

>> Welcome, everyone. My name is Mie Fukada and I'm a program specialist with the children and youth program at futures without violence. I want to welcome you all to today's webinar which is entitled which is titled centering survivor leadership at the intersections of oppression, a comprehensive approach to ending intimate partner violence.

>>> this webinar is presented by futtures without futtures without violence in partnership with tip is a the family violence have representation and ises program at the family youth and services water. The webinar is 90 minutes long and it's being recorded.

The recording of the webinar and presentation slides and closed captioning will be e-mailed to you after the webinar. Thank you so much for joining us today for what we hope is an informative and exciting presentation that will support you and your work. It looks like captioning is still on its way to being connected. So before I

start, before I present Amita. I want to take a few minutes to go over the technology that we'll be using today. So for audio you can listen to audio through your computer speakers or through your phones. If you choose to join us through your phone, please dial the number on the screen, which is 1-800-832-0736 and enter the conference room number, which is 740-4927. And you have to press pound after that code as well. Your line will be automatically muted and so that we can minimize background noise. And so the way that we'll be communicating as you go tell is through the chat box, and the chat box is locate on the top right side of your screen. So whenever questions come up or if you have comments for us please type that in the chat box. We'll also be asking that you type in the answers to some questions that will -- that we'll ask the audience during the Q&A section. We do have closed captioning although right nowt it's not connected

and we're working on making that 2
connection happen as soon as possible.
But in the meantime, I've pasted a link
for folks to access the captioning via
Internet. So please let us know if that
works. Once the captioning box does
connect you can scroll through the past
captions and once you do that the auto
scroll feature will be disabled. In
order to reenable the auto scroll
feature you have to click on the check
box that's located on the right topside
of the pod. And for any other technical
difficulties please send me a private
chat in order to do this click on the
drop down menu and choose the start chat
with host option and that way you can
send me a private message, and we can
figure out what's happening for you. If
there's problems with the system itself,
please contact adobe tech support and
their number is also on the screen,
1-800-422-3623. And I know that's a lot
of information and I will put all of
that into the chat box for folks to join

us a bit later or if you need to reference it later on as well. At the very end of the webinar we'll prompt you to answer a very short survey. Your feedback is very important to us so I encourage everyone to fill it out.

Before I introduce our presenter I want to talk about the project this webinar series is housed under. And encourage everyone to use us as a resource. So our promising futures capacity services to youth and abused parents which is funded by sip fa and provides support and technical assistance to the network of domestic violence state coalitions and local community based programs on enhancing services for children, youth and abused parents who are impacted by domestic violence.

>>> It will centers is an expansion of our current futures website and the website information is what you see on the screen right now. It serves as a sort of clearinghouse of evidence and practice based interventions and

resources. The center also provided 3
direct technical assistance, training
and support to the 12 services for
abused parents and their children who
are to go to provide comprehensive
response and services to survivors of
domestic violence and their children.
The center is part of a Dvrn, the
domestic violence violence resource
network and more informing about the
Dvrn will follow after the presentation.
Please visit our website. So I put some
websites on the bottom of the slide, and
our website for webinars which you can
peace archives webinars as well as in
the recordings. And if you have any
questions about our resources please
feel freed to shoot me an e-mail. My
e-mail will be on the very last slide
and like I said at the beginning all of
this information will be in e-mail to
you after the webinar so you can
ownership foe afterwards. I want to
give a big thank you to our participates
atrophy is a for supporting not only

this webinar but this whole project and our work, and their strong commitment to supporting survivors of domestic violence and their children. The commitment is instrumental in our work to end domestic violence and we're very, very grateful for the partnership. All right. So now I want to introduce our presenter Amita. Amita is an educator, storyteller, activist and consultant dedicated to fighting interpersonal and institutional violence against young people. Her commitment and approach to this work stems from her experiences as a gender queer, stem queer, woman of color, daughter of immigrants and years of abuse by her parents including eight years of rape by her father. She is a frequent speaker at colleges, conferences and community organizations nationwide and a volunteer with over 15 years of experience in nonprofits serving low-income immigrants and LGBTQ communities of color. She also supports individual survivors of the the coach

focused on healing and social 4

entrepreneurship on her online course.

Amita has been publicly out as a

survivor of child sex abuse since she

interned at the U.S. demander of justice

office for violence against women in

1997. In 2016, Amita received a just

beginnings fellowship law schooling her

to launch mirror memoirs an oral history

project centering on storying healing

and leadership of LGBTQ people of color

who survived child sex abuse and social

justice movements nationwide. Prior to

relocating to last thing 2012 Amita was

the coordinator and a cast member of

vote survives a theater project

featuring child sex abuse survives

telling their stories which she

conceived for an award winning

performance company in New York City.

Amita is also a published author. The

writing has been featured on the

feminist wire and the "Huffington Post"

and in the anthologies dear sister,

letters from survives of sexual

violence. She holds a master's in public administration degree from New York University where she was a Catherine B Reynolds fellow and a B.S. in foreign service from Georgetown University. So without further ado I will pass it over to Amita.

>> Thank you so much. Please and thank you to Futures Without Violence for putting this together and for inviting me to present my work with all of you today. I'm really excited to see people calling from all over the country and I almost wish this were in person so we could have more of a dialogue but I do want to let you know there is a Q&A built into our presentation so I'm interested to learn from all of you as well. There is going to be a moderator moderating the chat box so please feel free as questions come up as you think about the applicability or challenges applying some of the things we're talking about in the context in which you're working and looks like again

there are so many different contexts 5

with all of you coming from different parts of the country. Please feel free to insert that into the chat box because I think it will make the dialogue richer. And as we talked about I'll rely on you to interrupt me when you see something pop up that needs addressing. Sound good.

>>> Yeah that sounds great. Thank you amita.

>> Sure. So let's start by going over some of the object is. Really it will talk is going to focus on what we gain when we center children's welfare in the movement to end intimate partner violence and why that's important.

