



Behind Closed Doors: How Can We Prevent Domestic Violence Homicides?

SPEAKERS LIST & BIOS

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John Jay College

Jimmie Briggs

Journalist

Jimmie Briggs is a documentary storyteller, advocate for racial and gender equity, and educator. A member of the New York City Mayor's Gender Equity Commission, he is also an adjunct professor in social change journalism at the International Center of Photography in New York. He is the co-founder and executive director emeritus of Man Up Campaign, a globally-focused organization to activate youth to stop violence against women and girls. This led to his selection as the winner of the 2010 *GQ Magazine* "Better Men Better World" search, and as one of the *Women's eNews* "21 Leaders for the 21st Century." He is a National Magazine Award finalist and recipient of honors from the Open Society Institute, National Association of Black Journalists, Medill School of Journalism, Congressional Black Caucus and the Carter Center for Mental Health Journalism. Briggs' 2005 book "Innocents Lost: When Child Soldiers Go To War" took readers into the lives of war-affected children around the world. His upcoming book project is a narrative history on the community of Ferguson, Missouri in the wake of Michael Brown's death in August, 2014.

Stephen Handelman

Director, John Jay Center on Media, Crime and Justice

Stephen Handelman was appointed Director of the Media, Crime and Justice (CMCJ) at John Jay College in 2007. He is Executive Editor of *The Crime Report*, and serves as host of "Criminal Justice Matters," a monthly TV show at CUNY-TV. An award-winning veteran journalist, columnist and foreign correspondent with over 30 years' experience in reporting and editing (most recently *TIME Magazine*), he has been a consultant to U.S. law enforcement agencies and the United Nations, and has lectured and taught at universities around the U.S. He has written or

co-edited four books, including *Comrade Criminal: Russia's New Mafiya*, which was on *The New York Times* Notable Books of the Year list. He earned his MPA from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, and a BA in English and Philosophy from the City College of New York (CUNY). He served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala.

Melissa Jeltsen

Senior Reporter, *The Huffington Post*

Melissa Jeltsen is a senior reporter at The Huffington Post, where she writes about gender-based violence. She previously worked at MSNBC and *Talking Points Memo*, and freelanced for *Jezebel*, *Raw Story*, *The Rumpus*, *GOOD*, *Cosmo* and *The Boston Globe*, among others. In 2015 and 2016, she won a Newswomen's Club Of New York Front Page Award for her articles on domestic violence. This year, she produced an investigative feature tracking one month of intimate partner homicides in the U.S. Her recent work has highlighted domestic violence victims who are incarcerated for self-defense, the intersection of traumatic brain injury and abuse, and the connection between mass shootings and violence in the home.

Doreen G. Lesane

Domestic violence educator

Doreen G. Lesane is the CEO and Founder of *Sunshine In My Livingroom* and has created a “SPEAK UP” against domestic violence campaign where she is committed to being open and frank about this controversial topic. She utilizes her professional experience as an educator of 20+ years and her personal experience as a Survivor of domestic violence to inform, inspire and empower. She has an MS Criminal Justice with a Human service concentration, and has trained in the areas of domestic violence, violence prevention, sexual assault crisis intervention and advocacy, child abuse prevention, Trauma Informed Care. She has facilitated training at a number of institutions around New York, including Manhattan College, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, the Memorial Baptist Church; the Brooklyn Clergy Task Force; and the New York City Public Library.

Audrey Moore

Executive Assistant District Attorney, Manhattan

Audrey Moore is Chief of the Special Victims Bureau, and Chief Diversity Officer at the New York County District Attorney's Office, where she oversees the management of the Child Abuse Unit, Domestic Violence Unit, Elder Abuse Unit, Sex Crimes Unit, Human Trafficking Unit and Witness Aid Services Unit. In addition to her prosecutorial duties, Ms. Moore is a member of the Conviction Integrity Committee.

Liz Roberts

Deputy CEO & Chief Program Officer, Safe Horizon

Liz Roberts, MSW, has worked with and on behalf of survivors of crime and abuse for more than 25 years. At Safe Horizon, she provides leadership to a comprehensive network of programs for all crime victims, spanning all five boroughs of New York City. Previously, as Deputy

Commissioner for Family Support Services at the New York City Administration for Children's Services, Liz provided leadership to the city's network of child abuse prevention programs. Liz worked as a clinician and advocate for child witnesses to violence, and trained more than 1,000 health care providers to respond to domestic violence.

Tina Rosenberg

Co-Founder, Solutions Journalism Network,
Co-Writer of the New York Times Fixes column

Tina Rosenberg is co-founder of the Solutions Journalism Network and co-writer of the *New York Times* Fixes column. She has led solutions journalism trainings in dozens of newsrooms across the country. She is a longtime *New York Times* writer and a Pulitzer Prize- and National Book Award-winning author of hundreds of magazine articles and three books. Her most recent book is "Join the Club: How Peer Pressure Can Transform the World."

Kathleen White

Inspector, New York Police Department Domestic Violence Unit

Inspector Kathleen P. White began her career with the New York City Housing Police Department in July 1984 and has since served with the New York City Transit Police Department, the Transit Borough Brooklyn Task Force, the Queens North Task Force, the 24 Precinct, Transit Borough Manhattan, Patrol Borough Bronx, and the Personnel Bureau. Among her assignments was Special Projects Coordinator for Patrol Borough Bronx where she managed the Domestic Violence program. She was promoted to Inspector in March 2016. Inspector White earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from the State University of New York and a Master of Public Administration from Marist College. She is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy at Quantico, Virginia and is a 2004 graduate of the Police Management Institute at Columbia University.

Amanda Wilson

Co-Director, Lethality Assessment Program – Maryland Model

Amanda Wilson began work as a domestic violence advocate in 2005 for Safe Alliance in Charlotte, NC where she spent ten years working to end violence against women and children working directly with victims, developing programs, and engaging in advocacy efforts at the local and state level. Currently, Amanda works for the Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence as the Lethality Assessment Program - Maryland Model (LAP) Co-Director overseeing program expansion, quality assurance, training activities and responding to technical assistance requests.

Sue-Lin Wong

Director of Strategic Operations and Planning
National Network for Safe Communities

Sue-Lin Wong is the Director of Strategic Operations and Planning at the National Network for Safe Communities. Ms. Wong participated in the team that launched the National Network. She leads the strategic planning for direct technical assistance and support for the National Network's partner jurisdictions, provides strategic advising and data management to sites implementing strategies to reduce violence and community disorder, and oversees a team dedicated to doing the same. During her tenure at the National Network, Ms. Wong also held a research fellow position at the US-Asia Law Institute of New York University, where she conducted policy analysis on the state of death penalty reforms in Taiwan. Prior to that, Ms. Wong was an adjunct professor in the Department of Anthropology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice through the school's undergraduate honors program. Ms. Wong received her MA in Criminal Justice from John Jay College of Criminal Justice and her BS in Psychology from State University of New York, Buffalo.