

WHO I AM

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Note from the Director

Greetings! I pray that the holidays were a time of peace, reflection, and perhaps some much needed rest and that January is going well for you, whatever you are doing!

We have a number of exciting events happening this spring. Our foremost event is the annual Riegsecker Lecture during Women's History Month on March 29, 2007 from 7-8pm in Palmer Cinema. Immaculee Ilibagiza, author of "Left to Tell: Discovering God among the Rwandan Holocaust," will be speaking on gender and leadership. (See related article in the newsletter for more information about Immaculee). She will also be speaking in common chapel that day. In addition, we will also be a part of the UnLEARN Week and Sexuality Focus Week activities. Please plan to participate and encourage others to do so as well!!

April is sexual assault awareness month. Watch for further information to come about the activities planned for that month including the clothesline project and a take back the night event.

Also looking forward...a GSP planning meeting will be held February 13, 2007 from 6-7:15pm in L237. Pizza and sodas will be provided; please come to share your thoughts, dreams, and desires related to gender here in campus!! We would like to discuss our current programming as well as future programming and projects here on campus and in the larger community. Students, faculty and staff are welcome. If you are unable to attend but interested in providing feedback, please email us at genderstudies@messiah.edu with your comments.

Debra Berke

Associate Professor of Family Science and Women's Studies
Director, Messiah College's Gender Studies Project

UNCOVERING GENDER

Stop the Press Spree Against Working Moms

By Sheila Gibbons - WeNews commentator

(WOMENSENEWS)--Elizabeth Vargas, banished from ABC's "World News Tonight" co-anchor seat last May after announcing she was expecting a second child, returned to TV broadcasting last week. While Vargas may no longer "be with child" in the biological sense, her first "20/20" story on Nov. 10--a report on working mothers, featuring herself as one--is pregnant with the growing sense of working mothers' indignation.

In May, Vargas and the network said that when she returned from her leave she would co-anchor the Friday night news magazine, but would not return to the prestigious nightly newscast. Though Vargas said publicly that it was a mutual decision, the nature of her come-back segment fuels my impression that her reassignment was a demotion and a negative signal to working mothers. Vargas began her report with references to news articles about her being "dropped" from "World News Tonight" with shots of Vargas cuddling her new baby and discussing story angles for an upcoming project with a colleague. From there she delved into the stories of three other working moms holding down demanding professional jobs, raising active kids and engaged in a daily "exercise in exhausting compromise."

Included was tape from a talk radio program, in which a female caller said her company avoids hiring working mothers or women they think will get pregnant.

Part of a Rising Tide

Vargas' segment is part of a rising tide. On Friday, the same day of Vargas' return to TV, Judith Warner, author of "Perfect Madness: Motherhood in the Age of Anxiety," appeared in the op-ed pages of the New York Times to challenge Nancy Pelosi and other politicians to throw their political weight behind the broad spectrum of working mothers and their families. "At every point on the socioeconomic spectrum now," Warner wrote, "it seems that American families are cracking at the seams." The 16th annual Unscheduled Absence Survey by CCH, a leading provider of human resources and employment law information, bears Warner out. Almost 2 out of 3 employees who fail to show up for work aren't physically ill, the report finds. Twenty four percent, for instance, are handling family issues. As mother-of-five Pelosi takes her post-election victory lap as presumptive Speaker of the House, other high-profile moms are pushing through status barriers throughout the world. Mother-of-four Segolene Royal, for another instance, is currently putting the strongest pulse in the preliminaries for France's 2007 presidential election. Comfortable and confident as new heads of government are mother-of-three Michelle Bachelet of Chile and mother-of-four "Iron Lady" Ellen Sirleaf-Johnson in Liberia.

As working mothers such as these win the limelight, they can only help to illuminate the contrastingly dark realities of so many other women with children.

