

Women's  
**Center for Ethics in Action**

in alliance with men

**Global Women Leaders: Values and Strategies that Work for Future Human Security**

This interactive presentation proposes to explore the values and strategies that have been used by women leaders to effect change for women and their societies in recent history. These values and strategies will be presented and debated by participants for their relevance to a central 21<sup>st</sup> century challenge to create human security, by identifying models of leadership and examples of women change agents. Outcomes will include a written report for publication and longer term, if possible, an art exhibition on human security to travel globally.<sup>1</sup>

Questions to be addressed include:

- What critical elements do women's movements need to succeed in the future?
- How are we measuring "change"?
- What is our definition of "power"?
- What tools, strategies and methods – as well as values – shift political, social and economic agendas?
- Who have been some of the most effective agents of change and why?
- What kind of leadership do we need and how can we recognize and nurture it?
- Where will feminism go from here?

Feminist values to be examined include:

- ◇ Consideration of long-term consequences of our actions;
- ◇ Big visions;
- ◇ Understanding of human nature;
- ◇ Willingness to take risks;
- ◇ Global awareness;
- ◇ Diversity of class, race, ethnicity, age, education, income;
- ◇ Inclusivity – (men & children as well as women);
- ◇ Collaboration (many groups);
- ◇ Transparency (Openness);
- ◇ Willingness to learn from History.

Strategies to be debated include:

- ❖ Drawing upon our own experiences to influence change;
- ❖ Motherhood factor, sense of responsibility for others beyond self;
- ❖ Seeing power as collective, not for one over others;

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<sup>1</sup> This presenter has many contacts with artists, and has curated two exhibitions at the United Nations with women artists from around the globe (Beijing Plus Five, 2000, International Women's Day, 2001).

- ❖ Importance of story-telling;
- ❖ Nurturance of others, helping followers to be leaders, listening well;
- ❖ Flexibility about tactics: use of the rational and emotional, logic and artistry;
- ❖ Building a critical mass;
- ❖ Finding consensus.

Some of the “wildcards” this session will touch upon are 1) the importance of linking together our understanding of human nature with our philosophical visions; 2) the significance of seeing each human as part of a larger whole (a quantum physics conception), and conversely of seeing a spiritual whole within each one of us as well; 3) the importance of unplanned transformational moments whether through the arts, spiritual and/or human connections that move us suddenly to greater understanding and insights – across all our cultures and daily lives.

#### Participation Format:

Acting as a facilitator, I will ask two other attendees from other parts of the world to join me as facilitators in this session. Together we will encourage debate and analysis among participants with a tape recorder running. In addition to considering the values and tactics listed above, a selection of poems and stories will be presented and discussed to elucidate the themes that we identify. How we create and measure positive change will be a consistent sub-theme in our session. If my daughter Katherine Zill is able to join us, she will assist me in facilitation, contacting and working with Spanish-speaking participants as well as in note taking and insuring that this session is truly diverse and full of deep interaction. Katherine Zill, the oldest of my four daughters, is an immigration lawyer in San Francisco who has lived a significant part of her life in Spain and Mexico.

Contacts will be made with artists who will or have produced works of art across mediums depicting the meaning of human security during this session and throughout the AWID Forum in order to create a future traveling exhibition.

#### Contact Information:

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Anne Zill is founder and director of the *Women's Center for Ethics in Action: in Alliance with Men* at the **University of New England**, an organization created to tackle wrong headed public policies from a spiritual and values perspective in front of politics-as-usual, focusing on U.S. role around the world. She is also the part-time director of the **Art Gallery at UNE** on the Westbrook College Campus, and has curated two exhibitions at the United Nations for UNIFEM & the International Museum of Women recently ([www.imow.org](http://www.imow.org)). She has been a foundation program associate with the Stewart Mott Charitable Trust for more than 25 years focusing upon women and reproductive health, peace, human rights, international relations & military reform, honest government, civil rights/civil liberties. Earlier she was the news director and producer with National Educational Radio (NPR's predecessor). She has published articles in *The Washington Post*, *Barnard College*

*Alumnae Magazine*, *Washingtonian*, and *The Maine Times*, among other publications. She is a graduate of Barnard College with a Master's Degree in journalism from American University.

In 1974 she was a co-founder of the Women's Campaign Fund, a bi-partisan political action committee to elect more innovative women leaders, and was Board Chair and/or co-Chair for many years. She was also the sole founder of its tax deductible sister entity in 1982, the Women's Campaign Research Fund which conducts Leadership Training Conferences for women politicians nationally every other year.

Anne Zill has worked with women from a number of different disciplines on foreign policy initiatives including a Gender Equity Training for Croatian women & Democracy Training for Bulgarian women mayors, represented Bella Abzug's Women's Environment & Development Organization in Washington, and was the design consultant for a Fund for Women's Leadership (PROLEAD) for the Latin American region for the Inter-American Development Bank. She was president of the Karen Silkwood Fund in the late 1970's. Her recent international efforts: Peace & Reconciliation Training for the Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust (April 2001), Earth Action E-Parliament Conference in Venice (Mar, 2001), Earth Charter Conferences ('98, '99, '00, '01), Vital Voices Conference, Vienna ('97), *Out of Bounds* exhibition of 20 contemporary women artists from 12 African countries ('04), Curator, *Women on War*, a traveling photography exhibition currently in its 7<sup>th</sup> venue at the College of the Atlantic.  
(age range: 55-64)

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International relations major, Tufts University; Law Degree, University of the District of Columbia School of Law; Immigration Law specialist.  
(age range: 35-44)

No financial assistance is requested. No special equipment or tools are required for this session.

This Proposal was not accepted for the Women in Development (AWID) October 2005 Conference in Bangkok, Thailand. CEIA Director Anne Zill and her daughter did, however, participate in the Conference.