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SUNDAY PLENARY:
The Complicity of Social Work: Racism, White Supremacy, and the Problematization of Immigrants

Throughout our nation’s history, immigration and naturalization policies and practices have been crucial processes in and through which social identities have been constructed. Social workers, as primary purveyors of services to immigrant populations and as significant producers of knowledge about them, have had a much greater range of influence and responsibility in the forging of these constructions than we are wont to credit ourselves.

Using social work’s involvement in the forced removal, incarceration, and resettlement of Japanese Americans during World War II as an example, this presentation will explore the history of social work’s troubled relationship with immigrants and immigration. Social workers were integral cogs in the WWII federal program of forced removal, incarceration, and resettlement of 120,000 persons of “Japanese ancestry.” In its unwillingness to take a resolute stand against removal and incarceration and carrying out its government-assigned tasks, social work enacted and thus legitimized the bigoted policies of racial profiling en masse. This forgotten disciplinary history underscores an enduring tension in the field—the conflict between its purported value-base promoting pluralism and social justice and its professional functions enabling injustice and actualizing social biases. Highlighting the urgency to examine the profession’s current approaches, practices, and policies on diversity, “difference,” and oppression, this presentation raises the question: how should social work understand its ethics and responsibilities in these troubled times?

SUNDAY KEYNOTE:
LARRY E. DAVIS, MSW, PH.D.
Racism in America: A Call to Action for Social Work

YOOSUN PARK, MSW, PH.D.
Associate Professor at Smith College, School for Social Work

MONDAY KEYNOTE:
DARLYNE BAILEY, MSW, PH.D.
Social Workers: Where Do We Go From Here?

PLENARY SESSIONS:

CAMILLE R. QUINN, AM, PHD, LCSW, LISW-S
The Strength of Justice-involved Black Girls and Women in Spite of Adversity: Identifying Assets to Enhance Well-being

ALLEN E. LIPSCOMB, PSY.D., LCSW
Advanced Clinical Practice Utilizing an Antiracist, Anti-Oppressive and Intersectionality Approach

ALTAF HUSAIN, MSSA, PH.D.
Enhancing Social Work Practice with Faith-Inspired Clients, Constituents & Communities

MELANATED SOCIAL WORK PODCAST HOSTS
Melanated Social Work: Integrating a Liberation Framework into your Practice

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