Off-Kilter Reporting

Off-kilter news reporting on the reasons women leave jobs, laced with amateur psychology and traces of biological determinism, have been creating a false impression about women's employment patterns, says an attention-getting report last month by the Center for WorkLife Law, a research and advocacy group at the University of California, Hastings College of the Law. "'Opt Out'--or Pushed Out? The Untold Story of Why Women Leave the Work Force," released Oct. 17, analyzed 119 newspaper articles (excluding commentary) about women leaving the paid work force between 1980 and 2006. A great deal of this journalism, the authors find, understates the severity of the economic consequences for women who are forced out of jobs by inflexible employers and those who believe working mothers are bad for the bottom line. Most insidious, says the report, is that reporters often depict women abandoning the workplace as a matter of their personal preference, not a symptom of a nationwide crisis for which employer rigidity and lack of family supports are largely to blame. The "opt out" stories overwhelmingly focus on white, affluent women with white-collar jobs, a skewed demographic from which to draw conclusions about a majority of working women, given that only about 8 percent of women hold such jobs.

The articles also pinpointed the pull of family life as the main reason women quit, whereas a number of diverse

sources collected by the Center--an in-depth study of fast-track women; census data analyses; and its own research, including its 2006 report on family responsibilities discrimination, "Litigating the Maternal Wall"--add to the mountain of evidence that affirms most women cite workplace "pushes" (such as inflexible jobs) as a key reason for their decision to leave. Framing stories about the tension between women's work and family lives as a problem of women failing to "balance" their commitments is spurious at best, sexist at worst. By making the individual responsible, and not corporations or government, the "Opt Out" story line sends the reassuring message that nothing needs to change," the report says. In addition to the narrow framing of women and work that the Center for WorkLife Law documents, I'm convinced that much recent journalism about work-life issues fails to consider a wide range of other social concerns. Take a good look at any one--the alternative minimum tax, originally targeting affluent taxpayers, now inflicting pain on tens of millions of households; layoffs; poor nutrition as a result of our eat-on-the-run society; the divorce rate; traffic congestion; wage levels--and it will likely lead you to a woman on the verge of packing it in (and no small number of men, too).

Data to Inspire Realistic Stories

The authors do not merely chide reporters. They also offer data to inspire journalists to start telling more nuanced and factually based stories that look critically at the societal effects of women's "personal" decisions about leaving the paid work force. A 2005 Cornell University study of employers,

for instance, found that 84 percent of the participants said they would only hire a woman who had no children. Only 47 percent said they would hire a woman with an identical resume who had children and that woman would be offered less in starting salary. The authors also praise stories that probe the issue in a serious way. One example: A May 2 CNN story reported by Paula Zahn about a corporate communications executive fired while on maternity leave. Her bosses contacted her repeatedly with work-related requests while she was on maternity leave and challenged her commitment to the job before eventually laying her off before her leave ended. Her lost income cost her the house--literally; unable to keep up her monthly payments, she lost her home. "Simply telling reporters that they are telling the wrong story does not give them new stories to tell," write authors Joan C. Williams, Jessica Manvell and Stephanie Bornstein. "Reporters need ready access to accurate data to paint a complete picture."

In other words, the issue of employer bias against working mothers, up to now thinly explored in the press, should be a well-spring of news stories based on documented facts and trends. Sheila Gibbons is editor of Media Report to Women, a quarterly news journal of news, research and commentary about women and media. She is also co-author of "Taking Their Place: A Documentary History of Women and Journalism," Strata Publishing, Inc., which received the "Texty" Textbook Excellence Award from the Text and Academic Authors Association, and of "Exploring Mass Media for A Changing World," Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, publishers.

Women's eNews welcomes your comments. E-mail us at editors@womensenews.org.

For any comments about this and any other story, please send a letter to the editors at <http://www.womensenews.org/letters/discus.pl>

Graduate Programs in Sociology

These programs are strong in gender and sexuality studies that offer students great supervision and mentoring.

The following is a list of recommendations:

University of California-Santa Barbara

University of Connecticut

University of Illinois at Chicago

Indiana University

University of Kansas

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Provided By: Laurel Westbrook
Department of Sociology
University of California, Berkeley

News Alert!

8th Annual National Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Legislative Action Days

April 17-18, 2007 Washington, D.C.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence are partnering once again for this year's Legislative Action Days in Washington D.C..

On **April 17-18, 2007** advocates from across the country will come to the nation's capital to meet with Members of Congress to discuss the importance of funding for domestic violence and sexual assault programs in our communities. NAESV and NCADV invite ALL advocates to join them in April as they address the importance of encouraging Congress to fully fund all programs included in the Violence Against Women Act. Everyone worked so hard to get VAWA reauthorized in 2005 but now we have to ensure those critical programs receive the necessary funding to implement them!

