

# preventIPV

tools for social change

Girls for Gender Equity: Centering Girls of Color within the Racial and Gender Justice Movement of the 21st Century

Tuesday October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
3:00 - 4:30pm EST

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## The IPV Prevention Council

- **History:** Formed in 2011 as a voluntary association of domestic violence coalitions
- **Vision:** A future in which a wide network of collaborative and sustained primary prevention efforts lead to the social change necessary to end IPV




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## The IPV Prevention Council

- **Goal:** A unified national voice for prevention
- **Purpose:**
  1. Promote prevention as a sustainable priority for coalitions and local domestic violence programs
  2. Proactively engage federal partners, funders, and allied organizations to promote IPV prevention as a critical component of ending domestic and sexual violence

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## The IPV Prevention Council

- **Steering Committee Leadership:**

- Kristi VanAudenhove, *Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Action Alliance*
- Deborah DeBare, *Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence*
- Janelle Moos, *North Dakota Council on Abused Women's Services*
- Gloria Aguilera Terry, *Texas Council on Family Violence*

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[PreventIPV.org](http://PreventIPV.org)



Resources

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## Today's Presenters



**Joanne N. Smith**  
Founder & Executive  
Director  
Girls for Gender Equity



**Kelly Miller**  
Executive Director  
Idaho Coalition Against  
Sexual & Domestic  
Violence

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**Girls for Gender Equity: Centering Girls of Color within the Racial and Gender Justice Movement of the 21st Century**

Joanne N. Smith, Founder and Executive Director

Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
3:00 - 4:30pm Eastern / 2:00 - 3:30pm Central /  
12:00 - 1:30pm Pacific

@GGENYC

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**Polling question Slide**



How many  
organizations work  
directly with young  
women of color?

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**Mission**

Girls for Gender Equity is an intergenerational organization committed to the physical, psychological, social and economic development of girls and women. Through education, organizing and physical fitness, Girls for Gender Equity encourages communities to remove barriers and create opportunities for girls and women to live self-determined lives.

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Girls for Gender Equity (GGE), is a leading advocacy and service delivery organization working to include the voices and experiences of young women of color within the current racial justice movement.

Supporting **intergenerational movement** building with **cis and trans, girls and young women of color and gender nonconforming young people** begins by seeing their often untapped leadership and advocacy potential.

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### Useful Definitions

**Cisgender Person:** is a term for someone who has a **gender** identity that aligns with what they were assigned at birth. The term was created for referring to "non-transgender" people without alienating transgender people.

**Transgender Person:** is a term for someone who identifies with a different gender from the gender they were assigned at birth. For example: your birth certificate says male, and you identify as a woman.

**Gender nonconforming** refers to people who do not follow other people's ideas or stereotypes about how they should look or act based on the female or male sex they were assigned at birth.

**Intersectionality:** Is a theory that seeks to examine the ways in which various socially and culturally constructed categories interact on multiple levels to manifest themselves as inequality in society. Intersectionality holds that the classical models of **oppression** within society, such as those based on [race/ethnicity](#), [gender](#), [religion](#), [nationality](#), [sexual orientation](#), [class](#), or [disability](#), do not act independently of one another; instead, these forms of oppression interrelate creating a system of oppression that reflects the "intersection" of multiple forms of [discrimination](#). Intersectionality was coined by scholar Kimberle Crenshaw, PhD

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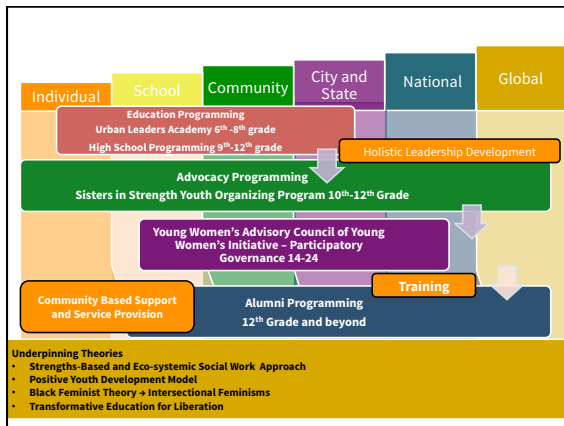
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Urban Leaders Academy



