



“INEQUALITY AND WORK: Facing Barriers, Creating Solutions”
A Symposium Presented by the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia

October 1, 2009

The Arch Street Meeting House
4th & Arch Streets, Philadelphia, PA

Price: \$25 (\$15 Students/Public Interest)
6 Hours Substantive CLE Credit Available

Register Online: <http://lawcenter40years.eventbrite.com/>

Registration & continental breakfast (8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.)

Welcome and Introductions (9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.)

Inequality is pervasive. It manifests itself through unequal access to employment, but the causes and results are from other barriers: for examples, education, health, housing and the quality of neighborhoods. The goal: a day to delve deeply into these inequalities that are embedded into our society, investigate the role that law plays in remedying the inequalities, and finally commit to contributions that can make the remedies happen.

Welcome:

- Jennifer Clarke, *Executive Director, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia*
- Donald K. Joseph, *Visiting Associate Professor, Rutgers Law – Camden, Symposium Chair*

SESSION I: What are the barriers to employment? (9:15 a.m. -10:30 a.m.)

Introductory overview - continued inequality in the workforce as a barrier to success for segments of society. What are the barriers? Where do they intersect for different populations? Where have people broken down the barriers? What do the data show us?

Convener: Judith Gran, *Director of Disability Projects, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia*

- L. Felipe Restrepo, *Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania*
- Judith Heumann, *Director of the Department of Disability Services, District of Columbia*
- Bruce A. Crawley, *Millennium 3 Management, Inc.*

Break (10:30 a.m. -10:45 a.m.)

SESSION II: What are the public health causes and effects of pervasive unemployment?

(10:45 a.m.-12 p.m.)

Screening of “Not Just a Paycheck,” Part 7 of the PBS miniseries, “Unnatural Causes – Is Inequality making us sick?” Discussion of the film’s lessons by public health experts. What do the data tell us about the ways that health affects and is affected by unemployment?

Convener: Donald Joseph

- Alex Briscoe, *Acting Director, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency*
- Mayla J. Henderson, MPH, *Outreach Specialist, Philadelphia Department of Public Health*
- Mia Keeys, *City of Philadelphia, Department of Public Health*
- Carol Rogers, *City of Philadelphia, Department of Public Health*

Lunch (12 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.)

(Over)

KEYNOTE ADDRESS (12:45 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.)

William Darity, *Arts & Sciences Professor of Public Policy, Professor of African and African-American Studies and Economics, Duke University*

Dr. Darity joins the lively debate between those who attribute the gaps in wealth between African Americans and other groups to “cultural practices” and those who blame outside structural forces. Applying stratification economics, Dr. Darity offers important, quantitatively-based insights into the source of the persistent inequalities in wealth.

Introduction of Speaker: Adam H. Cutler, *Director, Public Health & Environmental Justice Clinic, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia*

SESSION III: What is the role of law in eliminating inequality? (1:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

We know how to educate children, how to deliver health care and how to create healthy and safe neighborhoods. We have developed state of the art practices, using research and science. What role can law play in ensuring that our state of the art is used for everyone?

Convener: Michael Churchill, *Of Counsel, formerly Chief Counsel, Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia*

- Steve Gold, Esq., *Attorney specializing in civil rights of persons with disabilities*
- Frances Fox Piven, *Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Political Science, City University of New York Graduate Center.*
- Nancy Thaler, *Executive Director, National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services, Inc.*
- Sheldon Zedeck, *Professor of Psychology; Vice Provost, University of California, Berkeley*

SESSION IV: Developing a call to action (2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.)

Four simultaneous breakout sessions moderated by experts where participants will develop ideas for specific solutions for target populations burdened by the barriers identified: a) employment of people with disabilities; b) employment of ex-offenders; c) employment of construction workers including the new green jobs; d) employment of women receiving public assistance.

Convener: Jennifer Clarke

Moderators:

- a. Mark Friedman, *community organizer and advocate*
- b. Paul Brauer, *Vice President, Operations & Human Resources, Brown’s Superstores, Inc*
- c. Leanne Krueger-Braneky, *Executive Director, Sustainable Business Network of Greater Philadelphia*
- d. Michael Froehlich, *Attorney, Community Legal Services*

SESSION V: Combining actions and learning (3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.)

Conference participants reconvene as group. Wrap-up discussion: What have we learned? Do we agree on the action items? How can we press the action items? Reporters present results of breakout sessions and further discussion follows.

Conveners: Donald Joseph & Jennifer Clarke

- Participants: Convener & Moderators, Session IV
- Reporters From Breakout Sessions (selected by each session)

CONCLUDE and adjourn to Down Town Club for 40th Anniversary Celebration!