Examining child sexual abuse as both a root cause and a tool of other forms of trauma, illness and oppression. Explain why the work to end intimate partner violence needs to be intersectional and using my project, mirror memoirs as a case study to explore what an intersectional practice is to end inti

gnat partner violation and violence against children looks like. So this is all very academic. I promise you if this is new terminology, I will absolutely break this down. And at heart I'm a storyteller so hopefully I am successful until making this really simple and accessible. But we needed to put it into a bullet point format, so there you go. I do want to talk about this term intimate violence as app umbrella term. I'm going to be using this term throughout the webinar today. And I know that most of you work in organizations that are domestic violence or even intimate partner violation organizations and so to differentiate between these two terms for me I needed a way to talk about an umbrella that could encompass intimate partner violence, meaning violation between two adults and then non-stranger adult sexual violence, meaning acquaintance rape, acquaintance sexual violence, relationship sexual violence, and then

the various different forms of child abuse from emotional to physical to sexual that are perpetrated by people that are known and trusted by children. And of course, I'm sure as you know in the field of child welfare most children who are harmed are harmed by someone they know and love and trust and with child sex abuse specifically, that data point is 90 percent of children who are survivors are harmed by someone they know and trust. And so for me, I think in this field of intimate partner violence work when we talk about it with adults and children affected by the form of violence than interpersonally we need some kind of umbrella term, so for the purpose of this talk I use the term intimate partner violence. Of course that's a little confusing because as you can see here and you already know from being practitioners yourselves in our field we also use the term intimate partner violence as a broader term than what is usually used to just say just domestic

violence, because we know that not everyone person in AI romantic relationship lives with their romantic partner. So I just ask you to bear with me in expanding the frame and the terminology and so we'll be using again intimate violence. We're talking about violence that occurs between two people who know each other. Again, if you have any questions, please go ahead and type that in the chat box. I think.

I can go any further really about my open practice with mirror memoirs and the model that I've developed up, I need to talk about a little bit about my own story. And you some of you may know about my story but for those of you that don't, how I came into this work and why I'm so committed to this umbrella term approach of intimate violence that connects all the different forms of violence and abuse that a person might experience from one to another is from my own story. So as Mie said in my introduction, I am a child of immigrants

from India. I was born in the United States. My mother before I was born was already in a very textbook abusive marriage with my father and she was very young when she got married to him. She was 18, he was eight years older than her. She married him very much against my grandmother's wishes. My had been in the United States six she was 11. So she was a product of the American school system, middle school, high school. In this country. And my grandmother was a highly educated woman, she came to the United States for a Ph.D. program. So it's very interesting to me I think, my own narrative as a child of immigrants doesn't necessarily fit the narrative that we hear at so many nonprofits that work with immigrant populations where there's a lot of arranged marriages that happen in the south Asian context, a lot of women having a lack of education, not speaking the language, and obviously, that is a very commonality I have. It just happens to

not be the case in my own family. My mom speaks fluent English. My grandmother very much wanted her to go to college and have her own career and my mom for a lot of dangerous weapon relationships rebelled against any grandmother's vision for her and choosing to marry a man that she had known three months. And so the eight year age adrenalines between them made a huge adrenalines right away in the power dynamic. My father also really manipulated my mother's desire to be a wife and a mother by saying that he didn't want her to work and he didn't want her to have the pressure, quote, unquote, of college and a career. So she dropped out of college and I was planned. I was very, very wanted by my mom. She wanted nothing more than to be a full time parent. So I was born when she was 19 and a half. And again, my father had already exerted a certain level of economic control emotional violence and certainly physical violence

by the time I came along. Another 8
aspect of their marriage was very much
marital rape and as you all know it's
just an aspect of do we call it domestic
violence, do we call it sexual assault.
It is both. That was very hatching in
the home and of course it was never
talked about. And then when I was four
is when my father started raping me and
engaging in lots of formal abuse
toward me and then when my sister got
older a lot of emotional and physical
violence toward her as well. We're four
years apart. And of course that fits
into child welfare. But historically as
you I'm sure again know many of the
organizations that were founded in the
subjects and 70s in this country to
address various aspects of these
problems are very separate. Even the
way we make grants in the foundation
world or the government world are very
separate and siloed. On one hand you
can get a grant to support victims of
quote, unquote, domestic violence or

intimate partner violence. On the other
you can talk about campus sexual
assault, for example, or date rape.

Hardly ever marital rape and certainly
even more rarely children who are being
raped and sexually assaulted let alone
when it's happening in the home. And
then of course the foster care system
tends to address only the harm that is
happening to the child without really
having programming in place to support
someone like my mother. So I think a
lot a a practitioner now. I'm 39 now.

There were state interventions in New
Jersey when I was 13 so I've had a
listening time to grapple with the
questions of what kind of help the I
think I really needed when I was a child
and what kind of help did my mother
really need as someone who was being
gravely abused and we definitely did not
get help from the state that was really
empowering and really helped us be on a
healing path or be really respected and
have agency in terms of dictating what

we really needed and I think to me a big part of that problem is because of these silos in our work. So with a story like mine it very much cuts across all these areas. What happened to me was quote, unquote, domestic violence because it happened in my home. The perpetrator was my father. It was also a form of sexual assault and rape and then because I was age four to 12 when the sex abuse aspect was happening in my home it also engaged child welfare as an issue. And I looking back now, that was 1991 when there were state interventions and i think what was the nonprofit organization that was really equipped to hold the complexity of how things played out in my family. And the thing is there really wasn't one. And so I think we need to think about who to center when we think about antiviolence work. Traditionally and historically the focus has been on the battered women's movement which then got expanded to domestic violence and then got expanded

to intimate partner violence, but

Because of the roots of how that work 1

start we still have a bias or a

propensity to serve certain victims and

not others. I think generally speaking

when you look at the client list of a

lot of anti-intimate partner violence

organizations you see a foundation on

mothers, you see a focus on ^cisgender

women, which is a term that just means

people who are not transgender, people

whose gender identity matches the gender

identity that doctors assigned when they

were born, so they were labeled a girl

when they were born and they still

identify as a woman today. Heterosexual

women, women who are straight, white

women overwhelmingly from mainstream

organizations or grants that don't

need -- or programs that don't need a

cultural competency training.