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Urban Leaders Academy



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**Sisters in Strength**



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**3. Community**



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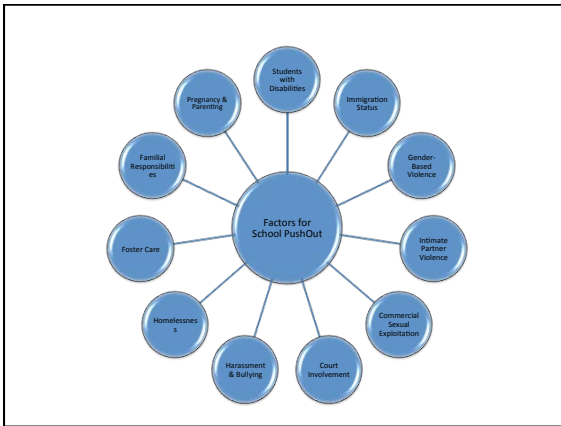
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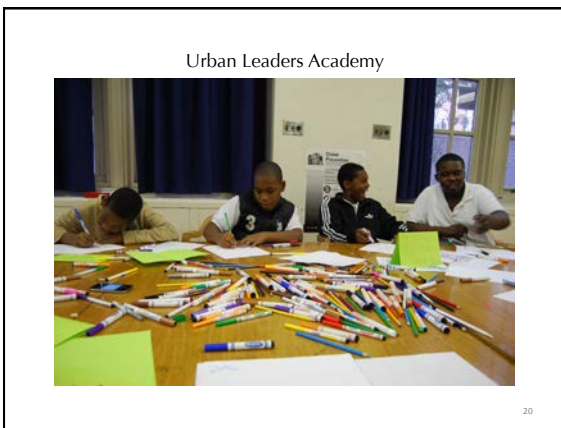
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**YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE NYC**

126 million for a cross agency enterprise over three years "...to tackle the crisis facing it's [NYC's] young Black and Latino Men.

**My Brother's Keeper -**  
300 Million national initiative to address persistent opportunity gaps faced by men and boys of color

**My Brother's Keeper**

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We know that girls of color, in particular, Black girls in the United States are in crisis. They face significant barriers to educational achievement, economic and political equality, and are the recipients of deeply embedded racial and gender biases in the media, public policy, research and philanthropy.

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**Facts About the Crisis Facing Girls of Color in Education**

- Black girls (12 percent), American Indian/Alaska Native girls (7 percent) and Hispanic girls (4 percent) are more likely to be suspended from school than their White peers (2 percent)
- Black girls are more likely than their white peers to report sexual harassment that makes them feel unsafe both in school and on their way to school; LGBTQ youth of color are especially vulnerable to such harassment
- Black girls are more likely to report having been threatened or injured with a weapon on school property, forced to have sexual intercourse, and to have experienced dating violence when compared to other girls of color;
- Nearly half of transgender students report regularly skipping school because of safety concerns, and nearly 1 in 6 transgender and gender nonconforming students face harassment so severe they are forced to leave school.
- Students of color with disabilities are suspended and expelled at a rate roughly twice that of their non-disabled peers.

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**Facts About the Crisis Facing Girls of Color  
Economic Insecurity**

**Young women of color face high poverty rate and harsh economic prospects in adulthood:**

- Girlhood adversities accumulate and result in worse educational outcomes for girls of color and, in turn, higher rates of poverty and economic insecurity in young adulthood and throughout their lives. Black women, in particular, are overrepresented in the city's low-wage work force compared to their male peers: Black women's share of the low-wage work force is twice that of their share in the workforce overall, while Black men's share of the overall workforce and low-wage workforce is the same.
- Black and Latina women comprise 86% of female headed household with children under 10 in New York City-households that are three times more likely to live in poverty.
- Girls of color face distinct forms of gender-based discrimination and violence in their communities and their schools that adversely impact their well-being and stand in the way of their educational and economic opportunities.

