



AAUW
DAVIS

THE SPOKESWOMAN

Volume 52 Number 4

April 2016

Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

REPORTS- UNA Davis

On March 3, we co-sponsored a UNA Davis presentation in honor of International Women's Day (March 8). The speaker was Rev. Kristin Stoneking, Executive Director of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR). She talked about her journey as an advocate in the peace movement. Rev. Stoneking was previously director of Cal Aggie Christian Assoc. and was also involved with the establishment of a multi-faith living community at UCD.

She discussed FOR as a non-inclusive entity in its beginnings until Anna Rochester and her female partner traveled and wrote the FOR newsletter. They pointed out the disparity with privilege and those marginalized by the old colonial power structure.

Kristin spoke about her own experiences as a lesbian and a pastor. She was at first denied the ministry because of being a lesbian, but was ultimately ordained. She has recently been a part of the Black Lives Matter movement in Ferguson and was active in training activists to work toward trust as a key issue in reconciliation and peacekeeping.

After a question and answer period, Rev. Stoneking challenged the audience to direct their energies toward creating peace and justice in their community.

UNA Davis president, Verena Borton, thanked Kristin and the co-sponsors of the event. She then presented Stoneking with a symbolic Peace Rose.

An excellent write-up of this event was written by Funke Aderonmu, (UN member). Contact Juliana if you would like a copy of the article.

PIC

REPORT- Women's History

At the Women's History Month Luncheon on March 10, Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye was the guest speaker. The Community Center in Woodland's main room was filled. Several other judges, attorneys, and politicians were present in addition to members of AAUW Woodland and Davis, library personnel, and other community service groups.

Chief Justice Tani C-S is the 28th Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, and is the first Asian-Filipina American and the second woman to serve as the state's chief justice. She is a Sacramento native, and attended Sac City College, UCD, and Martin Luther King, Jr. School of law.

The judge credited her mother with much of her drive and resulting success. Her mother told her daughter to "get your foot in the door" and "try your best". In her upbringing, she experienced her "aunties" organizing events and bringing the family together, thus learning collaboration and organization firsthand. She had those models of seeing bossy underneath a quiet exterior. She quoted Nancy Reagan: A woman is "like a tea bag- you don't know how strong it is until it gets into hot water".

The Judge had "lowly" jobs (waitressing, working at Hunt's) from which she learned how to deal with angry people. She worked behind the scenes (not in the spotlight) to help herself grow professionally, and in the DA's office, was successful with just her innate skills and being a quick study.

As an attorney, she was sent to unhappy legislators or organizations and was told to listen and report back. She

learned to be fearless and get through bad press and shouting. In 2004, Governor Deukmajian placed her as one of the youngest judges in Municipal Court for 7 years. She said this experience was like having a 5th, 6th, or 7th year in law school. She credited Chief Justice George with encouraging different ethnicities and gender to be represented in the courts.

There is a female majority in the California Supreme Court, and there are certainly different points of view. Judge Tani Cantil-Sakauye 'got her foot in the door' and then stepped into the room.

During the question and answer period from the audience, she was praised as an excellent impromptu speaker. (She had used no notes). She thanked her college debate coach's teaching her that impromptu is a form of survival.

When asked why she got into law, she explained that her family was evicted, and when they fought and lost, the court procedure humiliated her mother. She vowed to make a difference.

The Judge discussed the difference between the CA Supreme Court and the Federal Court. In California, when one judge dies, is sick, or is yet to be sworn, an interim judge is appointed. That is not the provision for the national situation. She also pointed out that during budget troubles, much of the funding for the courts was cut, and has not been reinstated.

Besides funding, Judge Cantil-Sakauye said that legislators need to discuss drug addiction being a medical problem- but easily leading to crime; bail schedules set where the poor must stay in jail, while dangerous criminals can buy their way back to the street; and an intern program for law students to receive a stipend and to work in the courts which would help expand their view and see democracy in action.

After vigorous applause for the Judge, the WHML President announced the monies raised and donated to the library. Ed. note: I felt the program was excellent as was the

food by the Anderson Family Catering, and plan to attend future luncheons. AAUW Davis also donated for the program.

REPORT- HUMAN TRAFFICKING

On March 10, we joined Sacramento AAUW in their program to bring human trafficking to the attention of the community. Despite terrible rain downpour conditions and horrific traffic tie-ups (over 1½ hours to get from Davis to St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Sacramento), eight of us attended the eye-opening presentation (Rhonda, Leslie, Marti, Rose Mary, Marlene, Elaine, Celida and Juliana).

Before the panel began, we had Marti's donated quilt on display and sold a few raffle tickets. Unfortunately, due to the weather, we had all arrived late and most of the audience was already seated.

Serving on the panel were: Jenny Williamson, Executive Director of Courage Worldwide; Jan Scully, Director of Family Justice Center and former Sac County DA; Sonia Satchell, member of the Human Trafficking task Force and Deputy DA of Sac; Holly Gibbs, survivor and Health Educator Director with the Patient Care Service Program at Dignity Health.



When Jenny Williamson first heard about Human Trafficking, she pictured Cambodia and other places far away. Although she calls herself “just a mom”, she wanted to do something for children after hearing about Sacramento being a hub for trafficking. She joined a task force and eventually helped raise funds to buy land, build a cottage and school for rescued girls. She named it Courage House. She provided animals, music, art therapy and counseling specific to each girl’s trauma. The children who were “saved” from their captivity were very stressed and needed a person to “take care of them” to replace their captor “parent”.

