promote the rule of law to advance peace and sustainable development. At IDLO, Raluca contributes to global gender policy research and advocacy on justice for women issues and provides technical support to a range of gender and justice projects, notably in the Sahel region (Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger), Somalia, Middle East and North Africa (Tunisia, Jordan) and Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA). Raluca has 15 years of experience as a gender equality and ending violence against women expert, having worked across several regions. Before joining IDLO, she was Gender advisor with the Council of Europe (2013-2017) on issues related to women's access to justice and ending violence against women and before that she worked with UN WOMEN (2006-2012) at their regional office for Southeast Europe. Raluca Popa has contributed to the development and promotion of regional human rights standards, importantly the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence ("Istanbul Convention"). Raluca has published articles in several peer reviewed journals and contributed to a number of edited volumes. Her most recent publication is 'The Politics of Intersectionality in Activism against Domestic Violence in Hungary and Romania', with Andrea Krizsán in the volume *Gendered mobilizations and intersectional challenges* (Rowman& Littlefield, 2019) edited by Jill Irvine, Sabine Lang, and Celeste Montoya.

Reem Alsalem

Reem Alsalem is the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences. Ms. Alsalem is an

independent consultant on gender issues, the rights of refugees and migrants, transitional justice and humanitarian response. She has consulted extensively for United Nations departments, agencies and programmes such as UN-Women, OHCHR, UNICEF and IOM, as well as for non-governmental organizations, think tanks and academia. Ms. Alsalem was appointed United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences in July 2021 by the UN Human Rights Council for a three-year tenure.

Renu Sara Nargund

Renu Sara Nargund is a research associate at the University of Miami Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas. With a bachelor's degree in public health and psychology from the University of Miami, she is dedicated to finding innovative strategies to support gender equality and human rights in healthcare. As a strong advocate for gender transformative change, Renu has worked with several organizations in Miami-Dade County and at the national level with It's On Us to improve the response to gender-based violence across in the legislative and education system in the United States. Since then, she has joined and become an integral part of the Secretariats of the Lancet Commission on Gender-Based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People and the Lancet Commission on Cancer and Health Systems. In her current position, she contributes to complex analysis of large data sets including the global burden of disease, national time use surveys, and labor force surveys.

Rosa Celorio

Rosa Celorio is an Associate Dean for International and Comparative Legal Studies and Burnett Family Professorial Lecturer in International and Comparative Law and Policy at George Washington University who serves as the International Dispute Resolution Authority between the Maya Peoples and the government of Belize, supervising the compliance process related to the judicial orders adopted by the Caribbean Court of Justice to protect the rights of the Maya peoples to their land, territories, and natural resources. She also joined the OAS electoral mission to Costa Rica to observe elections on February 2, 2020, as their senior gender expert, and was an invited professor at the Master of Human Rights Law of the University of Diego Portales in Santiago, Chile between May 8-9, 2020. She joined George Washington Law in 2018 after having worked for

more than a decade as a Senior Attorney at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States, one of the main organs of the regional human rights protection system for the Americas. During her time at the Commission, she held various leadership positions, including the supervision of all the legal work performed by the specialized Rapporteurships on the rights of women, indigenous peoples, racial discrimination, LGBTI issues, children, and older persons, as well as matters concerning South America Countries. Dean Celorio had the opportunity to profoundly shape the women's rights and discrimination work of this cornerstone institution, developing a successful gender mainstreaming strategy, promoting an intersectional approach, and supervising the first group of cases decided by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on violence against women and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Rosie Hidalgo

Rosie Hidalgo serves as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence at the White House Gender Policy Council. Rosie has worked in the movement to end gender-based violence for over twenty-five years as a public interest attorney and as a national policy advocate. Most recently she was the Senior Director of Public Policy for Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families and Communities, a national resource center with a focus on providing training, research, and policy advocacy to prevent and end domestic violence and sexual assault and served on the Policy Steering Committee of the National Task Force to End Sexual and Domestic Violence. Rosie previously served as the Deputy Director for Policy at the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) at the U.S. Department of Justice during the Obama-Biden Administration and served on a detail to the Office of the Vice President, working with the White House Advisor on Violence Against Women. Rosie also served on the Biden Foundation's Advisory Council for Ending Violence Against Women and on the American Bar Association's Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence. She is a graduate of Georgetown University and New York University School of Law.

