

Civil Rights, Human Rights and Race: An Applied Legal Scholarship Symposium

Co-Sponsors:

Howard University School of Law – Constitutional Law Center

Global Rights

The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

NAACP-LDF

US Human Rights Network

Friday December 14, 2007

Opening Plenary: Anti-discrimination versus Non-discrimination: Which Way Towards Racial Justice? (3:00 – 4:45 pm)

Marjorie Cohn – Associate Professor, Thomas Jefferson School of Law

Aderson B. Francois – Assistant Professor and Director of Civil Rights Clinic, Howard University School of Law

Stephen Menendian, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity; The Ohio State University Law School [moderator]

Ronald Turner – George Butler Research Professor and Alumnae Law Center Professor of Law, University of Houston Law Center [respondent]

Saturday December 15, 2007

Panel 1 – Educate or Incarcerate: Zero-Tolerance Policies, Student Discipline and Discrimination (9:30 – 11:00 am)

Bernardine Dohrn – Children & Family Justice Center, Northwestern University School of Law [respondent]

Maya Harris – Executive Director, ACLU-Northern California [moderator]

Damon Hewitt – NAACP-LDF

Liz Sullivan - National Economic and Social Rights Initiative

Deborah Fowler – Legal Director, Texas Appleseed

Break (11:00-11:15 am)

Panel 2 – The Right to Return: Katrina, the Rights of Internally Displaced Peoples, and Discrimination (11:15 am – 12:45 pm)

Kali Akuno – Executive Director, Peoples’ Hurricane Relief Fund

Lisa Crooms – Professor and Director, Howard University School of Law Constitutional Law Center

Monique Harden – Advocates for Environmental Human Rights

Cheryl Harris – Professor, UCLA Law School [respondent]

Avis Jones-Deweever – National Council of Negro Women

Break 12:45 – 1:00 pm

Lunch - Roundtable Discussion: Addressing Racial Discrimination – Is There Value Added by Shifting from Civil Rights to Human Rights? (1:00 – 2:30 pm)

Barbara Arnwine – Executive Director, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Ajamu Baraka – Executive Director, US Human Rights Network

Salih Booker – Executive Director, Global Rights

Wade Henderson – Executive Director, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

Dean Kurt L. Schmoke, Howard University School of Law (moderator)

Theodore Shaw – Director Counsel, NAACP-LDF

Break (2:30-2:45 pm)

Panel 3 – Crime and Suffrage: Felony Disfranchisement, the Right to Vote, and Discrimination (2:45- 4:15 pm)

Margaret Huang - Director, Program Director, U.S. Racial Discrimination Program (moderator)

Ryan King – Policy Analyst, The Sentencing Project

Nsombi Lambright - Executive Director, ACLU Mississippi

Anthony Witherspoon – President, NAACP-McComb County, Mississippi Branch

Marcia Johnson-Blanco – Staff Attorney, Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Closing Session (4:30 – 5:15 pm)

Human Rights and Discrimination: The Way Forward

Gay McDougall - Distinguished Scholar in Residence, Washington College of Law,
American University

Lisa Crooms – Professor, Howard University School of Law
Director, Constitutional Law Center

This event is free, but space is limited. If you would like to attend, please respond to raceandrights@gmail.com. All panels will be held at the Howard University School of Law (2900 Van Ness Street, NW; Washington, DC – at the Van Ness/UDC stop on the Metro Red Line).