



**ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER  
AGENTS OF CHANGE:  
DISRUPTING GENDER VIOLENCE  
DEFINING GENDER DEMOCRACY**

**ASIAN PACIFIC INSTITUTE ON  
GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

**2018 NATIONAL SUMMIT**

**AUGUST 5-7, 2018  
OMNI HOTEL AT CALIFORNIA PLAZA  
LOS ANGELES, CA**

# ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER AGENTS OF CHANGE: DISRUPTING GENDER VIOLENCE | DEFINING GENDER DEMOCRACY

August 5-7 2018 | Omni Hotel | Los Angeles, California

The Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence invites you to join 300 colleagues at our national summit for cutting-edge analysis and discussion on critical issues and trends affecting immigrant and refugee survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence and harassment, trafficking, abusive international marriages, etc., in our communities.

**Sponsorship:** We wish to make it possible for as many advocates as possible to attend, and to evenly distribute financial support for agencies needing it by sponsoring two hotel nights and partial airfare based on need. **Programs receiving support will be contacted directly, and sponsored attendees will use the regular registration link.**

## WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- ◆ Advocates, front line staff, community organizers, and executive directors addressing gender-based violence in Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (API) communities to include:
  - Programs for API survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, trafficking, and other forms of family violence
  - Multi-service API agencies with a domestic violence program
  - Pan-ethnic domestic violence organizations with API programs staffed by advocates from the community
  - Systems advocates working with API survivors
- ◆ Policy makers addressing gender-based violence, civil rights, civic engagement in API communities
- ◆ National domestic violence organizations, state coalitions, technical assistance and training providers
- ◆ Researchers, students
- ◆ Funders

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## AUGUST 5-7, 2018

Sunday, August 5, 2018	4:00pm - 7:00pm
Monday, August 6, 2018	8:30am - 5:30pm
Tuesday, August 7, 2018	8:30am - 4:30pm

## OMNI LOS ANGELES HOTEL @ CALIFORNIA PLAZA

251 South Olive Street, Los Angeles CA 90014

For reservations: (213) 617-3300

## REGISTRATION

**Fee** \$150

**Link:** [api-gbv.org/2018Summit-Registration](http://api-gbv.org/2018Summit-Registration)

**Deadline for registration and hotel booking:** July 6, 2018

**Deadline for sponsored attendees:** June 15, 2018

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### All general queries:

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### Sponsorship/financial support:

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### Hotel confirmation for sponsored attendees only:

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A large, stylized blue dandelion seed head is positioned on the right side of the page. Several individual dandelion seeds with long, thin stems are scattered across the upper left and center of the page, appearing to blow away from the main seed head. The entire illustration is rendered in a solid blue color.

## OUR THEME

**A**sian and Pacific Islander advocates have been confronting the communities, systems and cultures in which we work, live and play to expose the traumatic inequalities that arise from misogyny, sexism, racism, colorism, patriarchy, and homo- and transphobia. Their strength also shines in the advocacy they provide, the movements they lead, the social capital they invest and grow, the cultural change they engender, the borders they bridge in solidarity with others, and the fundamental rights to safety, well-being and love they strengthen for all of us.

**H**istorically, women face an overwhelming trifecta of gender-based violence: in state structures, in the home, and on the streets. The vulnerability and danger of immigrant and refugee Asian and Pacific Islander women, LGBTQ and other historically-marginalized survivors are further compounded by the wide range of API cultural and patriarchal contexts and intersectional identities.

**G**ender democracy is a set of principles where relationships are not marked by gender-specific mechanisms of power and domination; all identities are seen as equally valid and are not marginalized or based on the traditional gender order; patriarchal structures do not determine social relations; and gender plays no part in the distribution of labor, positional authority, or power.

**I**n our formulation, the principles of gender equality (equal rights), gender equity (fairness) and gender justice (accountability for gender-based violations) roll up into the concept of gender democracy – a dynamic process between people that can forge fundamental shifts in the gender order, replacing relationships of power with relationships of meaning.

**U**nderlying themes that anchor advocacy in API communities will be integrated throughout to build intersectional solidarity and address:

- ◆ LGBTQ inclusion
- ◆ Trauma-informed care
- ◆ Critical analysis of culture
- ◆ Analyses of gender and patriarchy that intersect with race analysis
- ◆ Strategies that enhance systems and community engagement



# SUMMIT GOALS

Amplifying safety and well-being for survivors and defining our narratives for gender-democracy

- ◆ To enhance our understanding and analysis of the critical issues and trans-national and U.S. trends affecting Asian and Pacific Islander survivors of gender-based violence
- ◆ To weave the strands of culturally-specific services, trauma-informed care, evidence-informed practices, community engagement, community-based research, and systems and policy change into the fabric of our work
- ◆ To deepen connections within our API intersectional identities, ethnicities, and demographic diversity
- ◆ To build collaborations with systems so they are not barriers, but gateways, to services
- ◆ To identify how we can interrogate culture and shape new cultural norms that divest from gender violence/sexism and invest in gender democracy/equality/equity/justice
- ◆ To anchor and elevate the leadership of women and historically marginalized groups in our API communities
- ◆ To bridge our movement in solidarity with racial and other social justice groups