Shanaaz Mathews

Shanaaz is the director of the Children's Institute and professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at UCT and has a PhD from the University of the Witwatersrand. She serves as a Commissioner on the *Lancet Commission on Gender-based violence and maltreatment of young people*. She is also a faculty affiliate of the *CPC Learning Network at Columbia University* and a managing committee member for the *DST-NRF Centre of Excellence on Human Development*, at the University of the Witwatersrand. She served as an International Advisory Board member for the *UNICEF Multi Country Study on the Drivers of Violence 2014 – 2017* and was the lead investigator on the *Determinants of violence against women and children study* for the South African Inter-ministerial parliamentary committee and has served as a technical advisor on *South Africa's Diagnostic Review of government programmes to address violence against women and children*. Her research interests include violence against women and children, as well as pathways to violent masculinities using both qualitative and quantitative approaches. She led two national epidemiology studies on female homicide and explored the socio-cultural context of intimate femicide as well as a national study on child homicides in South Africa. She has contributed to the development of the National Strategic Plan on gender-based violence and femicide.

Sibongile Ndashe

Sibongile Ndashe is the Executive Director of the Initiative for Strategic Litigation in Africa (ISLA). She founded the organisation in 2014. Sibongile studied law at the University of the Western Cape and, later, started her legal career in 1999 as an Article Clerk at the Legal Resources Centre before moving to the South African Constitutional Court as a Research Clerk. Her experience as a Research Clerk led her to realize that she wanted to earn a living trying to close the gap between how things are and how things should be. In 2002, the Women's Legal Centre (WLC), South Africa, as the lead lawyer for the organisation's work on women's property rights and access to resources. This work focused on expanding protection for women using what was then a new Constitution. Litigation, Law reform and public education were some of the core activities under her portfolio. Key achievements include parliamentary submissions on the Traditional Leadership and Governance Framework Bill and Communal Land Rights Bill, working with the Law reform

commission on Islamic marriages draft bill and the Hassam v Hassam that develop the Intestate Succession law to protect polygamous marriages as provided for in the Maputo Protocol. In 2007, Sibongile joined the International Centre for the Protection of Human Rights, (Interights), United Kingdom, as the lead lawyer on equality in Africa. Her focus areas were litigating sexual rights and women's human rights and this work included the first case on women's rights at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, *Al-Kheir and others v Egypt*. She gained a 'bird's eye' view on how the law and courts in particular can be used to advance the human rights of women and people whose rights are violated on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression on the continent. Sibongile's work is driven by developing jurisprudence in gender and sexuality, before the African Human Rights System and domestic courts. Through her work, she is nurturing a pool of feminist litigators with expertise on gender and sexuality in addition to the legal empowerment of social movements to make decisions about litigation. She writes, teaches, designs and implements capacity strengthening programmes on strategic litigation for lawyers and social movements.

Silvia Zenteno

Silvia Zenteno is the Senior Director of Education and Research at It's On Us, where she works to develop peer-to-peer prevention and intervention programs for campus communities around the country. Previously, Silvia was a Biden Foundation policy fellow, working under the Violence Against Women pillar to identify gaps in services for youth and college/university students. Silvia also worked as a management analyst at the U.S. Justice Department's Office on Violence Against Women, where she worked on the Campus and Consolidated Youth teams to improve the national response to gender-based violence. Born in Bolivia and raised in Alexandria, VA, Silvia stayed close to home to attend George Washington University, where she earned a B.S. in Political Science in 2015. She currently lives with her dog, Collin (also from Bolivia), in Washington, DC.

Sonya Passi

Sonya Passi is the founder and CEO of FreeFrom, a national organization in the US on a mission to create pathways to financial security and long-term safety for survivors of gender-based violence. Sonya and her work at FreeFrom emphasize the creativity,

resourcefulness, and power that each survivor has to achieve financial independence, and to build communities that support individual, intergenerational and collective healing. They also believe that intimate partner violence is a systemic problem in our society which we are severely lacking the infrastructure to address. To learn more about FreeFrom's work on building capacity within the anti-violence movement, check out the following reports available on their website: "Survivors Know Best: How to Disrupt Intimate Partner Violence During COVID-19 and Beyond" and "Trust Survivors: Building an Effective and Inclusive Cash Assistance Program."

sujatha baliga

sujatha baliga's work is characterized by an equal dedication to people who've experienced and caused harm and violence. A former victim advocate and public defender, sujatha is a frequent guest lecturer at universities and conferences about her decades of restorative justice work. She also speaks publicly and inside prisons about her own experiences as a survivor of child sexual abuse and her path to forgiveness. Her personal and research interests include the forgiveness of seemingly unforgivable acts, survivor-led movements, restorative justice's potential impact on ending racialized mass criminalization, and Buddhist approaches to conflict transformation. She's a member of the Gyuto Foundation in Richmond, CA, where she leads meditation on Monday nights. She was named a 2019 MacArthur Fellow.