Organizations that are just like

domestic violence Inc. and you know you

can walk in there and not face any

barriers. I think the victim that is

held in the imagination of those organizations tends to be a white woman, and thankfully there's been a lot of work that many of you have done to make organizations more culturally competent but then we also see smaller grassroots organizations serving entire populations of immigrant women of color, black women, native women because they have been left out. In that same vein able-bodied women, women who hold U.S. citizenship or green cards and adult women, right, and then we know from stories like my own and countless others that not only does violence happen in several other contexts but there's a lot of evidence to suggest that many many populations that are not listed here are actually the ones that are at even higher risk of experiencing things like intimate partner violence where there might be a sexual component of that and where there might also be child abuse happening in the home. So along that line of thinking I think one

of the things that has led us to be in
this like soloed place still, I think 2
we've made some progress from the 60,
70s 80s maybe into the 90s but we
still have those silos and what that
leads to is a focus on policy that
tends to focus on those victims I was
talking about. The mainstream
organizations being crafted to serve a
particular kind of victim and then those
narratives actually being the ones that
shape public policy. And we see this a
lot in work around sexual violence,
which is where the bulk of my work is.
So I have two examples for you that i
grapple with all the time in terms of
what does it mean when we build an
entire policy around one person's story,
and what does it lead to for populations
that are already vulnerable. Is it
causing harm or is it actually helping?
So one example is the case of Megan
Kenka who was a young white girl who was
raped and then killed by, I believe, her
neighbor who was a known sexual offender

who had gone through the criminal legal system. And that led to the creation of Megan's Law which led to the creation of the sex offender register industry. And there's again I'm sure many, as you know, sex offender registries state by state. California actually is one of the four states that puts people on the sex offender registry for life. And I want to think about that for a minute and say that there's actually been studies on them and I'll talk about it in just a moment where to the point where the California state sex offender management board now has a campaign to actually reform the sex offender registry and even to get children off of the registry because it has become a tool of criminalization in already vulnerable communities, in communities that are targeted disproportionately by police and prisons. For example, black communities, the California sex offender registry particularly when it comes to youth is disproportionately black. And

so we need to be careful when we think
about which victims' stories get 3
elevated and lead to policy, how do we
make a decision about which stories are
representative of a trend that needs to
be addressed to help the people most
directly oppressed that are facing
compound oppression. Different form of
violence. And in a separate area of
sexual violence we have the issue of
date rape, sometime called acquaintance
rape, sometimes talked about in college
campus contexts. And then we have the
case of Amanda nguyen, who is a
Vietnamese-American young woman whose
rape kit was languished in a police
station to the point where the statute
of limitations -- I don't know the
specifics but it expired or was in
danger of expiring before the rape kit
was actually tested. And through her
advocacy based on her own story that led
to the creation of the sexual assault
survivor's right act which had a focus
on getting more rape kits tested. For

me the problem with that as the most important focal point is that when more rape kits are tested the assumption is that we know more perpetrators who could then be potentially prosecuted and incarcerated. I'm not here to tell anyone as an individual survivor what they should want in their own individual yearning for or understanding of accountability at all. But I do believe as an organizer, a community organizer and someone aligned with social justice and who's looking at the impact of systems and of public policy on entire populations, there is certainly a dialogue to be had about prisons and the impact on communities. And we know a couple things when it comes to prisons and sexual violence. We know that prisons are a site of sexual violence. That's what led to the prison rape elimination act because rape is so rampant within prisons that we had to have legislation around it, which of course legislation did not end the

problem to begin with. And then we also know particularly when it comes to 4 women's prisons that most women who are incarcerated survived sexual violence prior to their incarceration, and many of them in childhood. So there's what my colleague Taylor noelle who was formally incarcerated and who founded the "who speaks for me" project, she talks about the trauma to prison pipeline. So when I think about advocacy and policy and what our priorities need to be, it's not that rape kits should not be tested but the amount of money and press and time and emphasis that is going to that.

I would have chosen to put that emphasis somewhere else, for example, on the sexual violence that is occurring because of the prison system, or starting to question and do more narrative research about why there is a trauma to prison pipeline. Why is it that women who are incarcerated are disproportionately survivors of sexual

violence before they get to prison and what kind of intervention programs can we do to better support those survivors to potentially make an intervention that would prevent them from being criminalized later in life. So my question is who will decide which issues are the biggest legislative priorities, and the broader question is which victims count in public policy. I want to list up the work of Chimamanda Ngozi adichie, and she said the single story creates stereotypes, and the problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue but that they are incomplete. They make one story become the only story. And so this is something that fits with me as a will the as a story teller and as someone who uses stories for the purpose of community organizing and for the purpose of building an advocacy platform and eventually a public policy reform set of priority based on story. And my focus is very much on lifting up the stories that we

usually don't hear because they come
from survivors who belong to 5
marginalized power outages, vulnerable
populations, oppressed populations. So
I want to talk about a few of those
people's stories. Which victims are
erased. Which are the stories you may
not have heard. So I just did a road
trip across the south just the past two
and a half weeks or so, and I did this
through my project mirror memoirs which
is me collecting stories from
individuals who are LGBTQ people of
color who survived child sex abuse and
I'm also queer identify so I'm doing
this as a queer south Asian woman, a
queer brown woman, holding space for my
own community members. Many of whom are
survivors who have never talked about
it, never grappled with their healing,
never grappled with their trauma and the
arc of oppression that they're facing in
life. And I had the opportunity on this
road trip I did six interviews across
the south. One of the people I

