



UCL

EDUCATION FOR WOMEN'S LIBERATION

4th February 2023

ONE DAY CONFERENCE

#Ed4WomensLib

UCL WOMEN'S LIBERATION SPECIAL INTEREST
GROUP

WOMAN'S PLACE UK

FILiA SOUTHALL BLACK SISTERS





Welcome

UCL Women's Liberation SIG and WPUK welcome you to the UCL Institute of Education, for a day of feminist thought and activism.

Building on the Women's Liberation 2020 conference, today's conference aims to bring together feminist activists, students, academics, writers, politicians and women's organisations.

UCL Women's Liberation was established in 2019 to bring together staff whose research addresses social and political issues concerning the status and meaning of women's rights. We aim to generate conversations and collaborations around issues of sex and gender inequalities.

@UCLWomensLib



Woman's Place UK is the winner of the Emma Humphreys Memorial Group Prize 2018. WPUK is a grassroots feminist campaign, formed by a group of women in the labour and trade union movement to uphold women's sex-based rights under the Equality Act 2010.

@Womans_Place_UK



10:00am Opening plenary
Akua Reindorf
Joanna Cherry KC
Alice Sullivan
Introduction from
Brad Blitz

11:00am Refreshments

11.30am Panel discussions

1:00pm Lunch

2.30pm Workshops

4:00pm Refreshments

4.30pm Closing plenary
Julie Bindel
Kathleen Stock
Helen Joyce
Holly Smith

5.30pm Cashless bar
Networking rooms

7:00pm Screening
Adult Human Female
Q&A with film makers
Deirdre O'Neill and
Mike Wayne. Chaired
by Diane Stoianov.

Akua Reindorf is a barrister at Cloisters Chambers specialising in employment, discrimination and human rights law. She is instructed in cases involving polarising and contested identity and equality issues, including appearing for LGB Alliance in the challenge to their charitable status brought by Mermaids, representing James Esses in his case for discrimination because of his gender critical beliefs, and acting for Julie Bindel in her discrimination complaint against Nottingham City Council. In 2021 she conducted the “Reindorf Review” for the University of Essex, which was widely reported as a landmark contribution to the debate on sex and gender.

Akua is a Commissioner of the Equality and Human Rights Commission and a fee paid Employment Judge. She is Chambers and Partners’ Employment Junior of the Year and is featured in The Lawyer’s Hot 100 for 2022. She is to be appointed King’s Counsel in 2023

Joanna Cherry KC is the MP for Edinburgh Southwest and Chair of the UK Parliament’s Joint Committee on Human Rights. She was the SNP’s Spokesperson on Justice and Home Affairs from 2015-2021. In 2019 she led the successful ‘Cherry Case’ against Boris Johnson’s unlawful prorogation of the UK Parliament. She was also a co-litigant in the case against the UK Government at the EU Court of Justice, which established that Article 50 could be unilaterally revoked.

Joanna was called to the bar in 1995 and took silk in 2009. From 2003-2008 she served as Standing Junior Counsel to the Scottish Government. From 2008-2011 she served as Crown Counsel and was one of the first specialist sex crimes prosecutors in Scotland’s pioneering National Sex Crimes Unit.

Julie Bindel is a leading voice in the global campaign to end male violence towards women and children. She co-founded Justice for Women and the Emma Humphreys Memorial Prize.

Her books include *Straight Expectations*, *The Pimping of Prostitution* and *Feminism for Women*.

Helen Joyce is Director of Advocacy at Sex Matters and author of *TRANS: When Ideology Meets Reality*, named as a book of the year in 2021 by the *Observer*, *Spectator* and *Times*. Helen was a staff journalist at *The Economist* from 2005 to 2022, holding several senior positions, including Britain Editor, Finance Editor and International Editor. She has a PhD in mathematics from UCL.

Kathleen Stock is a contributing writer at Unherd, and the author of *Material Girls: Why Reality Matters for Feminism*. Until October 2021, she was a Professor of Philosophy at University of Sussex. Her earlier academic research concerned philosophical questions about sexual orientation, objectification, fiction, imagination, and pretence. She regularly discusses gender, gender identity, and sex, and their effects on women and girls, in public writing and speaking.

She was awarded an OBE for services to higher education in 2020, and is a Founding Faculty Fellow at UATX.