Through fundraising and experience, she learned that if the girls stayed at the Courage House LESS than 12 months with specific therapy, 80% would return to the trafficker, versus after 18-24 months, only 23% would run away and go back.

Jan Scully has worked with trafficking issues for 36 years prosecuting “adults”. That is what Penal Code 647b required. Prostituting meant jail with no probation. Probation would allow for service to be given plus a rechecking system. So once out of jail, they (the children) would go back to their dysfunctional family or pimp.

To say that prostitution is a victimless crime is not true. Juvenile girls do get caught and can be detained at Juvenile Hall. These girls are flight risks, and need counseling. Only after they get support will they testify against their “captors”.

Scully believes we need a community effort, not a private agency and not a prosecutor. We need a different way to approach the victims (sex slaves). She praises the Family Justice Center for its support. If a person leaves the jail or pimp, she has access for help in ONE place, not five different organizations or departments (food stamps, housing, education, job search, money, emotional and physical therapy).

Family Justice Center does not diminish the work of these organizations, but can direct girls and get restraining orders. See: hopethriveshere.com. Also, there are not necessarily increases in crimes (i.e., dating violence), but The Family Justice Center is finding the incidents sooner and dealing with them better.

Sonia Satchell, Deputy DA, noted that 3 detectives are assigned to deal specifically with trafficking. They are from the Sheriff's Dept. and Police Dept. As hard as they work, they need more resources. They must deal with Foster care abuse, gangs, domestic violence (which covers no simple situations):

- with fights over money, a wife can be pushed into prostitution

- children can rebel and find another "daddy"

- girls can recruit others from foster homes

- girls see a way out by doing it "once"

- some are told to sell drugs or else suffer

Recruiting takes place all over Sacramento, without regard to race or economics. It can take place online with 'followers'.

When contacted by the police, there is a problem of where to put the offenders. They need stabilization right away or they will recant in the courtroom. Every county has a different set-up to help at risk children. Now law enforcement is getting together to figure out how to deal with the domestic violence, foster home, runaway, situations, etc. We need victim advocates right away. Sacramento is leading the nation by attacking this problem head on.

Holly Gibbs is a survivor of being used for underage sex. In 1992 she was picked up by a guy in the mall. They talked over the phone. He complimented her and gave her a reason to skip school and go off to a wonderful lifestyle with him in L.A.

She decided to run away with him. Within hours she was trafficked to New Jersey, a motel room, and sold to a guy for \$200. She was told she was a whore.

Instead of anger or fear, she got angry with herself for being stupid. She blamed herself, so did not run. It was obvious that she was too young to be dressed like a prostitute, but no one who saw her or used her offered to help.

She was eventually arrested, but the police treated her as a criminal, and she had a very negative interaction with them. She shut down emotionally. She was sent to an ER (again treated harshly), to a foster group home with no program in place to HELP her, only to PUNISH her. There was no therapy for prostitution. She needed a special place and specific therapy. These young people were often put in a drug or homeless shelter.

Her original vulnerability got her a trouble and made her a target. No one noticed or stepped in to help. She is now stepping in to help others as a Health Educator in Patient Care at Dignity Health.

Summary: special, individual care, then immediate and long-term therapy is needed for children of trafficking or domestic violence. Opening Doors and My Sister's House are two helpful organizations. www.CourageWorldwide.org is a link, and the National Human Trafficking Resource Center is at 1.888.3737.888 and www.acf.hhs.gov/trafficking.

FUTURE EVENTS

At this time, no Celebrate the 19th is planned.

We are having our annual business meeting on **April 11 at 5:30** at Village Pizza and Grill on G Street. Several members have told me they cannot come. Thank you. Please RSVP if you will be there so we can buy your complimentary pizza and salad accurately. We will vote in the slate of officers and take

volunteers for committees. 530-758-3011.
carwells@thegrid.net

Picnic Day is April 16. Some of our student UCD chapter members will be active for AAUW that day.

A yard sale on April 30 is tentatively scheduled. This is to raise money for Tech Trek. If you cannot help, please consider donating special for the program.

VOLUNTEER HELP

If you want to give input or volunteer to help with the quilt fundraiser, please notify a board member or Juliana.

Also, please give Juliana any report or information you want published in the newsletter.

CALENDAR

April 11- Business meeting at 5:30 at Village Pizza

April 16- Picnic Day

April 19- Celebrate the 19th

April 30- yard sale at 320 I Street for Tech Trek

MAY 3- Board meeting at Chithra's 6:15

MAY 14- alternate or additional yard sale

June 5- at Sudwerk, Installation Luncheon

Be as active as you wish, but stay a member. You count!



DAVIS (CA)
BRANCH

Davis Branch

PO Box 4165

Davis CA 95617

www.aauwdavis.org

PLEASE SAVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

Officers for 2015-2016

Co-Executive Officers: Rhonda: 297-0460

Shahla: 304-2844

Estelle: 758-8603

Membership/Treasurer: Gail: 756-1207

Board Members: Parto: 750-2556

Chithra: 759-9621

Sharon: (203) 314-8263

Spokeswoman: Juliana: 758-3011