interview his name is Ky Peterson. And his story briefly is that he's a black transgender man, he is 26 years old. He lives in Georgia in rural Georgia and he is currently incarcerated in a Georgia state women's prison. Again, he's a transgender man which means he's on hormones and taking testosterone to transition socially and medically to align more like with his spirit as a man. But because he has not had gender reassignment surgery and certainly had not had that gender reassignment surgery when he was arrested at age 20 he was put into a women's prison. Ky's case is as follows. He was raped by his grandmother's boyfriend when he was eight to nine years old. He ended up disclosing the rapes to his grandmother who confronted her boyfriend while they were in the car. So the boyfriend was in the driver's seat, the grandmother was in the passenger seat, and Ky, nine-year-old Ky was in the backseat and in the confrontation, the boyfriend

ended up shooting the grandmother and
killing her in front of Ky. And when 6
the police arrived the boyfriend said
that it case was a suicide and Ky piped
up all of nine years old and tried to
tell the police what had actually
happened.

And the police ignored him. And they
went I long warning lights story that it
had been a suicide.

And KY's grandmother had been his main
caretaker. So at the age of nine Ky
learned a really valuable lesson which
is that you can't trust the police and
which is that you shouldn't talk about
the violation that's done to you because
it's going to have some serious
consequences. And I think another
lesson that he learned was that no one
listens to little black girls.

Particularly not working class poor
black girls living in rural south
Georgia.

>> So that's really important in the arc 1
of his life because he went on to face

different forms of sexual harassment particularly as his gender nonconformity started to show. He was also a caretaker for a younger brother who were in and out of the juvenile detention system. And when Ky was 20 he took them to the video arcade and he decided to sit with his sketch pad and decided to sit with his sketch pad and wait for his brothers while they were inside. And while they were sitting outside, a migrant farm worker, because south Georgia is basically farms and prisons and so one of the farm workers who was staying in the same trailer park, the same mobile home park that his family lived in saw him outside of the arcade and was inebriated and basically hit on him. And Ky said I'm not interested, I'm not gay. Like thanks but no thanks and the guy wouldn't leave him alone but finally left and he said I'm going home, are you ready to follow? And the brothers were 14 and 16 at the time. So Ky went to the trailer park and he never

made it home because he was passing one of the abandoned trailers. The man who had arrested him ended up hitting him in the back of the head and knocked him unconscious and when he came too he was being sodomized and raped. And his brothers were screaming and they came in and pulled the man off of him. And he ended up shooting this man and killing him. Georgia is a stand your ground state much like Florida and he also got a rape kit done and the rape kit corroborated his story that he had been forcibly raped and despite all of this, the defense attorney -- when the prosecution tried to say that he had deliberately seduced the man in order for him and his brothers to rob him, the defense decided not to enter the rape kit into the evidence because they said you don't look like a rape victim. No one is going to believe that you're a rape victim. So he was not able to use the stand your ground defense. It was never discussed that he had been

sodomized and he ended up pleading guilty to manslaughter and getting 20 years in a Georgia state women's prison.

I bring up the cause of Ky Peterson because if the focus is on rape kits he had that done. He's still languishing in a prison for an act of self-defense.

I think most of us would agree that he should be free because he defended himself during an actual sexual assault.

Ky has so much grace. One of the people that has been through so much violence.

And he and his partner have founded a nonprofit from prison called freedom overground.

So I really encourage you to check that out. They're advocating for transgender prisoners and LGBT prisoners to get the proper medical care that they're entitled to under the law and to do reentry services to prepare survivors to come out of prisons toward the end of their sentence in a way that hopefully decreases what's called post-traumatic incarceration system. Similarly Nicole

pitman who is not necessarily a survivor but is a national advocate. She lived in Oakland and works for impact justice. And she interviewed 500 people who were put in the sex offender register industry and he was able to trace the impact on their lives and what she found was an ark of doctoring sayings not rehabilitation, and that disproportionately again, we were talking about people of color, especially black men and boy and she also found that 100 percent of the 500 people she interviewed, prior to they are being put on the sex offender registry had already been in child welfare system as victims. And these dots were never connected. Partly I think because of the way our movements have been siloed and so Nicole founded a nonprofit after her stories were complete and she published her report to get young people off the sex offender registry. Three other really great organizations that I feel need to

be mentioned here that are also led by survivors at the margins, survivors at the intersections really of oppression, Genetic Johnson whose an African-American transgender woman who is formally incarcerated just spoke at the California coalition against sexual assault about her own experience of surviving sex abuse by the age of ten. And the arc of criminalization that it led to from never getting a space to actually heal those wounds, never getting a space to discuss the effect of that trauma on her life and being retraumatized in prison as a black transgender woman and the violence she faced in prison. And she now founded the justice project, the T.J.i why is project, and it's based in the bay area. Similarly, Bambi who is Latina, Mexican American, and was crossing the border, got put into deTex camp, contracted HIV but also cans from a history of sex abuse from her stepfather in Mexico and then escaping that by leaving home and

being homeless as a young teenager, and again someone who never got the services she deserved to address that drama and how it put her on an arc about self-medicating through drugs and how that's what landed her in prison year later in the United States. She is now a national advocate. She gave a keynote at the the White House a few years ago and if you don't know her work I encourage you to check her out. She founded a coalition which now has capital Is in ten different states advocating for transgender Latina women who are currently in detention camps or getting out of detention and helping with reentry into society for them. And then finally tailor who I mentioned earlier, African-American transgender woman formally incarcerated and she's the one who coined this phrase the trauma to prison pipeline, realizing while she was incarcerated how many other women that she was doing time were child sex abuse survivors and how no one

