



# Criminologists WITHOUT BORDERS

## 65th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women-CSW65 March 15—26, 2021

### CSW 65 Committee



Dr. Dawn Beichner, UN Representative  
World Society of Victimology  
Professor, Illinois State University



Dr. Sheetal Ranjan, Member  
American Society of Criminology  
Division of International Criminology;  
Professor, William Paterson University



Dr. Rosemary Barberet, UN Representative,  
International Sociological Association &  
Criminologists Without Borders  
Professor, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

2021 marks the sixty-fifth session of the United Nation's Commission on the Status of Women (CSW65). Every year, representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from around the world attend the session to disseminate evidence on policies and practices affecting women globally. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and related World Health Organization guidance, the sixty-fifth session took place virtually. The event commenced on Monday, 15 March and continued through Friday, 26 March. The CSW65 priority theme was women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. The twelve-day session included a ministerial segment with roundtables and other high-level interactive dialogues, a Virtual Townhall Meeting, as well as interactive and expert panel discussions. UN Women and various stakeholders organized many side events and parallel events to draw attention to critical aspects of gender equality.

The World Society of Victimology, the American Society of Criminology's Division of International Criminology, the International Sociological Association, and Criminologists Without Borders partnered to host three parallel events at CSW65. The collaborative sessions were originally planned for CSW64 when we were celebrating Beijing +25, the 10th anniversary of UN Women, and the 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CSW64 session was canceled. We are still celebrating these anniversaries, of course, as they are milestones for the global women's movement. Our participation in the virtual event embodies the UN Women's CSW65 message: "In the Year the World Stopped, Women's Rights Will Not."

#### Parallel Events:

1. 16 March 2021: Feminist Approaches to Justice: International Responses to Sexual Violence
2. 17 March 2021: Feminist Approaches to Justice: Addressing Incarcerated and Returning Women Worldwide
3. 18 March 2021: International Approaches to Coordinating Community Responses: Violence Against Women



**Feminist Approaches to Justice: International Responses to Sexual Violence:** Dr. Rosemary Barberet, UN Representative for the International Sociological Association, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, chaired this panel, co-sponsored by Criminologist without Borders. The panel focused on the responses to sexual violence that is related to armed conflict as well as occurs outside that context. Dr. Sari Hanafi, President of the International Sociological Association and Professor of Sociology at the American University of Beirut, gave introductory remarks. Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, Former Under-Secretary-General and High Representative of the UN, Initiator of the conceptual breakthrough for UNSCR 1325 as the Security Council President in March 2000 and Founder of the Global Movement for The Culture of Peace (GMCoP) presented “1325’s 20th Anniversary: Feminism Should Drive the WPS Agenda.” Dr. Mary Okumu, recently retired from her post at UN Women in Sierra Leone, presented “Important Efforts to Stop Sexual Violence in Sierra Leone.” Dr. Rhoda Reddock, UN CEDAW Committee Member 2018-2022, Emerita Professor, Gender, Social Change and Development, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago, and ISA Executive Committee Member, gave an overview of CEDAW and Violence Against Women. Passy Mubalamwa, Women’s Rights Activist, Founder of AIDPROFEN in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and NGOCSW 2020 Woman of Distinction Awardee, spoke about “Women and Girls as Victims of Sexual Violence: Consequences and Community Perceptions.” Dr. Laura Guercio, Member of the Coordination Committee of UNETCHAC, Professor, University of Perugia, and Head of International Relations for the International Criminal Bar Association, presented “Guaranteeing a Future for Girls Affected by Armed Conflict: Concerns Identified by the International Universities Network for Children in Armed Conflict (UNETCHAC),” And Jasmine Hwang and Sebastián Galleguillos, graduates of the Master of Arts Degree Program in International Crime and Justice at John Jay College of Criminal Justice presented their research on “Best Police Practices Around the Globe: Improving Responses to Sexual Violence.” A lively Q&A was moderated by Dr. Jan Marie Fritz, ISA Executive Committee Member and Representative to the UN, Professor, University of Cincinnati, Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Johannesburg and Visiting Professor at Taylor’s University (MALAYSIA).

