

Human Rights Podcasts

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Dr. Elisabeth Reichert: Social Work and Human Rights

In this episode, Dr. Elisabeth Reichert traces the history of the human rights movement and addresses the role of social work in that movement. She discusses the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights, political, civil, social, and economic rights, and women's rights, and compares the concepts of universal versus culturally relative human rights. She concludes with a discussion of the role of international education and improved understanding of human rights.

Dr. Michael Reisch: The State of Social Work Education

In this episode, the first of two parts, Dr. Michael Reisch describes the role that social work education has in facilitating the emerging professional's understanding of the institutional and structural inequalities facing oppressed and disenfranchised people. He also discusses the necessity for social work to reconnect with its historical mission of directly addressing social injustice.



Dr. Claude Welch: Spotlight on Human Rights

In this episode, Dr. Claude Welch, Jr. explains his contention that human rights can be violated as a result of economic structures. Currently, the issues involved in our response to the economic crisis and U.S. health care reform speak to our society's commitment to protect the human rights of its citizens. Dr. Welch describes the economic conditions that underlie problems such as poverty, housing, and working conditions that create inequality in a wealthy, capitalist society such as the United States.

Arati Maleku: Human Migration in the 21st Century

Human migration is a natural phenomenon as old as humanity. Some people leave their places of origin to escape natural or human-caused calamities. Others leave to find better economic circumstances. And, for some, it may be the adventure of new and exciting experiences. In this episode, Arati Maleku discusses current trends in human migration, explains some of migration's challenges and opportunities, and offers suggestions on social work practice with migrant populations.



Michael Boucai: The Impact and Ramifications of the Recent Supreme Court Rulings Regarding Same-Sex Marriage

In this episode, Law Professor Michael Boucai discusses the recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions related to the Defense of Marriage Act and California's Proposition 8. He describes the specifics of those rulings and the practical effects the rulings produce at the level of people's everyday lives and social practices.



Agnes Williams: Native Americans and a Human Rights and Trauma-Informed Perspective

In this episode, Ms. Agnes Williams, a member of the Seneca Nation, uses her Nation's experience as a context to discuss cultural appreciation. She also explores the concept of historical trauma as well as the ideals of human rights and social justice, and how those ideals have been compromised. Additionally, she reflects on her work with social work student interns and the need to take affirmative steps to provide support for Native American social work students.

Dr. Patricia Shannon: Peeling the Fear from the Past: Building Community Capacities for Healing Refugee Trauma as a Human Rights Strategy

In this episode, Dr. Patricia Shannon discusses her research related to the impact of war trauma and torture on the mental health of resettling refugee communities. Our guest describes research on the state of mental health screening practices based on a recent national survey and findings from her recent focus groups on the mental health of Karen, Bhutanese, Oromo and Somali refugees. Dr. Shannon describes efforts to develop community capacity for meeting the mental health needs of refugees and how community based healing can be utilized as a strategy to address the larger context of international human rights.



Christin Mary: India's Invisible Maids

In this episode, Christin Mary of the National Domestic Workers Movement describes her work advocating, organizing, and participating in social action to empower exploited domestic workers in India. Young women, typically from impoverished rural areas, are trafficked into cities, where their human rights are violated. Our guest describes her organization's efforts in organizing and empowering these women, as well as the legislative successes they have realized.

Dr. Manisha Joshi: Attitudes Toward Intimate Partner Violence Among Women in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan

In this episode, Dr. Manisha Joshi utilizes a unique lens to look at a familiar topic. She describes her research regarding the role of changing attitudes related to intimate partner violence (IPV) in three Central Asian countries. Dr. Joshi discusses what she has learned about the context in which IPV occurs in these countries and its impact on help-seeking and reporting behavior of the women who live there.



Dr. Jan Ivery and Dr. M. Lori Thomas: Aging in Place on the Streets: Homelessness Among Older Adults

Drs. Jan Ivery and M. Lori Thomas discuss the findings of their research with the often overlooked older adult homeless population. Our guests describe the challenges of meeting the unique needs of this population and the contradictions that are raised as the older adult homeless population burgeons.