was talking about it and now looking at the data she's realized all the connections were there. So shed found who speaks for me project. Which really looks at survivorship and who is vulnerable, and advocating for our movements when we're looking at violence and looking at forms of institutional violence particularly. Especially when that institutional violence I think in all of these cases it's really easy to see that we're talking about people who were harmed as children vims in their families and neighborhoods and were later harmed as adults by the institutions that were supposedly set up to protect society and help victims of crime. But none of these people's victim hood actually counted in the criminal legal system. And I would argue that's because of the identity they embody as people of color. So I think all the time about which very well are erased and how do we build programs that actually serve all victims of

violence when we talk about ending interpersonal violence it has to include a Ky Peterson or Bambi or Taylor. I want to talk a little bit more about some of the statistics that back up these stories. And who is actually vulnerable when we talk about sexual violence and whiled welfare. Sexual violence in women's prisons 86 percent of people incarcerated in women's prisons including transgender women and men report that they have reported sexual violence in their lifetime prior incarceration and that's a scientist tick from the Vera institute of justice. This father or mother is called the trauma to prison pipeline. Women take up the majority of victims in rain and sexual assault being done by prison guards towards female inmates. So think about that, women who have already survived child sex abuse, adult sexual violence, then getting incarcerated and experiencing it again from the prison guards. We talk a lot about women and

children and I don't think we don't talk enough about gender nonconformity and how vulnerable it makes to to sexual violence in different forms. So here are some data points on that. We know that one in two transgender individuals are sexual by abused at some point in their lives. # two percent of transgender survives have experienced child sex abuse specifically. And that's the data appoint from an organization called forge, a national transgender advocacy organization. In 2005 they published a study called sexual violence is in the transgender community. 15 percent of transgender people report being sexually assaulted while in police custody or jail which more than doubles to 32 percent for African-American transgender people. Again, that's a statistic from forge. So if you are a survivor of sexual violence and you are transgender and black and you want help I think it's not safe to go to the police as an entry

point to access something like victim services because the police are often the ones being sexually violent on top of sexual violence that people may have experienced before that. And we also know that five to nine percent of transgender survivors were sexually assaulted by police directly and that again is a statistic from forge. In terms of children, and the work that I do around child sex abuse we also know there are certain populations that are more vulnerable. I've read that children with disabilities in general are at least times likelier to be sex abused. One of the statistics that led me to form Mirror Memories is the next statistic. So gender nonconforming children, could be a boy who likes to play dolls. It could be a Rhode Island child who actually asserted that they have a transgender identity. And these children are up to six times likelier to be sex abused. That's a statistic from the American academy of pediatrics. And we know for boys who

are gender non-conforming, tend to be siloed out for some kind of sexual punishment, or targeted for child sex abuse. And what that study talked about is that it could be corrective in the way I've just described. It could also be if you're a predator they close to a family orb in a family and you in the effeminate boy you're going to target that child. So it's a ends. In terms of LGBT we know 40 percent of all homeless youth are LGBT. And that of these youth 68 percent indicated that family rejection was a major factor contributing to homelessness. 64 percent of them said that abuse in their family of origin was another important factor. I included the statistic here because there's been a lot of talk in recent years about runaway LGBTs but we never talk about what are they running from. And so me it's very clear that they're not running away from bullying. They're not running away from name calling. They're running

away from child sex abuse in their home
from domestic violence in their home,
that is specifically targeting them
because they are not straight. Because
they are not gender conforming. And we
also know that when a young person
becomes homeless it puts them at greater
risk for experiencing sexual violence
all over again. It make a young
vulnerable raped sometimes because thee
young people in order to make money are
engaging in sex work. So I feel that in
the word of intimate partner violence
and domestic violence works we talk
about the children who are homeless with
their mothers who are escaping domestic
violence but we don't talk enough about
these LGBTQ homeless youth. If you're
being sexually assaulted in your home
that is a form of domestic violence so
to me these children are very much
escaping domestic violence situations
most of the time. We also know
obviously in this current political
climate it's important to talk about the

as a rule innocenter up documented children. And that's a repeat New York times article on April 30 discussed that.

And we always need to be mindful. It's easy to say these help need more institutional intervention and we can trust places like hospitals, mental health hospitals to help or if a child is acting out and engaging in behavior that is criminalized that we need to put them in juvenile detention camps those will be a site of rehabilitation and I think the reality it couldn't with farther from that. We know that eight percent of youth in juvenile detention centers reported being sexually victimized by a staff member at least once in the previous year and that's a department of justice statistic. 90 percent of those who reported being victimized boys. Specifically the female staff as perpetrators which to me a also important in terms of complicating the

narrative of who is a perpetrator. When you talk about children who are being harmed the conversation had to expand because we know that women are also perpetrators. It's not just men. And we know that mental health hospitals are often site of rape. I'm hearing that lot particularly around severe and transgender youth of color who are targeted because of racism, transgender phobia and punished in those hospitals. The Chicago tribune broke a big story about youth in psychiatric hospitals being raped while institutionalized and that's just across the board not even looking at the vulnerable populations. I want to talk as well when we talk about the arc of intimate violence, why is it important to connect the dots. What are the long-term effects of things like childhood trauma and of course, many of you I'm sure know this study but it's important to highlight it. The adverse childhood experience study is scale of ten different questions asking

adults about ten different incidents of potential trauma. And you can see the questions here if you were regularly verbally abused all the way to were you sexually assaulted as a child. And this study was actually done as a collaboration between the center for disease control and Kaiser-Permanente.

It began in 1997. It will survey pool subpoena thousand Kaiser patients which I think is interesting. Even in a population where we might expect to see more principle and therefore less oppression, less violence that actually didn't stand.

We still found that 20 percent of Americans report being survivors of sex abuse, child sex abuse specifically.

One in four girls and one in six boys.