Brad Blitz is Professor of International Politics and Policy and Head of Department of Education, Practice and Society, UCL Institute of Education.

Holly Smith is Lecturer in Higher Education, UCL Institute of Education and Co-convenor of UCL Women's Liberation SIG

1 Women's voices in education

Elvin Hall

Attempts to narrow the scope of what can be said about sex and gender within higher education create unspeakable truths which have wide-ranging effects on research and teaching. This session asks, how are women reclaiming academic freedom and freedom of speech as liberatory values? What lessons can be learned from our successes and failures over the last few years? How can we build support, solidarity and momentum within and across our institutions? How can we influence policy?

Chair: Lesley Gourlay Professor of Education, UCL Institute of Education

Alice Sullivan Professor of Sociology and Head of Research, UCL Social Research Institute, Co-convenor, UCL Women's Liberation SIG

Raquel Rosario Sanchez Dominican writer, campaigner and researcher

Judith Suissa Professor of Philosophy of Education, UCL Institute of Education, Co-convenor, UCL Women's Liberation SIG

Jo Phoenix Professor of Criminology, University of Reading

2 Teaching about sex and gender in schools

Room W3.01

The DfE guidance in 2021 achieved a long-held feminist goal of compulsory Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) inclusive of sexual orientation, as well as wider issues of intimate partner violence and coercive control. At the same time, there is a widespread programme of outreach into schools by proponents of ideas of innate gender identity and that sex is a spectrum, often taught under the wider remit of equalities or inclusion. What would a truly feminist RSE look like?

Chair: Michelle Shipworth Assoc Professor in Energy and Social Sciences, UCL Energy Institute

Michele Moore Professor of Inclusive Education, Northumbria University. Co-Edited the groundbreaking book *Transgender Children and Young People, Born in Your Own Body*

Tamasine Preece Secondary practitioner, health and well-being/PSHE researcher and consultant

Kiri Tunks Teacher, co-founder & Director, Woman's Place UK. Winner of the Annie Higdon Award

Shereen Benjamin Lecturer in Primary Education, Edinburgh University

3 Schooling of girls' minds and bodies

Logan Hall

What do culture and society teach girls about their bodies and minds? Growing up a girl is to navigate a world of sex stereotypes, porn culture, sexual harassment, and intense focus on body image. Mental health problems and levels of self-harm are at unprecedented levels for young girls. What are girls' experiences of their bodies and

mental health? How can feminists respond across generations?

Chair: Gemma Moss Professor of Literacy, UCL Institute of Education, Director of the ESRC Education Research Programme

Victoria Smith Feminist writer and journalist. Author of *Hags*, published Spring 2023

Stella O'Malley Psychotherapist and best-selling author. Founder of Genspect

Dr Katie Alcock Senior Lecturer in Psychology at The University of Lancaster

4 The global history of women's access to education

Drama Studio

Access to education has historically gone hand in hand with increased political empowerment for women. This panel will address how this struggle has played out and continues to affect women around the globe.

Chair: Miriam David Professor Emerita, Sociology of Education, UCL Institute of Education

Zuhra Bahman Afghan feminist

Maryam Namazie Iranian born women's rights campaigner, writer & spokesperson of One Law for All, and Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain

Jane Martin Professor of Social History of Education, University of Birmingham. Director, Domus Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Histories of Education and Childhood

Amy North Associate Professor, Centre for Education and International Development (CEID), UCL Institute of Education

5 Women, education, and work

Nunn Hall

Women's entrance into the workplace and public life has had far-reaching impacts on professions, research agendas, and labour patterns. Changes to women's work and life chances have led to changes in labour markets and family life. Panellists will address issues such as women's struggle to access higher education and the professions; women's financial independence; the need to accommodate mothers in the workplace; equality law, and women's trade union organizing in the workplace.