EVERYONE CAN HELP!

NAESV and NCADV, along with other national organizations, will be hosting events for advocates and Member of Congress throughout the week. These events also will be held in conjunction with Lifetime Television's Stop Violence Against Women week. They want all advocates in the field to come to Washington, D.C. and tell your Members of Congress your stories and why federal resources are so desperately needed. We encourage domestic violence and sexual assault advocates, state coalition members, law enforcement officials, legal advocates, health care providers, and other organizations and individuals that care about these issues to join us in April for these events.

THERE IS NO COST TO ATTEND THESE EVENTS!

Remember, mark your calendars for April 17th and 18th, 2007 and plan on joining this exciting and important week of events. Anyone having questions can contact the NCADV Public Policy office at (202) 745-1211 or by email at publicpolicy@ncadv.org or NAESV at mwhite@wpllc.net.

Is Overachieving Bad for Girls?

By: Courtney E. Martin
November 16, 2006

A new book praises hyper-achieving 'alpha girls.' But their behavior may be symptomatic of a larger trend in outwardly high-achieving and inwardly self-hating young women.

Dan Kindlon's new book, "Alpha Girls: Understanding the New American Girl and How She Is Changing the World," begins in the pastoral setting of a typical suburban New Jersey high school. The students read excerpts from "Reviving Ophelia," Mary Pipher's 1994 bestseller that painted a Modigliani-esque portrait of teenage girls -- depressed, anxiety-ridden, self-mutilating and self-loathing. But 12 years after the publication of Pipher's book, Kindlon and the Jersey girls he is chatting with are convinced that American girls have had a real psychological makeover. Sarah, a sophomore, asks, "Who are the girls in this book? I mean, I feel sorry for them, but they're pretty much losers." Kindlon holds up young women like Sarah -- girls with high GPAs, stacked extracurricular resumes and Ivy League dreams -- as the new Athena archetype. An alpha girl, he explains, is "a young woman who is destined to be a great leader. She is talented, highly

motivated and self-confident." Through interviews and an impressively large survey (900 girls and boys across the United States and Canada), Kindlon concludes that alpha girls have an "emancipated psychology." They are no longer slowed down by empathy or emotionality, and are now free to pursue success with rabid dog competitiveness.

Unlike Kindlon, I don't see Sarah's dispassionate reaction towards those in pain or her peers' full throttle drive towards achievement as cause for celebration. What are we teaching young women about success and well-being? How has the baby-boomer legion of superwomen influenced the way a new generation of "alpha girls" envisions their worth in the world? How do we measure progress? Kindlon and many others cheer at the idea of a nation of young women resembling Reese Witherspoon's character in the movie "Election": hard-working and high-strung, taking classrooms and boardrooms across America by storm. A flurry of feminist self-congratulation followed Jennifer Delahunty Britz's March 23, 2006, *New York Times* op-ed, "To All the Girls I've Rejected," in which she admitted practicing affirmative action for boys at Kenyon College because there were simply too many qualified young women.

I am more inclined to sound a word of warning. Ambition that is

not tempered by wisdom is dangerous. It can lead to a soul-sucking, endless search for a sense of satisfaction that will never come from blue ribbons or promotions. It can lead to loneliness, secrecy, disease. Contrary to our very American disposition, achievement, accumulation and public recognition are not tantamount to true progress.

During the course of researching my book, "Perfect Girls, Starving Daughters: The Frightening New Normalcy of Hating Your Body," I heard "Sarahs" across the country voice their suspicion that to be a success, they had to be infallible. Under this impossible pressure, many of them developed eating and anxiety disorders that they kept secret from even their closest friends. In a 2001 survey of Duke undergrads, the overwhelming concern of young women was to appear not just perfect, but *effortlessly* perfect.

It's true, my generation of women has broken records and taken names. Women now outnumber men on college campuses by at least 2 million. A recent report by the National Council for Education Statistics concludes that girls consistently outperform boys on reading and writing tests, and are more likely to have taken algebra II, AP/honors biology, and chemistry than their male peers. They are also more likely to participate in music, performing arts, belong to

academic clubs, work on the school newspaper or yearbook, or hold office in student government. Here's the big "but": 7 million American girls and women have eating disorders. Panic disorders and depression are twice as likely in women and 75 percent of autoimmune illnesses affect women. This is not progress without pain.