Which to me when you combine that with some of the data that I've already presented to you about vulnerable children, it's just mind boggling to me the epidemic nature of the violence of child sex abuse when you pair it with

the science around the issue. And the siloing in antiviolence work. And I think what's shocking to me about the ACE study both as somebody who's a researcher but also someone who's a survivor you get one point for every question that you say yes to. If your score is four or higher, you were at greater risk over your lifetime of a number of serious health issues, improper brain development, impairing cognitive ability blindness and cerebral palsy from head trauma. Even heart disease, lung disease, cancer. Mental health disorders including suicidal ideation, smoking, drug use and a propensity to be in abusive relationships and that last point that I think is really relevant to the work that you all are doing. That we have to start connecting the dot because we don't start centering childhood trauma as a root cause of intimate partner violence we're missing the forest for the trees. I think it's clear to me

through the ACE study especially many my own life that this is cyclical violence.

We do to us what is normalized when it's actually quite violent.

And you see that with both of my parents. They are both survivors of childhood sex abuse and both of them grew up in violent homes and didn't get care as young people to name those patterns and to -- in my father's case his propensity to be a perpetrator of violence. And my mother's case who's a non-offender but someone who was so deeply socialized to accept violence, you know, and had a lot of childhood trauma, of different kinds. Didn't get the care that she needed. Again one who went to American middle schools and high schools and ended up in a very abusive marriage. So these data points to me are out there and we don't do enough to actually build our programs in a way that connects the reality or that meets the reality of being as connected as it is. I've been talking very fast but I

do want to make sure that we get to the last few slides because they really explain the theoretical framework and approach that I'm trying to use in my own work with mirror memoirs. So I think there's been a lot of really good discussion about intersectionality. Since the 1980s, looking at how oppressions can compound. That a black person in this country is incredibly vulnerable to interpersonal and institutional violence through racism. But a black woman is also vulnerable to sexism and racism and a black queer woman is also vulnerable to homophobia and a black transgender woman also to transgender phobia in addition to all the other forms of violation. So me to this red circle in the middle would advise us if we really want the help every survivor we should build our practicals on top of a framework that addresses ableisms, homophobia, transgender phobia. I'm sure there are many phobias as forms of violence that

Crete a context in which people can be deeply harmed. I think that's great and we need to think in that way but I want to broad seven the dialogue as being a form of oppression. So I want to say that if you have experience sexual violence, first of all, sexual violence as you can see on this cram here a spectrum. You can be molested once, meaning touched inappropriately once, you can be raped repeatedly in your own home as I have. Those are both experiences of sexual violence arguably with different impacts. Because we know from things like a ace study when trauma compounded so do the effects. And complex trauma is that much harder to heal. So I want us to start thinking about the experience of being a survivor of sexual violence as something that makes you more vulnerable to other formals of violence later in life. To other disparities in life. Similarly with intimate physical violence. But if you're beaten as a child or adult that

experience also makes you vulnerable. Specifically and especially if you are already leaning at the interests of violence because you're black or you're transgender or because you're a woman or because you're undocumented and so on. So to me that really information which survivors have been historically not included in our work and who should be center. If we really want to create organizations and more broadly a culture of antiviolenace work that is going to reach everybody who's affected and especially people who are most vulnerable, that we need to use the diagrams as our guiding light for which survives we go after. To make sure those survivors could call our hotline. I think there are obstacles that we need to address internally as founders and board members and staff and that's usually around our own ceasefire ship. Not everyone on this chat are survivors of some form of violence and that's usually what brings us to this work. I

know that it's true for me. I was to
happy at age 20 to find the office of
violence against women and to find a
community of people who understood why
violence against women and children
should be politicized and being able to
leave with your own story can be so
healing. But for those of us who are
brave enough to come out in our
workplace, unfortunately the way that we
have set up our organizations for the
past decades leads to us being shamed
because we admit we're in this work
because of our own wounds and we need to
do away with that culture of stigma and
change, immediately if you're going to
build organizations that are truly safe
enough for people who are facing so many
forms of violence to come to us as
counselors, as advocates as hotline
workers and to I've been through this
horrible thing. That's going to trickle
down. I really deeply believe it. It's
something I've seen in different
workplaces over the years and so I want

us to continue thinking correctively about how we can break that stigmatizing of survivors. For example, I have post-traumatic stress disorder. Of course there are significant mental health affects on me as a survivor. That's a disability. And like any other disability, it can be managed if it is respected and named and treated. But so often I have had colleagues or supervisors suggest thatty because of that disability that I'm too unstable to do this work. And I think that something I continue to hear as I do these kind of talks more and more from so many staff memberss and it's just wrong how can we set cultures that don't pathologize our staff members. There's more space for the full truth to emerge. We complaint fix what we can't talk about. And what I mean by that is there's so many aspects around rape culture, around patriarchy that allow violence to happen on the epidemic scale that it does.

And if complaint name those we won't be able to have alternatives and we can't nail the complexity of violence that people go through how will they get treated? So I think that you see some of these examples, for instance, in the advocacy move for hi positive people which was at fist focused on white highly educated men to the detriment of black advocates of transgender women who were activists in that movement from the beginning and who who were slowly erased such that HIV is disproportion affecting the black men and women. And that's because of the nonprofit systems that were set up. And similarly so the right you see a picture of Marcia P. Johnson who is in a fur coat. She was a black transgender woman who did a lot of advocacy for transgender youth and pushed back against the Lgb nonprofits that were coming out of stone wall and she and Silvia Rivera have been instrumental in that uprising which later led to the nonprofits.

Even though they had been the ones to be the catalyst for the grassroots movement pushing back against phobia. So I think we have an opportunity in the antiviolence world to grapple who are the leaders named rape an issue and who have we left out in these nonprofits and and how do we go back now and correct for that.

