

MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE
CAL TURNER BUILDING
1011 21ST AVE N, NASHVILLE, TN
OCTOBER 15, 2022

CONFERENCE

The Invisible Laws and Policies that Create Illness, Inequality, Disenfranchisement and Discontent in America. How Our Laws and Policies Affect the Health, Wellness and Flourishing of a Nation and What We Can Do about It

Introduction and Welcome

Vincent Morelli, Professor, Family & Community Medicine, Meharry Medical College, Founder, StreetSolid Industries

8:00-8:10

PART ONE

Seeing the Invisible

The Laws, Rules and Regulations that Create our World of Illness, Inequality and Discontent

The Invisible Laws and How They Are Impacting the U.S.

The hidden laws that create inequity and disenfranchisement and the cost to us all

Daniel Sharfstein, Dick/Martha Lansden Chair in Law, Professor of History, Vanderbilt Law School

8:10-8:50 (presentation)

Invisible Economic Policies and their Effect on the U.S.

The Invisible Sources of Exclusion, Inequality and Discontent in America -- Arguments for an Inclusive Capitalism (Excerpts from People, Power and Profits: Progressive Capitalism for an Age of Discontent)

Keynote Address: Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Prize winner, Professor, Columbia University

8:50-9:35 (presentation)

Q & A with Dr. Stiglitz

Moderator: Soumendhra Ghosh, Professor of Economics, Tennessee State University

9:35-9:50

Coffee Break

9:50-10:05

PART TWO

The Effects of Invisible Laws and Policies

This section of the conference will highlight the effects that our invisible laws and policies can have and the human, economic and political costs.

Personal Stories of Laws, Policies, Disenfranchisement and Discontent

Personal stories highlighting the effects of unenlightened laws and policies and how they may have contributed to illness, disenfranchisement, and discontent.

Moderator: Tay McGee, Co-Founder and COO, StreetSolid Industries

Miguel Lugo, Homeboy Industries, Community Relations & Head of Security

Lily Gonzalez, Homeboy Industries, Program Coordinator Project Rebound at CSUN

Donald Tyler, Director of Clinical Services, Chicago CRED

Leo Smith, Director of Policy, Chicago CRED

Benjamin Beightol, StreetSolid Industries

Ron Johnson, StreetSolid Industries

10:05-10:35

Social Determinants of Health

The Devastating Effects that our Laws and Policies Have on Individual and Collective Health

Economics, education, working conditions, social connection, the built environment and health care quality are all part of our man-made environment – all social determinants that are exacting a toll on the disenfranchised, and on the nation.

Thomas LaVeist, Dean, Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

10:35-11:15 (presentation)

Social Determinants of Health and Survival in Humans and Other Animals --

What the Effects of Social Adversity and Resilience in Social Animals Can Teach Us

Noah Snyder-Mackler, Assistant Professor, School of Life Sciences, Center for Evolution and Medicine, Arizona State University

11:15-11:40 (presentation)

The Role of Inequality in the Collapse of Civilizations – What the Past Tells Us About Where We Are and Where We’re Going

Sherri Lawson Clark, Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology, Wake Forest University

11:40-12:10 (presentation)

Catered Lunch 12:10-12:50

PART THREE

Changing the Invisible

Changing the Laws and Policies that Lead to Disenfranchisement and Discontent in America

a. Change from the Streets

What HomeBoy Industries and CRED are doing to combat disenfranchisement and discontent – both on the individual and policy levels.

Moderator: Rosemary Nabaweesi, Associate Professor, Meharry Medical College

Miguel Lugo, Homeboy Industries, Community Relations & Head of Security.

Lily Gonzalez, Homeboy Industries, Program Coordinator for Project Rebound at CSUN

Donald Tyler, Director of Clinical Services, Chicago CRED

Leo Smith, Director of Policy, Chicago CRED

12:50-1:20 (panel discussion)

b. Change via Business

What business is doing and can do about inclusion, equality and enfranchisement, and why they are doing it.

Moderator: Corbette Doyle, Senior Lecturer, Vanderbilt Peabody College

Edgar Perez, MBA, D&I Consultant HBCU/HSI Strategy Program Leader, Oracle

Brynn Plummer, VP/Director, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Alliance Bernstein

Tonya Hallet, VP, Human Resources, Diversity & Inclusion, Amazon

Chandra Vasser, VP and Chief Officer, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Nissan Americas

1:20-2:05 (panel discussion)

c. Change and Politics

Laws and policies that are needed in order to foster inclusion and enfranchisement. The cost of disenfranchisement and how to go about changing unjust/uninformed policies in the current political climate in Washington.

Congresswoman Beatty confirmed on 09/15, but now reassessing for conflicts. Other member of CBC will be in attendance if needed.

2:05-2:45 (presentation)

Coffee Break 2:45-3:00

d. Change via the Written Word

Global Muckraking and the role of journalism in exposing injustice and inciting change.

Examples of Exposing Injustice from Sub-Saharan Africa.

Anya Schiffrin, Columbia University. Director, Technology, Media, and Communications at the School of International and Public Affairs.

3:00-3:30 (presentation)

e. Change on the International Level and The Role of Children in Change

The story of the convention on the rights of the child and on child participation in the wider struggle for fundamental human rights.

Maria Grahn-Farley, Professor, Leeds Law School

3:30-4:00 (presentation)

f. Barriers to Changing Unjust Policies: Misinformation and Other Barriers

Facing misinformation and disinformation in the digital age with a focus on the history of disinformation, media manipulation and in underserved communities.

Interviewer: Anya Schiffrin

Mutale Nkonde, CEO, AI for the People & Affiliate, Digital Civil Society Lab at Stanford

4:00-4:30 (interview)

g. Change Via Art: Fanning a Spark to Create a Flame. This talk will explore how plays, movies, art and literature throughout history have captured the human spirit, fanned the spark of change and helped move a populace to action.

Bobby Moresco, Writer, Director, Producer, Academy Award winner

4:30-5:00 (presentation)

Final Panel Discussion / Q & A

Moderator: Tay McGee and Vincent Morelli

Together on the stage: Sharfstein, Stiglitz, Schiffrin, LaVeist, Grahn-Farley, aNkonde, Homeboy Industries, CRED, StreetSolid, and underserved youth. They will field questions from each other and the audience. Tay McGee closes out the conference by asking youth what they picked up from the speakers and the conference.

5:00 to 5:30 (panel discussion)

Departure and Linger in the Lobby

5:30 – 6:00