Chair: Stephanie Bird Professor of German Studies, School of European Languages, Culture and Society, UCL

Ann Henderson Campaigner in the labour movement and former Rector of the University of Edinburgh. Served as Scottish Commissioner on the Women's National Commission

Audrey Ludwig Discrimination law solicitor

Senia Paseto Professor of Modern History, University of Oxford



1 Brighton RISE UP! and Sisters Salon Creating women-only space for community activism | Room W3.04

An interactive, women-only workshop with the organisers of Brighton Rise Up campaign and Brighton Sisters Salon. Explore the importance of building women-only communities to act as hubs of support and activism. **THIS SESSION IS WOMEN ONLY.** @SistersSalon2

2 nia Channelling Anger into Activism Room W2.07

Channelling Anger into Activism will explore topics such as the politics and functions behind anger and take a look at activism, safety and rights.

nia provide materials for you to create your own placards. @nia_endingVAWG

3 The Oxford Feminist Union, Cambridge Rad Fem Network, Edinburgh XX, Bristol's Women Talk Back. Putting it into practice: how to organise against misogyny in universities | Room W3.05

A practical session on feminist organising in universities. We will ask: what is it like to run a society within universities today? What can we achieve? @OxFeministUnion

@WomenTalk_Back @camradfems

4 Get the L Out and Labrys Lit Until we win! Lesbian organising and its challenges | Room C3.14

Sarah from Get the L Out and Claire Heuchan from Labrys Lit Book Club lead a presentation of the way some lesbian groups organise and the challenges they face. Participants will discuss their own experiences with lesbian organising and activism. **THIS SESSION IS LESBIANS ONLY.** @GetTheLOutUK @LabrysLit

5 We Are With Woman Birth, feminism, and maternity care Room C3.12

Birth is a feminist issue. We will look at why the centring of the sexed body is vital in maternity care, through the lens of language, women's authoritative knowledge, and the tensions in the aspiration towards woman-centred care in a medical model. @WeAreWithWoman

6 Merched Cymru Girls need best friends | Room W3.06

Ali Morris and Joanne Payton will debut the 'Best Friend's Handbook' project they are launching in Wales. The project provides resources to help girls support each other against violence at home and in relationships. @MerchedCymru

7 Shonagh Dillon and Sarah Pedersen Gender-Critical Research | Drama Studio

For those who are undertaking or are interested in starting GC research. How to find support and sisterhood; asserting academic freedom; and disseminating your research findings in both academic and non-academic spaces. @ShonaghDillon

8 Men at Work We have to talk with our boys | Room W2.05

Having constructive dialogues with boys & young men around being part of the solution to misogyny. @MenAtWork_MC

9 The Radical Notion and Centre For Women's Thought Why are women oppressed? | Room C3.11

Join Dr Jane Clare Jones for her workshop: What is oppression?' 'What is the function of this system?', 'Who does it benefit and how?',



'What is the role of biology?' Develop a structural account of women's oppression which synthesises a materialist class based analysis and radical feminism. @Radical_Notion @Fem_Thought

10 Winning change in trade unions. The 'how-to'-guide to women organising in your trade union | Committee Room 1

Learn how to find out what your union's policies are and how to change or improve them. Understand current union structures and how to utilise them, and why knowledge of the law is important to support activity e.g. the Equality Act and Health and Safety at Work.

11 Space International and the HOPE campaign

Educating Society on the Reality of the Sex Trade | Room W2.06

How should we tackle the harms of the sex trade? Some say 'sex work' should be decriminalised and women treated as 'workers'. Others, including SPACE international, say we should abolish prostitution as there is NO such thing as 'safety' in the sex trade. Julie Swede is joined by Harriet Wistrich to speak about the HOPE (History Of Prostitution Expunged) campaign. @SPACEintl

12 Rahila Gupta and Maryam Namazie Bringing the revolution home: Iran and Rojava | Room W3.08

In the revolutions taking place in Iran and Rojava, women are driving the change. This workshop will be full of unexpected and practical ideas on how you can provide solidarity and bridge the political, psychological and geographical distance between you. @RahilaG @MaryamNamazie

13 Bec Wonders and Emma Dolan Feminist poster-making workshop | Room W3.07

Join textile artist Emma Dolan and historian Dr Bec Wonders in this collaborative feminist poster-making workshop. A history of the feminist politics of print with archival examples of posters and banners. A supportive space to create our own poster/placards using accessible materials. Together, we will honour and continue the rich legacy of our feminist print culture. @wondersbec @emmajanedolan

14 Keep Prisons Single Sex The erasure of sex in the criminal justice system | Room C3.09

At every level within the criminal justice system we see the overwhelming importance of sex. Yet the ability to identify, point to, and name sex is being lost. KPSS Director Kate Coleman leads a panel discussing safeguarding and risk, the prison service, and policing. @NoXYinXXprisons