How do we start to recenter the leadership of survives who are at the intersection of survives. And so I want to close by saying a little bit around mirror memoirs and that just being a survive is not enough. I hope I've demonstrated that. That we need to specifically elevate survives who have lived the submerge and commitment to social justice. That is really not only about our own individual story. I'm really clear that I have a lot of principled. I'm highly educated. I'm a light skinned woman of color.. My commitment is to make sure that any project that I set up is always a home

or can be a home for black transgender survivors, undocumented survivors of color so that no one is being left out from the work that I'm doing. What you see here is the photo from the first gathering. There were 31 of us in the room. Many of whom or in the photo. Everyone in this photo is an LGBTQ person of color who is a survivor of child sex abuse and everyone was comfortable with being out publicly and taking this photo. But it was a really historic moment where we were part of our project and convening that was centering our voices and talking about policy advocacy and what kind of trainings we can lead for folks such as yourselves so that we can help our colleagues in the field of antiviolence work better understand what our lives have been and better understand how to be in partnership with us to end antiviolence in a way that truly is about ending all forms of violence and not just any violence. So I'll just

close by briefly telling you a little bit about is it project. It's funded by the just collaborative to end child abuse full time and that work goes through December 2019. So for me thinking through all of the slides I just showed you and all that works I've been doing it became clear to me that we need to create space for the stories to emerge and for our leadership development and training pipeline to be built off of those stories. And so mirror memoirs is first and foremost an oral history project. I've done 39 interviews of people who have survived child abuse and we're starting to train people to facilitate trainings like this one. We just led a track at the California statewide conference against sexual assault in August of five workshops that included former sex workers talking about the importance of decriminalizing sex work. It included formerly incarcerated people.

It included people who were

institutionalized in mental health

hospitals who were sexually assaulted in

those hospitals. It's been such a

powerful and healing project for me and

really just such an honor to lead it.

And we will be doing a few more reports

and rather interviews and convenings and

releasing a report of our finds. I'm

working with a board member who is a

researcher and professor at Dartmouth to

start coding the narratives into data.

So this is my contact information. If

you have questions please get in touch.

And I want to end by saying that I have

many colleague in this just beginnings

program who are survivor leaders of

color who are also leading their own

projects and this is their names and

their project names. You can find their

category information at just

beginnings.org.

>>> Thank you, Amica. Can you hear me?

>> Yes.

>> Great. I was just testing my audio.

Thank you very much. This would be the

Q&A section now and I see there are a few questions that are before me that I'll just read out to you Amica, if that's okay. I know we're also interested in hearing from the participants, right? We want this to be as dialoguey as possible. So stay tuned but I want to make sure we answer some of the questions. So the first question is from Anna. I wonder if you can speak to the impact of collective historical trauma (inaudible).

>> Thanks for the question. We do talk about this a lot particularly with indigenous and African-American folks talking about the trauma of genocide slavery founding of this country. We're talking about the stories of our ancestors and the legacies of our families that we are able to trace.

And it has been -- we did some body based work in pairs in circles with each other where allowing ourselves to cry and feel and talking about or kyes with our ancestors. My parents are

immigrants but my dad is for example,
his family is a survivor of partition.
When the British left, they drew the
line between India and Pakistan and
there was mass genocide on both sides.
So there's so many forms of colonial
violence and historical violence that
particularly people of color are healing
from. Thanks for that question.

>>> Okay. So the question, can you talk
about who is doing good work in the area
of intimate violence and intellectual
disabilities or what core components
need to be in place for children with
intellectual disabilities.

>> that is a question I don't know the
field of but I would direct everyone to
my colleague. Her name is listed in the
slide, and she lives with a physical
disability but also has disability
rights activist and is more connected in
that than I am.

>>> Great. Thank you. So Maya had a
question, what support for survivors do
you suggest organizations offer as we

become more intentional about elevating survivor leaders with a commitment to social justice.

>> I think for me group therapy was really formative and as I get older I feel like mirror memoirs also affords me a group therapy where I have opportunity to meet with people who were victims of child sex abuse. That is a privilege that I have because my project is national, but smaller communities it might be hard to get that specific. I do think that there's an argument to be for age as a defining factor and child sex abuse being two different identities or, I would say on behalf of my sister, when we were kids and put into group therapy I was put into group therapy was a direct victim but no corresponding support for the witnesses of domestic violence until much later. So just being mindful about the ways you can group those together but I think there's so much power in that because it is being witnessed by peers who can

understand but with the guidance of a therapist and a lot of important healing happens.

>>> Yeah. Which actually I wonder if it makes sense because Joshua had a follow-up question that was about hearing about how organizations can support quote, unquote, closeted survivors to be more central in the way that they increase survivor leadership and I hope it's okay, Amica. I would love to hear from folks about what your ideas are in terms of how workplace can be supportive of staff who are survivors to come out of survivors as it is integral in lifting up survivor leadership and knowing that there are so many survivors in doing this work.

>> Absolutely. Let's hear from the audience on that for sure.

>> If you can type your answers into the chat box we'd love to see what folks think. Some ideas for how organizations can support survivors to come out as survivors in the workplace. I see

multiple people typing so we'll just wait a little bit and see what folks have to say.

>> And maybe in the meantime, a question came out, I don't know if you have any answer on this, but Jacqueline would love to hear any information on communication campaigns that are aiming to raise awareness on intersectionality and victimology. Do you know know any .

>> Not. We talk about it a lot. Every project that I've list there had on the slide that is up right now uses app intersectional framework, so just really encourage people to get the know the other leaders and their works. They're all doing great work.

>> And so they're underneath the just beginnings.org website, right .

>> Yeah. There are individual websites for most of these projects but you can read everyone's bio is and find their contact information at just beginnings.org.

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>> So let's see. Sieve ya says that we

have begun a vicarious trauma group to support staff who may be triggered by their own trauma and using stress based language around survivorship throughout programming. I think that's a great example of how organizations can support staff who are survivors.

>>> I agree.

[Speaking simultaneously.].

>>> And non-shaming and just build agriculture where it's okay to talk about these things, right? Like, that's a big step to lifting up survivor leadership and voice and changing narratives.