Kindlon's alpha girls are symptomatic of a larger trend in outwardly high-achieving and inwardly self-hating young women. This is not the feminist dream realized. This is a Gen Y version of the Puritan ethic -- work hard enough, long enough, look perfect enough, and you will finally be thought of as successful (even if you are also sick.) As opposed to being "emancipated" from what others think, as Kindlon attests, these girls are obsessed with recognition. As opposed to being equal and free, as 1970s feminism envisioned, these girls are better than and ensnared in an unenlightened more, better, faster ethos.

Later on in the book Kindlon tells the story of Holly, a depressed, anorectic with an alcoholic father who pressures her to be the best. Her story could star in Alyssa Quart's smart new book, "Hothouse Kids," where she too raises the red flag over all this over-zealous ambition. Like many of Quart's characters, the parents appear to be vindicated for their vicarious aspirations.

Holly appeases her father by getting into Harvard. Apparently Kindlon is won over as well: "Holly's problems didn't keep her from excelling in school."

OK, great. Holly goes to Harvard. But is Holly well? Is she happy? Has she defined success for herself? Had these crimson pom-pom-waving men listened to Holly's version of her own story, they would have heard that despite her academic triumph, she is suffering. Isn't her tenuous mental health more important than her guaranteed place at one of the nation's most notorious destinations for "alpha girls"?

Kindlon ends with Calvinist commemoration: "One of the deepest impressions the alphas left me with was how hard they

work." It's true. The young women I have known, the ones I have grown up with, interviewed, befriended, taught, are not afraid to set goals and do whatever it takes to reach them. I couldn't be more proud of all that my generation has accomplished. We are award-winning musicians, documentarians and doctors, trailblazers in academics and politics, leaders in the independent media movement, transformers of corporate culture. But I don't mistake this accomplishment for health. We still have a long way to go if we are to realize our dream of being successful *and* well.

Courtney E. Martin is a writer, teacher and filmmaker living in Brooklyn.

CHECK IT OUT!

Archives of GENDER-STUDIES

Gender Studies Project List

- Search the archives
- Post to the list
- Join or leave the list (or change settings)
- June 2006
- February 2004

<http://listserv.messiah.edu/archives/gender-studies.html>

**The Impact of Gender on the Evaluation of Teaching: What
We Know and What We Can Do”**

**Forthcoming in the NWSA Journal, Issue 19.3 special issues on women, tenure and
promotion**

References

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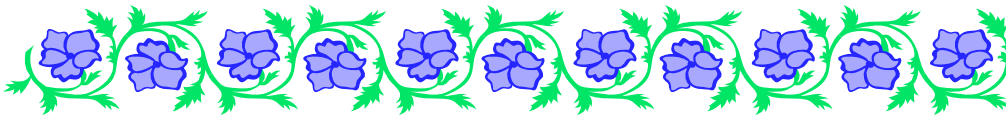
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A Great Resource!

The Sociologists for Women in Society Taskforce on the Feminist Transformation of the Academy, has sought to tackle the complex and difficult issue of the effects of gender on the evaluation of teaching. Many women faculty suspect that their gender plays a role in how they are evaluated by students, but so far there have been few tools available for women to protect themselves. The SWS now offers these resources. This site provides resources for faculty and administrators, including an updated literature review, fact sheets, recommendations for faculty, Universities and researchers and a position statement. Check it out!

<http://www.socwomen.org/resources/resources.html>



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Gender Studies Project Planning Meeting

When: February 13, 2007

6-7:15pm

Where: Larsen 237

Pizza and sodas will be provided

Please come share your thoughts, dreams, and desires related to gender here on campus! We will discuss our current programming as well as future programming and projects here on campus and in the larger community. Students, faculty and staff are welcome. If you are unable to attend but are interested in providing feedback, please email us at genderstudies@messiah.edu with your comments.

Healthy Women Today

The National Women's Health Information Center



College Women Favor Nutrition Over Exercise

A University of Nebraska study published in the *Journal of the American Dietetic Association* found that female college students are more likely than males to go on diets. Males who want to lose weight usually work out rather than diet.