## ABOUT US

**T**he Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence is a national resource center on domestic violence, sexual violence, trafficking, and other forms of abuse in API communities. We serve a national network of advocates; community-based service programs; federal agencies; national and state organizations; legal, health, and mental health professionals; researchers; policy advocates; and activists from social justice organizations. We analyze critical issues; promote culturally-relevant, evidence-informed intervention and prevention; provide consultation, technical assistance and training; develop cutting-edge reports and resources; conduct and disseminate research; and impact systems change through administrative advocacy and policy analysis.

**O**ur mission, to strengthen culturally-specific advocacy, change systems, and prevent gender violence through community transformation, is foundational to our vision of gender democracy and equality.



# PLENARIES

## DISRUPTING GENDER VIOLENCE | DEFINING GENDER DEMOCRACY

The opening plenary will build out the summit's theme, elaborating on the larger structural contexts in which the work of disrupting gender violence and defining gender democracy occur. We face struggles with racism by, within, and against Asian and Pacific Islander communities, deep patriarchal structures that devalue and control women and do not hold abusers accountable, communities invested in cultural explanations of gender-based violence, public policies that disenfranchise communities. And in this mix we have powerful agents of change that struggle, even as they inspire.

## SEXUAL VIOLENCE & COERCION

Histories of sexual abuse start early, causing gendered harms, inflicted by different perpetrators over the lifecourse, and met with varying degrees of victim-blaming and systems failure. Be it stranger-danger, intimate assault, forced marriage, mass rape in conflict zones, sexual harassment, or the subtle coercions of hook-up culture, individual, familial and community attitudes significantly affect help-seeking; and advocates may find that their own discomfort, victimization and/or trauma-triggers become barriers to survivors' disclosure.

Speaking out, as the #MeToo movement shows, has its own power. Survivors also find power in how perpetrators are dealt with – whether it's stronger criminal sanctions, legislative reform, restorative justice embedded in community structures, reconciliation in post-conflict societies, or as Indian activists are demanding, it's time to make shame change sides. The panel will surface strategies that confront API gendered community norms and guide pathways to healing.



## PACIFIC ISLANDERS ADDRESSING DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

The intersectionality of history, colonization, culture, identity, community, systems, and geography in Pacific Islander communities has an impact on the dynamics of and interventions for domestic violence, sexual assault, family violence, and trafficking. Advocacy for survivors and access to resources and benefits depends on whether they are U.S. citizens, U.S. nationals, immigrants, or COFA migrants. Pacific Islander categorizations – with Asians or as Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders (NHOPI) - can, and have at times, overlooked or tokenized the richness of their diversity and the differences of their experiences.

Starting with pre-colonial, colonial and migration histories of the Pacific Islands, panelists will illuminate how historical and individual trauma and resilience impact communities in the region and the continental U.S. Pacific Islander advocates addressing domestic and sexual violence have raised the importance of anchoring their work within a gender analysis framework to ensure that colonization is not used to explain domestic violence, sexual assault or other forms of family abuse.

## FROM A WINTRY RETREAT IN WISCONSIN TO A GLOBAL SUMMIT IN THAILAND: DISRUPTING TRANSNATIONAL GENDER VIOLENCE

The birth of the Hmong American women's movement to end gender-based violence started once Hmong women landed in America, but it took over 30 years before Hmong women began to organize within the anti-domestic violence and sexual assault structures to redefine what they were facing and generate movement approaches to address the problems and focus on changing cultures.

A case study on abusive international marriages is the perfect example of API advocates organizing and an application of the *A-Z Advocacy Model for API Survivors*, anchored in principles that analyze gendered and racialized contexts, confront root causes, engage in systems change and cultural transformation, all the while holding women's equality and empowerment central to community well-being.

This plenary panel tells the story of Hmong advocates first identifying the trend of abusive international marriages, responding to new versions of this trans-national GBV practice, designing interventions, confronting community narratives, managing trauma, organizing and building a strong network of sustainable CBOs; offering insights on how a national organization partners to enable and build on the assets of Hmong women leaders; and illustrating how culturally-specific programs strengthen and heal survivors.

## IMMIGRANT SURVIVORS

Asian advocates and attorneys were at the forefront of writing protections for immigrant survivors in the first VAWA bill and have continued their exemplary leadership in subsequent fixes to the bill in collaboration with other advocates. Our current work centers on policy and procedural changes such as harboring, public charge, ICE detention, deportation, etc., that affect survivors with stable and unstable immigration status. Civil rights organizations in our communities, CBOs serving API survivors, and others are engaged in mitigating the barriers caused by increased enforcement and immigration penalties, and asserting the rights and protections available to immigrant survivors under the law.