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**Facts About the Crisis Facing Girls of Color  
in Child Welfare System**

- **Girls of color are overrepresented in the city's child welfare system, which too often fails to provide girls with safety and support services to recover from abuse and trauma.**
- Girls of color report that they often do not receive appropriate interventions. One study based interviews with girls in the city's congregate foster care facilities found that unsafe living conditions—including sexual abuse and physical abuse by staff and other youth in some congregate care settings—was a significant problem the warranted further examination. This may partially explain why girls of color are overrepresented in the population of youth who “crossover” from the city's foster care system into the juvenile justice system.
- In addition, disruptions in education and lack of connection to permanent homes for older girls, and lack of LGBTQ affirming services remain significant challenges for girls in the city's foster care system.

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**Facts About the Crisis Facing Girls of Color  
Juvenile (In)Justice System**

- As of 2010, Black girls represented 36 percent of females in the juvenile justice system.
- Exclusionary discipline practices and high rates of exposure to sexual violence, also result in increased risk of incarceration for girls of color. Indeed girls of color are rapidly growing as a share of the criminal justice population and LGBTQ girls of color are especially overrepresented.
- Moreover 60 percent of the LGBT youth in the juvenile justice system are Black and Latino.
- Once inside the city's juvenile justice system, girls of color encounter a system that is ill-equipped to address the underlying adversities—related to violence exposure and survival in high poverty communities—that drive them into the system in the first place.

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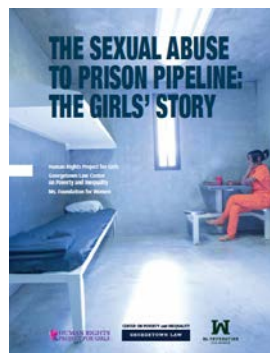
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Many girls who experience sexual abuse are routed into the juvenile justice system because of their victimization.

Sexual abuse is one of the primary predictors of girls' entry into the juvenile justice system.

- A particularly glaring example is when girls who are victims of sex trafficking are arrested on prostitution charges—punished as perpetrators rather than served and supported as victims and survivors.



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### Facts About the Crisis Facing Girls of Color Juvenile (In)Justice System

- A 16-year study published in *Pediatrics*, found that girls exiting the juvenile justice system are *five* times more likely to die a violent death by age 25 than their female peers who are not justice involved, while boys are *three* times more likely to die than their peers who are not justice involved.
- The same study found that Latinas are *nine* times more likely to experience the same, while Latinos are *five* times more likely. These striking findings in regards to the unique impact of justice involvement on mortality rates for young women of color demand targeted.

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### #WhyWeCantWait




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### BREAKING SILENCE



Town hall — CALL TO ACTION  
<https://youtu.be/QqD7r1bkK4Y>

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## Black Lives Matter



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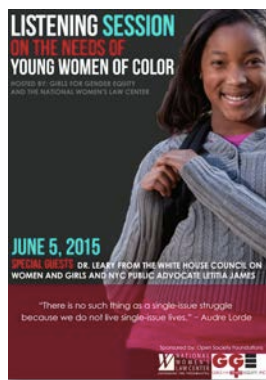
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## White House Advocacy



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Young Women's Initiative - 20 million for a cross agency enterprise over two years "...to tackle the crisis facing it's [NYC's] cis, trans and gender non conforming YWOC.



New York City must support every young woman.



Advancing Equity for Women and Girls of Color Initiative – Partnering with Prosperity Together and Anna Julia Cooper commitments

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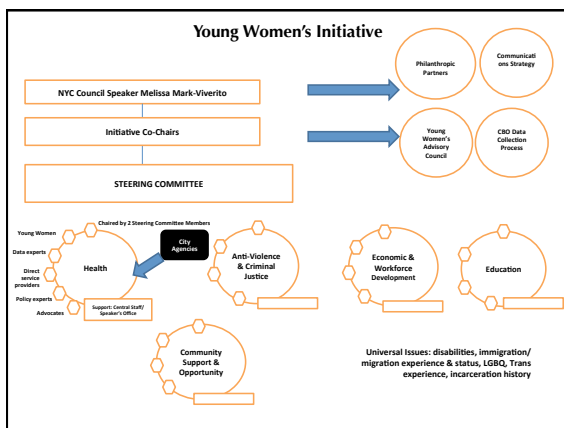
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**Young Women's Advisory Council**