**Feminist Approaches to Justice: Addressing Incarcerated and Returning Women Worldwide:** Dr. Dawn Beichner, UN Representative World Society of Victimology; Professor, Illinois State University, presented in this panel, sponsored by the World Society of Victimology, and served as chair and moderator. The panel’s global focus included panelists from four countries and coverage of contemporary issues worldwide. Dr. Claire M. Renzetti, Editor of *Violence Against Women*, Professor and Chair of Sociology, University of Kentucky (U.S.A.) provided introductory comments that highlighted the intersecting nature of violence against women and women’s offending. Dr. Jennifer Cobbina, Associate Professor, Michigan State University (U.S.A.) discussed *Bringing the ‘Invisible Population’ to Light: Justice for Incarcerated and Formerly Incarcerated Women*. Attorney Mmonbeydo Nadine Joah, Executive Director and Legal Counsel, Organization for Women and Children (LIBERIA) presented *Feminist Approach to Addressing the Challenges Facing Incarcerated Women in Liberia*. Attorney Prue Kapua, National President, Maori Women’s Welfare League (NEW ZEALAND) highlighted *The Rampant Incarceration of Indigenous Women: The Aotearoa/New Zealand Experience*. Dr. Dawn Beichner and

**International Approaches to Coordinating Community Responses: Violence Against Women:** Dr. Sheetal Ranjan, member of the American Society of Criminology (ASC) - Division of International Criminology; Professor, William Paterson University (USA) presented in this panel sponsored by ASC’s Division of International Criminology, and served as chair and moderator. Dr. Sanja Kutnjak Ivkovich, Chair, ASC’s Division of International Criminology; Professor, Michigan State University (USA) provided introductory comments about the Division and its international focus. Dr. Ineke Haen Marshall, Editor, *International Criminology*; Professor, Northeastern University (USA) provided an overview of DIC’s new journal. Dr. Sheetal Ranjan provided an overview of the *Theoretical Framework for Coordinating Community Responses: Violence Against Women*. Dr. Vasiliki Artnopoulou, Professor, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences; Director of the Restorative Justice and Mediation Lab; Director of the Institute on Crime and Criminal Justice, European Public Law Organization (GREECE) spoke about *The European Victims’ Rights Directive (2012/29/EU): Reflections on Article 26 Cooperation and Coordination of Services*, and the goal of coordination of community responses not being achieved nine years since the directive, and highlighted recent reports in the European context. Videos and documents provided by UN-Women discussed *Lessons From the Implementation of UN-Women’s Integrated Global Initiative on Safe Cities and Safe Public Spaces for Women and Girls* that began as a multi-stakeholder global initiative in the cities of Quito (Ecuador), Cairo (Egypt), New Delhi (India), Port Moresby (Papua New Guinea), and Kigali (Rwanda), and has now grown to include 50+ cities and continues to achieve positive results with its partners. Clara Alemann, Director of Programs, Promundo-US (USA) spoke about Promundo’s gender transformative efforts to *Engaging Men and Boys to Prevent Gender-Based Violence Through Community-Based Programs* in 20+ countries in the Global South. Dean Peacock, Director, Confronting Militarized Masculinities, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (SOUTH AFRICA) spoke about his involvement in the VAW movement and provided *Reflections After 30 Years: Successes, Challenges and New Directions in Efforts to Address Men’s Violence Against Women*.

**Forthcoming Journal:** Dr. Beichner, Dr. Ranjan, and Dr. Barberet will be guest editing a forthcoming special issue of *Violence Against Women*, a peer-reviewed international, interdisciplinary journal published by SAGE. The special issue, which will be published in early 2022, will showcase a selection of the papers from the collaborative parallel events and other international contributions from violence against women-themed CSW65 presentations.



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