The study identified differences between women and men in terms of dieting as well as sources of nutrition knowledge and beliefs. The following findings were determined:

- Women were much more likely than men to try low-fat diets, low-carbohydrate diets, and vegetarian diets.
- Almost 80 percent of men said they'd never tried a diet, compared with over 65 percent of women.
- More women than men got most of their nutrition information from family members, as well as magazines and newspapers.
- Women were more likely than men to say that they eat too much sugar, it's important to limit carbohydrate intake, that it's important to limit fats to lose weight, and that they need to lose weight.
- The majority of study participants agreed that it's important to eat a variety of foods for good health.

"These findings are in agreement with reports of women's tendency to hold stronger beliefs related to nutrition than men. Though men have some sensitivity to body fat, women are much more sensitive," the study authors wrote.



The American University in Cairo

New Master's Degree in Gender and Women's Studies



The Cynthia Nelson Institute for Gender and Women's Studies (IGWS) officially launched its graduate program. The new program is an interdisciplinary field of study that investigates how gender relations are rooted in social, political and cultural structures.

"The graduate program in gender and women's studies provides excellent grounding for students with career aspirations in human rights, health, migration and refugee studies, and social services," said Martina Rieker, IGWS associate director and a committee member behind the original MA program proposal. It also prepares students wishing to pursue doctoral work with valuable theoretical and methodological training. Today, specialists in gender and women's studies are being hired as consultants in international development agencies, local NGOs, government agencies and regional universities.

The establishment of this program comes only one year after the Arab Women's Organization announced in Cairo last year, as one of its main goals, the mainstreaming of gender and women's studies at the undergraduate and graduate levels across universities in the Arab region. Two models have already been established in the West Bank and Sudan.

"AUC is uniquely placed to take a lead in the changing academic landscape because it already has a well-established reputation internationally and regionally as an academic institution that supports gender studies research, teaching and training," said Rieker.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.aucegypt.edu/resources/smc/newsstory.cfm?newsid=439>

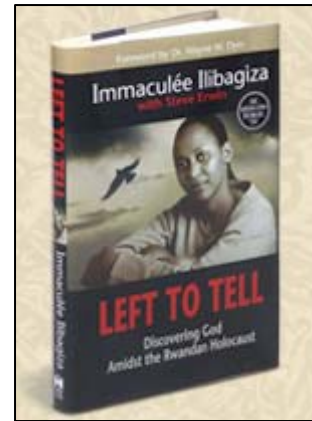
Riegsecker Lecture

Speaker: Immaculée Ilibagiza

March 29th

Sponsored by the Gender Studies Project

The profound lessons of forgiveness, being shared by genocide survivor Immaculée Ilibagiza, offer our troubled world proof of the certain triumph of faith and prayer. Belief in a greater good and her conviction of the goodness inside all people—including within the hearts of machete-wielding killers—empowered Immaculée to endure the unspeakable horrors of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. Immaculée shares her miraculous story of how she survived during the Rwanda genocide when she and seven other women huddled silently together in the cramped bathroom of a local pastor's house for 91 days in her captivating and inspiring book, "Left to Tell: Discovering God among the Rwandan Holocaust."



Immaculée also shows us how to embrace the power of prayer, forge a profound and lasting relationship with God, and discover the importance of forgiveness and the meaning of truly unconditional love and understanding—through our darkest hours. Four years after the Rwandan tragedy, Immaculée immigrated to the United States and began working for the United Nations in New York City. She's currently a member of the United Nations Development Program.

"Immaculée's account of genocide survival is truly astonishing. It gives us hope of overcoming the divisions deliberately created by those with self-serving agendas and no thought for humanity. . . I hope that all can experience. Immaculée's profound spiritual transformation and be inspired to work for a united and lasting nation."

—Jeannette Kagame, First Lady of the Republic of Rwanda

Please use the flyer on the following page to publicize the Riegsecker Lecture!

Riegsecker Lecture

Speaker: Immaculée Ilibagiza
March 29th

Sponsored by the Gender Studies Project

Come hear Immaculée speak about gender and leadership as she shares about surviving the Rwanda genocide in 1994 and her subsequent work on this issue as a member of the United Nations Development Program!