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### Building Power: Young Women's Advisory Council



A Participatory Governance Program Model for a National Young Women's Initiative  
— by Girls for Gender Equity



#### Next Steps

- ★ Building Power: Young Women's Advisory Council Report (GGENYC.ORG)
- ★ Connect people as well as connect folks who are disconnected
- ★ Support National Young Women's Initiative efforts
- ★ Complete short survey and receive YWAC report

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### Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls



- Three black women in congress made history on Tuesday when they announced the formation of the first and only Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls.
- U.S. Reps. (from Left–Right) - Robin Kelly (D-Ill.), Yvette D. Clarke (D-N.Y.) and Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-N.J.) confirmed the news in a press release issued by the U.S. House of Representatives. The release described the caucus as a group devoted to creating public policy that “eliminates significant barriers and disparities experienced by black women.”

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### Visioning Session



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## Media



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## Philanthropy



*Novo Foundation Leading the way with:*

- *National Convening of 100 grant makers*
- *90 Million dollar commitment to girls of color*
- *Indigenous Communities in North America*
- *Women's Building in NYC - formerly Bayview Women's Prison*

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## Concrete Steps

Girls of color face deep systemic injustices in schools and communities. We should prioritize opportunity for girls of color by taking concrete action to:

- Listen to your girls and young women you serve and their families, they are identifying their needs daily.
- Ensure that you work with them through an intersectional lens (Gender/Race/Class).
- Challenge your own implicit bias about people of color - Have a conversation about anti-black racism and sexism using the tools at your disposal (google, youtube, local agencies)
- Support the leadership of girls and women of color within the work and your agency.

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All social justice efforts benefit when we invest in young women's leadership— whether we are talking about immigration rights; racial justice, environmental justice, — when we invest in girls and women's leadership—and organize with an intersectional approach—we are much more successful at advancing every single social justice issue.

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## Thank You



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## Contact

Joanne N. Smith  
 Founder and Executive Director  
 Girls for Gender Equity  
 Email: [jsmith@ggenyc.org](mailto:jsmith@ggenyc.org)  
[www.ggenyc.org](http://www.ggenyc.org)

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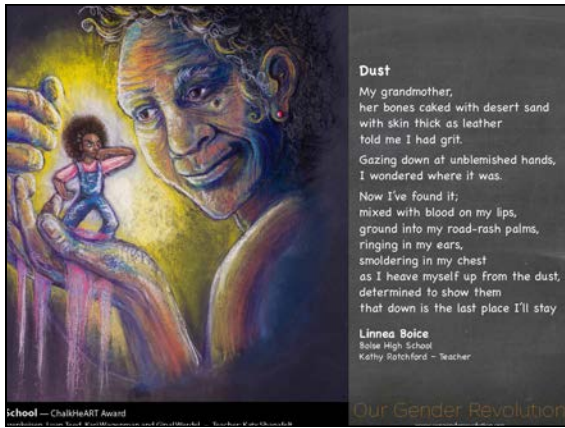
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## Want more info?

- **Joanne N. Smith**, Executive Director, Girls for Gender Equity, [jsmith@ggenyc.org](mailto:jsmith@ggenyc.org) [Ggenyc.org](http://Ggenyc.org)
- **Kelly Miller**, Executive Director, Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence, [kelly@engagingvoices.org](mailto:kelly@engagingvoices.org) [idvsa.org](http://idvsa.org)
- **Jonathan Yglesias**, Prevention Practice Advisor, Prevent IPV Project, [jyglesias@vsdalliance.org](mailto:jyglesias@vsdalliance.org) [PreventIPV.org](http://PreventIPV.org)

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## Coming Soon

- **Engagement and Innovation:** Content and resource expansions to these sections of PreventIPV.org



click to

SUBSCRIBE



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## THANK YOU!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO HELP GROW  
THIS PREVENTION COMMUNITY!

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