Tuesday, October 9, 2012


(Go On! is an occasional item on symposia and other events of interest)

The Avon Global Center for Women and Justice is hosting its Third Annual Women & Justice Conference, to be held at Cornell Law School in Ithaca, N.Y. on Thursday, October 18th. The topic of the conference, Sexual Violence Against Girls in Southern Africa, developed from an 18-month study on sexual violence against girls in schools in Zambia conducted by the Avon Global Center for Women & Justice and the Cornell International Human Rights Clinic together with Women and Law in Southern Africa, a non-governmental organization based in southern Africa. Cornell Law School faculty and students travelled to Zambia twice to interview government officials, school teachers and administrators, and school girls in connection with a report that will be launched at the conference. Of the 105 girls who were interviewed as part of the study, 54% said that they had personally experienced sexual violence or harassment by a teacher, student or man they encountered while travelling to or from school, while 84% reported that they had personally experienced or knew of classmates who had experienced such abuse.

Participants from Ithaca, N.Y. will include, among others, Cynthia Bowman, Dorothea S. Clarke Professor of Law, Cornell Law School; Elizabeth Brundige, Executive Director of the Avon Global Center for Women and Justice at Cornell Law School; Honorable Gertrude Chawatama, High Court of Zambia and Commissioner of the Kenya Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission; and Honorable Virginia Kendall, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Participants from Lusaka, Zambia will include Zambian government officials, including from the Ministry of Education, police, and judiciary, as well as representatives of civil society organizations. The panel consultation will be an opportunity to engage in dialogue with Zambian policy makers to discuss the concerns and recommendations raised in the new Report released by the Center. The Report will be available for download.

MacDonald Moot Court Room, Room 390 Myron Taylor Hall, Cornell Law School, Ithaca, N.Y.
12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Report Launch and Consultation: Discussion of "They are Destroying Our Futures: Sexual Violence Against Girls in Zambia's Schools" by a panel of experts in Ithaca, N.Y. and Lusaka, Zambia. This event is co-sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Zambia, which will host the simultaneous event in Lusaka, Zambia and connect participants in the two countries by videoconference.

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4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Live Webcast.

Keynote Address: The Denial of the Right to a Life Free of Violence for Girl Children: Keynote Address by Rashida Manjoo, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, Its Causes and Consequences and Professor, Department of Public Law, University of Cape Town. This lecture will be streamed live via webcast over the Internet. Those watching online can submit questions and comments by email. The URL for the webcast will be released at www.womenandjustice.org. Hosted by Cornell's Avon Global Center for Women & Justice and co-sponsored with the Cornell Advocates for Human Rights; the Cornell Law School International Human Rights Clinic; the Cornell Law School Women's Law Coalition; the Dorothea S. Clarke Program in Feminist Jurisprudence at Cornell Law School; the Institute for African Development at Cornell University; the United States Embassy in Lusaka, Zambia; The Virtue Foundation; Women and Law in Southern Africa – Zambia; and the University of Zambia School of Law.

by Sital Kalantry at 4:30 AM  ShareThis
Labels: Go On, Rashida Manjoo, sexual violence, Sital Kalantry, Zambia

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