When: March 29th, 2007
7-8pm

Where: Parmer Cinema

Love bears all things, believes in all things, hopes in all things and endures all things. Love never ends. 1 Corinthians 13: 4-8

Gender Matters: Understanding the Emotional and Social Support Needs of Women with HIV/AIDS

By: Julie Maggi, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto & St. Michael's Hospital Mental Health Service and Tamara Daly, School of Health Policy and Management, York University

Researchers at the University of Toronto and York University, in partnership with the National Network on Environments and Women's Health (NNEWH), are currently interviewing women with HIV/AIDS in Toronto in the first phase of a study to understand more about women's emotional and social support needs, and when and under what circumstances women use formal and informal health care and social services. Examining these issues is important for three key reasons. First, the social, political, and economic context of women's lives makes some women more vulnerable to HIV/AIDS. For example, in Canada, women in prison, Aboriginal women, and black women are disproportionately infected, but we have little data on how these women, once infected, are differentially affected. Hough and colleagues report that women with the disease are also often coping with single parenthood, poverty,

and racism as well as HIV/AIDS. Our study is examining some of these issues, including what potential barriers women immigrating to Toronto from HIV/AIDS-endemic areas may face.

Second, social support is important for people with HIV/AIDS, but to date we have little understanding of the social networks that women are turning to for support. The majority of studies show that in people with HIV, friends, rather than family provide social support. In sharp contrast, however, one study specifically looking at HIV-positive women in an urban setting showed that they have few friends involved in their lives and a paucity of formal caregivers; in fact, children form the core of women's social networks. ¹ With the changing face of the HIV epidemic in Canada, we need to know more about what unique social and emotional supports women with HIV/AIDS need, given their gendered life experiences, their multiple roles (e.g., mother, partner, caregiver, worker, community participant), and what resources they are able to access, given their life circumstances.

Third, with changes to the disease's epidemiology, there has been a shift in the site of care. Since the introduction of Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy (HAART), HIV disease has become

a chronic and manageable illness for those with access to HAART. As a result, the formal provision of care has shifted from in-patient hospital care to the ambulatory setting and to the community. Given this transition, we need community and ambulatory resources that are appropriate for women with HIV.

To date, investigation of these needs is limited, particularly in Canada, but preliminary examination reveals a disconnect between hospital and community-based supports. For instance, referral patterns for formal mental health services in one downtown inner-city hospital in Canada are out of proportion with the number of women with HIV/AIDS. At this hospital, women make up a very small proportion of referrals to its specialized HIV psychiatry service, which provides ambulatory care in a mental health setting and within an HIV medical clinic. Of the 73 new patients in the program in 2002, only 5 percent were women. By 2004, the number rose to just 6 percent. In addition, health care staff have expressed concern that women seen in medical clinics are reluctant to follow up recommendations for community social and emotional support resources. This finding is consistent with another Ontario-based study of both men and women, which showed that men and women who use community-based AIDS

service organizations are less likely to use mainstream health promotion and support services. Interestingly, that study included a disproportionate number of women, yet it did not address in what ways women's service needs differ from those of men, pointing to the need for research that is gender-based.

As the HIV/AIDS epidemic evolves, it is unclear how well existing resources are tailored to the emotional and social support needs of women. By the study's conclusion, we hope to understand more about where women with HIV/AIDS go for care, whom they rely on for social and emotional support, and when and under what circumstances they choose to use the formal health care system and community agencies for care. This information will assist women with HIV/AIDS, as well as policy makers, health care administrators, and practitioners in meeting the service needs of women with HIV/AIDS.



Upcoming Campus Events!

UnLearn Week February 25-March 3

UnLearn Week's Mission

To provide a forum where as a community we can begin the process of UnLearning the false and harmful ideas, stereotypes, generalizations, and assumptions instilled by our cultural influences as we seek to become a community that embodies God's vision for diversity.