Tamar Ezer

Tamar Ezer is the Acting Director of the Human Rights Clinic and the Faculty Director of the Human Rights Program at the University of Miami School of Law. Focus areas of her work in the Human Rights Clinic include gender justice, Indigenous women's rights, and the rights to health and housing. Prior to that, Tamar taught and supervised projects at Yale Law School with the Schell Center for International Human Rights and the Solomon Center for Health Law and Policy, as well as Georgetown University Law Center's International Women's Human Rights Clinic, where she supervised test cases challenging discriminatory laws and oversaw fact-finding and legislative projects in Nigeria, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, and the Philippines. Additionally, Tamar served as Deputy Director of the Law and Health Initiative of the Open Society Public Health Program,

where she focused on legal advocacy to advance health and human rights in Eastern and Southern Africa, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia. This encompassed work on reproductive health, HIV, palliative care, drug policy, violations in health care settings, and intersections between access to justice and health. Tamar also clerked for Judge Robert Sweet at the Southern District of New York and Justice Dorit Beinisch at the Supreme Court of Israel. Tamar graduated from Stanford University and Harvard Law School, where she was the editor-in-chief of the *Harvard Human Rights Journal*.

Tara Cookson

Tara Patricia Cookson is Assistant Professor at the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (SPPGA) at the University of British Columbia. Tara is also an Associate Member of UBC's Geography Department. She uses ethnographic and quantitative methods to study how power operates in development policy, with a focus on gender data, social protection, and care work. Her approach to public scholarship integrates academic research, practice-oriented publications, and direct engagement with international policy processes. Dr. Cookson is the author of *Unjust Conditions: Women's Work and the Hidden Cost of Cash Transfer Programs* (University of California Press, Open Access), winner of the Globe Book Award (American Association of Geographers), the Sarah A. Whaley Prize (National Women's Studies Association), and a Development Studies Book Award Honorable Mention (International Studies Association). Her research has been published in *Antipode*, *Gender Place & Culture*, the *International Journal of Feminist Politics*, and *Global Public Health*. She regularly contributes commentary and analysis to outlets such as Devex, the Stanford Social Innovation Review, and the Toronto Star. Dr. Cookson co-founded Ladysmith, a feminist research collective that connects academic scholarship to practitioner problem solving by helping international organizations collect, analyze and take action on gender data. She has collaborated with global development institutions such as UN Women, the International Labour Organization, UNICEF, Global Affairs Canada, USAID, Action Against Hunger, and the OECD-DAC Governance Network.

Tina Musuya

Tina provides technical advice and leadership to SDDirect's work in the field of Gender Based Violence (GBV) prevention. She

helps to ensure that the work of in-house staff and consultants is evidence-based, draws on practice-based knowledge and is of a high quality. She is also a Co-Lead for the Learning Partnerships Team pillar of the FCDO funded 'What Works: Impact at scale' program. Tina has over 16 years of experience working with communities, police, civil society, local government and policy makers to prevent VAW mainly in the East African region. She brings deep knowledge and understanding of effective programming to prevent violence against women in the development settings including ensuring that the programs are gender transformative and based on feminist principles. Tina formerly worked with the Centre for Domestic Violence Prevention (CEDOVIP). Under her guidance, CEDOVIP won the 2010 UNAIDS Red Ribbon Award for innovative work in preventing violence against women and HIV and also led the successful pilot of the SASA! program in Kampala, a groundbreaking initiative that reduced physical intimate partner violence by 52% that showed that preventing violence against women (VAW) through social norm change is possible. She led colleagues at CEDOVIP to address challenges of mediation in domestic violence cases through responsibility sessions in a way that is significantly different and safer for all involved than traditional mediation has been, led the process for development of the GBV Risk Mitigation and Prevention Strategy for the Green Climate Project Uganda. She also helped draft and successfully campaigned for passage of the Domestic Violence Act in Uganda. Tina has a Master's Degree in Sociology from Makerere university Uganda, extensive training on programming to prevent violence against women. Tina's work has exposed her to regional and global networks for violence against women prevention field and she holds various honorary positions including being a member of the coordinating committee of Coalition of feminists for Social Change (COFEM), Member of Community for Understanding Scale up for Social norms change programming for gender equality (CUSP), Commissioner for The Lancet Commission on GBV and Maltreatment of Young People and Member of the Advisory Group- Global Shared Research Agenda (Sexual Violence Research Initiative and Equality Institute). Outside work Tina likes to keep fit and healthy, engaging in deep conversations about encouraging women and girls to deeply love

themselves and fully be in charge of their bodies and lives. She is very interested in saving indigenous fruity trees in Uganda.

Tracy Robinson

Tracy Robinson is a senior lecturer and Deputy Dean of Graduate Studies and Research at the Faculty of Law, the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona Campus, Jamaica. She is a researcher in the areas of constitutional law, human rights, gender, sexuality and the family. Robinson is a co-founder and co-coordinator of the Faculty of Law UWI Rights Advocacy Project (U-RAP) with Arif Bulkan. She served as a commissioner on the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), as well as the body's president from 2014 to 2015. On the IACHR, she served as the rapporteur for the rights of women and the inaugural rapporteur for the rights of LGBTI Persons.