>> Something that we often talk about a lot in our just beginnings work is sharing resources around own self-care. Things like PTSD there's really no cure for so you're always trying things and we're sharing a lot of resources for each other.

So we're all saying I tried this and it helped. Little things like that. Just being able to create a workplace where

survivors can be open about the fact that you are doing work to help over survives while holding your own survivorship allows the freedom to share healing strategies and self-care strategies in order to not be derailed by vicarious trauma.

>>> And Christy chimed in saying that their office is supportive of staff trauma. Weekly check ins with supervisors and there's a crisis response team. Honesty around being triggered and minimize any kind of impact. So we have time for a couple more questions and there's -- Amica, is there any specific treatment program you wish someone would have put into place for you as a child or anything that could have made difference for you.

>> When I was 16 I was put into group therapy by the state of New Jersey and that was really help.

One thing I wish the therapy would have encompassed somatic healing. It was talk therapy only and I was already

a very intellectual kid. My friend who runs the firecracker foundation is a survivor and also happens to be African-American and she has envisioned and created this beautiful organization that does free yoga classes for survivors of all ages and so I encourage you to look at the work they're doing and I think that's just a form of healing that too many of us don't get until our adulthood.

>> Uh-huh. That's great. And the information is also under just beginnings.org.

>> That's right. Or you can Google the firecracker organization in Lansing Michigan..

>>> So with limited resources do you think focusing on perpetrators of violence is a good strategy.

>> This is such a hard question. I think that in the immediately of antiviolence work we need to engage people who have committed harm because the reality is I truly believe that most

people who commit harm are also survivors of violence. I don't think the inverse is true. I don't think that most survivors go on to offend but I think most who do offend are survivors.

So if we say we want the help all survivors at some point we're going to have to grapple with perpetrators. Do I think every organization needs to do that? No. Because it's a very specific kind of work.

Some of you may already be in touch with ATSA, a network that publishes the best practices in working with perpetrators particularly overchill sex abuse. My colleague Sonja Shaw, she runs the Ahimsa collective and her project, she's also a survivor and she's Indian American, and she hoeds restorative justice circles both for men who are currently incarcerated and she holds circles outside of prison for non-offending survivors and the beautiful culmination of her project is that she brings those two circles

together in prison and it's a way for everybody involved to regain just the connection humanity. That there are no heroes and no monsters, and there's only human beings and human beings that are wounded and do harm, but they are actually people. So it's again, a particularly kind of work.

I don't think everyone needs to feel forced to do it. I myself don't think that I could work with offenders very well. But somebody in our movement needs to be doing that work.

>> And that actually makes me think of the revolution home. The idea of the person who perpetrates violence, they're monsters. It talks about how communities can hold people accountable for violence, because that's a thing as well. And that you can't just toss people away. They're still in community, and so what are some approaches people have thought through to address this issue.

>> I also want to point out that Anna as

offered her contact information around survivor led community projects and that's work that she's been doing in Chicago for the last 15 years. So thank you for the work you're doing.

>>> thank you. So it looks like we have minute left. Would you like to take one more question or pose a question of the audience.

>> I do want people to think about coming off this webinar from some of the things that you learned here or that you already knew, who are the survivors that are potentially not being served by your agency and what can you and your team do to shift your workplace culture, in your language, your approach, partnerships with other organizations that are reaching the vulnerable populations to make sure that those people are getting healing services as survivors of different forms of intimate violence.

>> So folks can think about it and if you would like to type ideas in the chat box, if you have been thinking about

this and you have ideas we'd love to share this with the group.

And I see there's -- Maya offered a suggestion for how organizations can contribute to the wellness and well-being of staff. Thank you, Maya.

>> And I do want to address it's question how to address the LGBT community. This is what I was trying to get at. Every state had at least one LGBT center. The fact is because of violence intimate violence disproportionately targets LGBTQ people, many of the members are survivors and so those are great organizations to reach out to and partner with. That's my suggestion on how to engage those communities.

>> Thank you. Okay. Well, it looks like the chat box activity has -- Sarah, thank you so much. And so maybe we'll kind of close off the Q&A session if that's okay. And you can reach Amica on her contact information is on the slides. So please feel free to reach out to them. And just as a reminder

everyone who has registered will get the PowerPoint slides, the webinar recording link and the closed captioning transcript at the end of the webinar.

This take about two business days to get the information, so please, I appreciate your patience to wait for those materials but that I also going to be posted on to our webinar's web page. So you can access it there as well. So to close, before I close I wanted to quickly go over some of the resources that maybe some of you have already accessed or know about, but the national hotline, teen dating abuse hotline and the sexual assault hotline are all available 24 hours a day and the services -- the services are offered in many language. This is a list of the funded resource centers. The DVR of the beginning of the webinar. All of the expertise and specific issues and as you can see futures also operates the national organization against domestic violence.

And they have so many resources and hopefully they can support you and the works that you do. So these are the culturally specific special issue resource centers. They have expertise for different communities and again I encourage you to go to their websites. They also offer technical assistance and training so I would recommend reaching out to them. And then lastly we have the capacity building centers which includes the promising future building center which is the center that this webinar is housed under that I talked about at the beginning. The LGBT institute. And the capacity technical and business project. So please check them out. And with that, I will bring it will webinar to a close. I want to extend a very warm thank you to Amica. Thank you, thank you for speaking with us today. And to all of you participants. And this is part of an ongoing member that are series. Because you registered you have automatically

been added to our Listserv so you will get that invest via e-mail. So if you want to share the information please let folks now they can add themselves by visiting our website. And the website is [futures without violence.org](http://futureswithoutviolence.org). And before you leave as promised I was going to prompt you to take our survey. That is the link so it should take you to the survey web page. If not you should be directed there automatically. Your feedback is so important so us. It actually informs our future webinars so we'd a love to hear from you and that is it. So thank you so much for joining and I hope you have a great rest of your day.

>> Bye everyone.