Sun Feb 25	Mon Feb 26	Tues Feb 27	Wed Feb 28	Thurs Mar 29	Fri Mar 2
<p>7:00-9:00pm Poorman Recital Hall <i>Yellow Rage-</i> Catzie and Michelle hope to provide an awareness that is not often heard. Exploring topics from fetishes to cultural appropriation to ethnic pride, Yellow Rage challenges mainstream misconception of Asianness</p> <p>(cosponsored by the Gender Studies Project)</p>	<p>7:00-8:30 pm Hostetter Chapel <i>White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son – Speaker Tim Wise anti-racist and activist</i></p> <p>8:45-9:45 pm Boyer Atrium <i>Racism at Messiah College: Does it really happen?</i> Student panel of underrepresented persons from racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds.</p>	<p>9:45-10:30am Common Chapel – Jim Wallis</p> <p>7:00-9:00pm Issachar's Loft <i>Public Lecture: Jim Wallis</i> Time to allow student interaction and conversation with Tim Wise and the material he presented.</p>	<p>7:00-8:30 pm Boyer 131 <i>UnLearning Disabilities-</i>Dr. Keith Drahn and student panel Sponsored by: Disability Services</p> <p>The speaker will open with a presentation. Then we will listen to the autobiographies and reflections of current Messiah students who have disabilities.</p>	<p>9:45am Common Chapel Speaker: Sherry Mortenson</p> <p>7:00-8:00pm Fry 110 <i>Border Crossing: Who's to blame?</i> – HieraId Osorto, Peacebuilding and Demilitarization Committee member for AFSC</p> <p>8:15-9:15 pm Fry 110 <i>UnLearning Capitalism –</i> Liliana Nealon</p> <p>Presentation & discussion of capitalistic working environment and the problems with capitalism being deemed as the solution.</p>	

Black History Month

Thursday, February 1 – Wednesday, February 28th, 2007

Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Programs

Tuesday, February 6

Alternate Chapel: Chisholm '72 Unbought and Unbossed

In 1972, Shirley Chisholm became not only the first black woman in Congress, but also the first woman to run for the nation's highest office—demanding that the body politic actually represent all the American people. Dr Robin Lauermann and the Messiah College Democrats will facilitate a discussion pushing us as Christians to engage this untold history and question why its remained untold.

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Boyer 134

Facilitators: Dr. Robin Lauermann and the Messiah College Democrats

Sponsored by the Gender Studies Project.

Thursday, February 8

Elective Chapel: Just Praise

9:45am-10:30 a.m.

Hostetter Chapel

Messiah College Past, Present and Future

A panel of African American and African alumni will be talking about their personal experiences here at Messiah College and express how these impacted their faith journeys. Following will be a talk-back session; a time for current students to engage their own journeys and reflection on the hope for reconciliation at Messiah College.

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Frey 110

Sponsored by the Alumni Office.

Saturday and Sunday, February 10-11

Remembering our Past, Understanding our Present

Overnight trip to Philadelphia, PA to visit historical sights, meet community leaders, and learn about the role of African American students at the Messiah Philadelphia Campus during the 1960s.

Monday, February 12

Alternate Chapel Film and Discussion: Let the Church Say Amen

Relive one year in the daily life surrounding World Missions for Christ Church in the Bloomingdale neighborhood of Washington, D.C. Dr. Lawrence Burnley will facilitate a discussion on the challenges and hopes of a community whose strength comes from the powerful faith of a storefront church of modest resources but great spiritual power.

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Parmer Cinema

Facilitator: Dr. Lawrence Burnley

Thursday, February 15

Alternate Chapel Film and Discussion: Forgiveness

Experience one of the most moving and complex films on the seminal theme of truth and reconciliation to have been produced in South Africa. Through sand-swept roads, wind driven clouds and pounding surf, feel the passage and wear of time, our unresolved relation to the past, not forgetting it but forgiving it, letting go and moving on into the future.

7:00-8:30 p.m.

Parmer Cinema

Facilitator: TBA

Wednesday, March 14

Alternate Chapel Film and Discussion: 4 Little Girls

When a bomb tears through the basement of a black Baptist church on September 15, 1963, it takes the lives of four young girls. This racially motivated crime sparks the nation's outrage and helps fuel the civil rights movement sweeping across the country. Discussion will be facilitated by Hieraal Osorto calling the Christian community to reflect on our untold past.

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Parmer Cinema

Facilitator: Hieraal Osorto

We would love to hear from you! If you have ideas or submissions for *Who I Am* please contact McKenzie Griffin, Box 5540, email GenderStudies@messiah.edu or stop by the Gender Studies Project office in Hoffman 315
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