This panel will explore the impact of policy changes and safety planning for immigrant and refugee survivors of DV/SA and trafficking; the vulnerabilities of COFA migrants; and the consequences for incarcerated or paroled APIs in the criminal justice system. Stories, strategies and messaging will illustrate how to influence our narratives and best practices to ensure protections for survivors and the organizations that serve them.

## TRAUMA, TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE | WELL-BEING | HEALING

The Lifetime Spiral of Gender Violence shows the vulnerabilities and harms arising from the historical nature of abuse, sexism and misogyny that can occur at each lifecycle stage – experiences that are imbued with trauma and resilience. Experiences that affect help-seeking, healing, and well-being; experiences that leave survivors with communities and families that fail them and/or nurture them. Trauma-informed care is an effective tool in strengthening advocacy and well-being.

This panel will identify types of trauma – the triple trauma of Asian refugees, the historical trauma of Pacific Islanders from colonization, the complex trauma of GBV survivors, the community-generated trauma of homophobia, and much else. Two exciting models of culturally-specific trauma-informed care developed for Muslim and for Native Hawaiian survivors will inform our understanding of what culturally-specific well-being looks like and how API-serving programs are operationalizing the principles of trauma-informed care.

## FUNDERS' PANEL

This panel will describe trends and issues philanthropic organizations are taking into consideration in funding and sustaining social justice movement-building initiatives for gender and racial equity, particularly as they may apply to API communities.





# WORKSHOPS

**The following topics are under consideration for workshops. Topics will be finalized as the planning proceeds.**

**ABUSE BY IN-LAWS:** How are service providers responding to the dynamic of single victim/multiple perpetrators prevalent in many Asian homes? These include physical, sexual, emotional abuse; coercive control; and victim-blaming by male and female in-laws.

**DOMESTIC & FAMILY VIOLENCE IN ASIAN REFUGEE & IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES:** Culturally and linguistically specific services to address dynamics and trends such as abuse related to immigration status, sexual orientation, marry-and-dump, transnational abandonment, forced marriage, etc. take into account root causes and traumas embedded in patriarchy and understanding cultural contexts embedded in intersectional identities.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RELATED HOMICIDES:** Presenters will share insight into unique factors that place API individuals experiencing intimate partner and family violence at risk of being killed by their abusers, with particular emphasis on data related to API Queer communities. API and Queer communities face high rates of intimate partner violence, and additional complexities around identity and culture – language, lack of familiarity with/distrust of systems, fear based on racism, homophobia, and transphobia – exacerbate their vulnerability, making it especially difficult to seek/access help from service providers, law enforcement, courts, and other systems. This workshop will shed light on the work with existing homicide prevention models, which often struggle to meet the specific needs of intimate partner violence survivors who live at these intersections, and will facilitate dialogue that offers opportunities for generative discussions about how communities can respond to address these needs.

## FUNDING & ORGANIZATIONAL

**SUSTAINABILITY** to build the capacity of new federal grant recipients to manage and administer their federal grants and build organizational infrastructure. This workshop focuses on getting clear and confident about your organizational identity, which is a critical step in strengthening organizational sustainability. By the end of this segment, participants will be better able to inventory finance-related policies and practices that protect organizational health and viability, apply tools for grants project management that enhance program sustainability, and prioritize which financial policies and procedures to focus on strengthening in the near future.

## HOUSING & ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR SURVIVORS

### IMMIGRANT SURVIVORS | ADVANCED

**SAFETY PLANNING:** Workshop will drill down into best practices for access to immigration remedies, mitigating barriers, advanced safety planning for immigrant/refugee victims, how policies can impact access to and remedies for survivors, and on safety measures for advocates and community-based-organizations.

## LANGUAGE ACCESS

## MEDIA/MESSAGING ON IMMIGRATION, ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

**MUSLIM SURVIVORS:** As is often the case when communities face civil rights issues, the focus on race overlooks gender. This workshop corrects that – putting gender front and center to analyze the impacts on Muslim women and LGBTQ individuals targeted for hate crimes, or silenced by family about domestic and sexual violence victimization, or traumatized by community-sanctioned misogyny, abuse and homophobia.

**PACIFIC ISLANDERS: CHALLENGES, STRATEGIES, & SUCCESSES** of culturally-specific trauma-informed advocacy to address domestic and sexual violence, provide language access, and strategize on community engagement in the U.S. and in the region.

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE:** This workshop will analyze dynamics, trends and contexts of sexual violence over the lifecourse affecting API immigrant, refugee, LGBTQ and other survivors; address historic, cultural and linguistic barriers to disclosure and help-seeking; and identify trauma-informed approaches that can enhance resiliency and well-being in advocates and survivors.

## TRAFFICKING: TRAUMA-INFORMED

**ADVOCACY:** A review of the types and purposes of trafficking in the U.S. and how pimp-, family-, intimate partner-, gang- and/or crime syndicate-controlled trafficking have an impact on trauma-informed interventions and collaborations at points of contact for survivors – raids, arrest, release, investigation, shelter, and health and mental health systems.