15 Fair Play For Women Organising in sport | Room C3.13

Sport matters for health and well-being, for enjoyment and achievement, for self-esteem, and for career opportunities. We're starting to make real progress now in restoring the female category in sport to be for those born female. If you want to help, sign up and join us. It's an interactive session to share information and generate plans for action. @fairplaywomen

16 Legal Feminist Conflict of legal rights, how to balance them in practice | Elvin Hall

Chaired by discrimination law solicitor Audrey Ludwig speaking on the conflict of rights when



making and implementing policy in education settings. We will then discuss a practical scenario with attendees, to make the session interactive and equip attendees with better understanding and tools to recognise potential conflicts and resolve them.

@SarahvAtDSC @legalfeminist
@LizMcG_emplaw @AudreySuffolk

17 Sex Matters

Sex and gender in schools: what parents can do | Room W3.01

Join Maya Forstater & Naomi Cunningham to talk about engaging with schools on issues of sex and gender, curriculum and policies on single sex spaces, sports and social transition. We will draw on our published analysis of the relevant laws, regulations and safeguarding principles, as set out in our guidance for schools and our new checklist for the DfE on what its forthcoming guidance needs to say. @SexMatters

18 Southall Black Sisters

MVAWG in black and minority communities Room W2.08

Selma Taha and Hannana Siddique discuss domestic and sexual violence, harmful practices such as forced marriage, honour-based abuse, immigration and no recourse to public funds (NRPF). This will include current campaigns to reform the law on NRPF and to introduce measures preventing the use of cultural and religious defences to justify murder or abuse in the name of honour or other misogynist beliefs. It will look at the wider frameworks of intersectionality, VAWG, feminism, and women's human rights. @SBSisters

19 For Women Scotland, Murray Blackburn Mackenzie

The Gender Recognition Reform Bill: what next? | Nunn Hall

The Gender Recognition Reform Bill enables anyone aged 16 or over to obtain a GRC by making a simple statutory declaration. The Haldane ruling clarified that a GRC changes someone's sex for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010. Lisa Mackenzie of MBM and Marion Calder of For Women Scot will reflect on the Bill process, highlighting the work of women's groups and consider what is next. @ForWomenScot @mbmpolicy

20 Feminist Dissent

RSE and the Birmingham protests, navigating race religion and gender in the defence of equality | Lawton Room

Rebecca Durrand and Pragna Patel touch on what were politically motivated fundamentalist protests against the teaching of RSE outside Birmingham schools. This workshop explores how the themes of race, religion and gender played out. Claims to religious freedom are set against the right to equality of education which has significance for minority girls in particular. In the light of this and widening social divisions and regressive politics, how do we defend the principle of equality from an anti-racist, feminist standpoint? @feministdissent

21 Labour Women's Declaration, Liberal Voice for Women and Conservatives For Women. Political Activism for Women's Sex-Based Rights | Room C3.15

Tools for political campaigning at the national and local level; inside parties and cross-party. Tackle some of the likely upcoming minefields this year at Westminster, Holyrood, Senedd and council levels and promote the rights of women and girls. Everyone is welcome!

@LibVoice4Women @LabWomenDec
@CforWomenUK



SCREENING ADULT HUMAN FEMALE



The first UK documentary feature to look at the clash between women's rights and trans ideology. Join the Directors Deirdre O'Neill and Mike Wayne for a Q+A, chaired by Diane Stoianov. PhD Student, UCL Linguistics, Co-convenor, UCL Women's Liberation SIG

FEMINIST MARKETPLACE

Art for All by All

Nordic Model Now!

Claudia Clare Ceramics

People Too Jewellery

Sex Matters

Southall Black Sisters

Gilding the Lily

FiLiA

The Radical Notion

Labour Women's Declaration

Centre for Women's Justice

Liberal Voice for Women

Wild Womyn Workshop

LGB Alliance

Transgender Trend

WPUK

NETWORKING 5.30pm

GC Academia Network W2.05

Clinical Advisory Network on Sex and Gender W3.01

Teachers Guide to Sex and Gender Nunn Hall

Evidence Based Social Work Alliance Drama Studio

Labour Women's Declaration Elvin Hall

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The women who came before us.

