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## Panel One: Lessons Learned: Gender Analyses of Past Policies and Practices: Introduction

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# Panel One: Lessons Learned: Gender Analyses of Past Policies and Practices

## Introduction

*Suzanne Goldberg\**

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Hello. I'm Suzanne Goldberg. I am pleased to welcome you to the first of two afternoon panels as part of the *Women's Rights Law Reporter* Symposium, "Lessons Learned: Gender Analyses of Past Policies and Practices." Thank you to Dr. Enarson for the wonderful opening to our conversation today. She has inspired us to think about broadening our analytic lens by foregrounding questions of gender in our consideration of disasters and disaster relief.

Our terrific speakers for this panel will present their remarks along an interesting arc, moving from the local to the national and then to the global. We will start with a focus on issues in New York related to September 11th, then move to issues that began with (and continue to arise from) Hurricane Katrina, and close with issues related to disaster relief abroad. I think that you will see many connections among the speakers' perspectives as well as connections back to the issues Dr. Enarson addressed, including the problem of resistance to gendered analysis. As Dr. Enarson suggested, knowledge, including knowledge about gender-related dynamics in disaster relief, can reduce vulnerability to disaster. This uniquely

well-informed panel will take Dr. Enarson up on that very suggestion.

Each panelist will speak for about fifteen minutes and then I will open the forum for questions. Our first speaker will be Julie Goldscheid, who is a Professor of Law at CUNY Law School and has had, as each speaker has had, extensive professional experience working in disaster relief. Professor Goldscheid spent several years as General Counsel of Safe Horizon. Prior to that, she spent six years at NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund, now known as Legal Momentum. After Professor Goldscheid, we will hear from Dr. Avis Jones-DeWeever. Dr. DeWeever is the Study Director for the Institute for Women's Policy Research. She has, as does everybody on the panel, an incredible array of interesting publications. Third will be Ayse Yonder. Professor Yonder teaches at the Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment at Pratt Institute, and she, too, has an important array of publications.

I will now turn the program over to Professor Goldscheid.

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\*Clinical Professor and Director, Sexuality and Gender Law Clinic, Columbia Law School. Professor Goldberg was formerly a member of the Rutgers-Newark faculty.