(Un)believable: What We Hear and Believe When Certain Survivors Speak Out About Sexual Violence TIME'S UP Legal Defense Fund / Legal Network for Gender Equity Webinar March 9, 2022

Speaker List and Biographies

(in alphabetical order by surname)



Zoe Gross (she/her), Director of Advocacy, Autistic Self Advocacy Network

Zoe Gross is Director of Advocacy at Autistic Self Advocacy Network. Previously, she worked as a special assistant at the Administration for Community Living, and as a policy analyst on Senator Tom Harkin's Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee staff. In 2012, Zoe created the annual Disability Day of Mourning vigil, a national, cross-disability event which commemorates the lives of disabled people murdered by their family members or caregivers. She received a White House Champions of Change award for this work in 2013.



Jaribu Hill (she/her), Executive Director, Mississippi Workers' Center for Human Rights

Jaribu Hill is a licensed attorney. She is Founder and Executive Director of the Mississippi Workers' Center for Human Rights. Hill is an author and an international spokesperson on Civil and Human Rights topics. In support of workers across the globe, Jaribu has traveled to Asia, Africa, Europe and the Caribbean. Through her organization, Attorney Hill has provided legal representation and advocacy for hundreds of workers in the state. Her efforts have led to the adoption of "Zero Tolerance Against Hate" policies being implemented in workplaces across the state. Hill also won an important judgment against the Ku Klux Klan in Pelion, South Carolina and has assisted Mississippi Delta parents in their fight for school equity. Hill is the recipient of the coveted "Gloria" Award, named for Gloria Steinem. She is a Skadden Fellow and the recipient of the R. Jess Brown, the highest award given to a Mississippi Lawyer by the Magnolia Bar Association. Jaribu was legal observer during the Women in War Crimes Tribunal, held in Tokyo in December 2000 and the author of the poem, Haunting Mirrors, written to honor Comfort Women and other victims of sexual slavery. Excerpts from this poem were made part of the important judgment rendered during the Tribunal.

Attorney Hill is admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court and serves as a Special Master in Washington County's Chancery Court and is a former Municipal Judge for the City of Hollandale. She has written numerous articles and has appeared on various TV and Radio programs, including TV One's acclaimed series: Murder in Black and White. Attorney Hill serves on Mississippi's Access to Justice Commission. Learn more about Hill's work. Visit her Blog (Back in the Day is Today) on Word Press.com and hit her up on Facebook.



Hunter Frank lannucci (they/them), MARGARET Fund Fellow, National Women's Law Center

Hunter Frank lannucci (they/them) is a Margaret Fund Fellow at the National Women's Law Center and a recent graduate of The George Washington University Law School. Hunter works on issues impacting student survivors of sexual harassment, as well as issues impacting LGBTQ+ students, with a focus on the lived experiences of transgender and non-binary students.

Hunter grew up in Bronx, NY, and attributes much of their ardent passion for LGBTQ+ and womxn's rights to being raised in a city that celebrated diversity and queerness. This experience inspired them to move to Washington, D.C. for a career in advocacy, which they began as an undergraduate at American University and continued on as a law student at The George Washington University Law School.

Before joining NWLC, Hunter's work focused on healthcare access, as well as advocacy surrounding transgender and non-binary clients. Hunter represented Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security Disability beneficiaries as a Student Attorney with George Washington Law's Health Rights Law Clinic. They also worked at Whitman-Walker Health Legal Services and assisted transgender and non-binary clients in completing name and gender change petitions to DC, Maryland, and Virginia courts. While at Whitman-Walker, Hunter also worked on appealing a discriminatory denial of a transgender client's gender-affirming care.



Virgie Tovar (she/her), Author, Contributor for Forbes.com

Virgie Tovar is an author, educator, and expert in the areas of weight-based discrimination and body image. She holds a Master's degree in Sexuality Studies with a focus on the intersections of body size, race and gender. Tovar has authored "The Self-Love Revolution: Radical Body Positivity for Girls of Color," "You Have the Right to Remain Fat" and "The Body Positive Journal." Tovar started the hashtag campaign #LoseHateNotWeight and in 2018 was named one of the 50 most influential feminists by Bitch Magazine for her book, "You Have the Right to Remain Fat." She has been featured by the New York Times, Tech Insider, BBC, MTV, Al Jazeera, NPR, and Yahoo Health. Tovar is a contributor for Forbes where she covers the plus-size market and how to end weight discrimination at work, and she's received Yale's Poynter Fellowship in Journalism. She hosts the podcast, Rebel Eaters Club, and lives in San Francisco.



Deborah Tuerkheimer (she/her), Professor of Law, Northwestern University School of Law; Author, "Credible: Why We Doubt Accusers and Protect Abusers"

Deborah Tuerkheimer is a professor at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law. She earned her undergraduate degree from Harvard College and her law degree from Yale Law School. Tuerkheimer served for five years as an Assistant District Attorney in the New York County District Attorney's Office, where she specialized in domestic violence and child abuse prosecution.