Overview of Presentation

- What is the Center for Social Inclusion
- What we heard from you: interviews, survey
- Structural Transformation for us
- Our opportunities: communicating about structural transformation
The Center for Social Inclusion

WHO WE ARE

- National Policy Advocacy Organization
- Promote opportunity by dismantling structural racism

WHAT WE DO (Catalyst and a Bridge)

- Partner with communities and national organizations
- Develop reform ideas through partnerships and applied research
- Inform the public
- Convene stakeholders
- Nurture multiracial alliances
- Support advocacy strategies to promote structural reforms
WHAT YOU TOLD US
What You Hope To Get

- Useful strategic dialogue
- Share/hear how people overcome their obstacles
- Common words and definitions
- Possibilities for doing more together
How You Define Social Justice

- Addressing root causes so solutions are permanent; Looking at the impact of our systems.
- Focus on the marginalized: gender, race, ethnicity, religion, caste, etc.
- Movement building:
  - change from within individual/family/community;
  - social relations;
  - voice/participation;
  - freedom of expression.
- It’s a lens, not an issue(s).
Activities That Are Part of PSJ

- Capacity building for policy and governance;
- Pushing policies and governments;
- Helping people express their creativity;
- People become donors – ownership of problem and solutions.
INDIVIDUAL PERSPECTIVE TENDENCY

It is natural to have winners and losers;

Culture determines dominance of a group;

Some children can’t learn as much as others;

People who work harder go farther.
The government needs to do more about poverty;

Social and political needs are related;

That we need many strategies to promote fairness.
POVERTY STRUCTURAL PERSPECTIVE TENDENCY

- Poverty is outside individual control;
- Crime is caused by inequality;
- It is difficult for the poor to move up.
We can't solve poverty or exclusion without addressing jobs, education, health care, and other social systems as connected;

Poverty is caused by circumstances outside individual control.
(more weakly)
Trying These On For Size

- Individual Perspective
- Government Structural Perspective
- Poverty Structural Perspective
- Structural
“Social justice” definition

Three factors accounted for 67% of the variance:

- “Everyone can participate fully in the social, spiritual and political life of society, regardless of their position or station in life.”
- “All members of society have the ability to participate in the creation and enjoyment of society's resources and opportunities.” and
- “The burdens of society are broadly and fairly shared and not disproportionately carried by some groups of society.”
If We Could Do One Thing

- Get people to see that our structures and systems must be changed and work to change them for the better (29%);
- Improve educational outcomes (23%); and
- Make government enforce human rights (11.5%).
A STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION: A LENS, A TOOL, A COMMUNICATION STRATEGY
STRUCTURAL RACISM

- Interaction of multiple institutions (public and private) and policies
- Without intent to discriminate
- Failing to take into account the impacts on groups by race, and gender, poverty.
- Resulting in racial disparities/Group-based differences.
Egypt Example

- Dr. Barsoum – Rise in women’s literacy and education hasn’t impacted women’s employment. Why – economy, culture and workplace, types of benefits.

- Dr. Sholkamy Transformative; not reformist –
  - Men get and take paternity leave.
Voices of African Women Declaration

1. Stop the support of oppressive regimes
2. Free and fully participatory elections,
4. An effective and transparent process to monitor and expose the role of international financial institutions and governments in promoting and facilitating corruption in Africa.
5. End the proliferation of small arms and foreign military bases on Africa's soil.
6. Security, safety and basic human rights for all women
8. A mechanism that ensures resources are made available to civil society women's organisations by national governments.
12. Stronger punishment for the crimes of rape and other forms of violence against women
13. Food security be made a matter of national security and the recognition of the fundamental role played by African women in agriculture.
14. The participation of African women in conflict prevention, mediation during conflict and post-conflict peace-building
15. The end of the privatisation of public services
16. An end to the illegal exploitation of African resources by multinational corporations and foreign governments
Relative to China, Jamaica, Costa Rica and parts of India, Blacks have very high incomes.

Black men and women have shorter life expectancies than their counterparts in these relatively poorer countries.
Structural Race Lens on Mortgage Crisis

- Up to 35% of those with subprime loans could have qualified for normal, prime mortgages.
- Blacks and Latinos are much more likely to have sub-prime mortgages than their White counterparts even when they have the same income. In fact, there is a larger sub-prime-prime gap between Blacks and Whites at higher income levels.
Structural Lens - Globalization: Central and North American (NAFTA)

- **United States**
  - manufacturing jobs disappeared – service jobs grew (lower-paying, less-secure).
  - Employers use the threat of moving production to Mexico to undercut workers’ bargaining power.

- **Mexico**
  - Production jobs did moved to Mexico to Maquiladora areas just across the border. RISEL reports: Wages and working conditions for most Mexican workers have deteriorated.

- **Canada**
  - The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives: Trade and investment flows increased dramatically, beginning in ’89 with bi-lateral trade agreement., per capita income actually declined for the first seven years after the agreement.

- **Mexican undocumented immigration to US increases,** Preferred over Black American workers, racial conflict between the two.

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Jeff Faux, Nafta at Seven: It’s Impact on Workers in All Three Nations, Economic Policy Institute Briefing Paper
A baby born to a Native American woman with a high school degree is almost 2x as likely to die during the first year of life as a baby born to a Hispanic woman with the same years of education (9.2 vs. 5.3 per 1000 live births).

A Black man earning less than $10,000 has a life expectancy at age 25 that is 3 years less than a White man earning the same income.

The rate of new AIDS cases among adults/adolescents is 3x higher among Hispanics (26 per 100,000) than the rate among Whites (7 per 100,000).

Testimony of Marsha Lillie-Blanton, Dr.P.D., Senior Advisor on Race, Ethnicity and healthcare, Henry J. Kaiser Foundation Before House Committee on Ways & Means, Health Subcommittee (June 10, 2008)
Policies Created the Problem

Social Security

Federal Housing Administration

The G.I. Bill

Federal Aid Highway Act
“Almost all of them that we see are so poor and they are so black.” - Wolf Blitzer in CNN’s Situation Room

New Orleans, LA. September 2005
Structural Transformation Questions

- What problem are we trying to solve?
- Who is most *marginalized* by the problem?
- What institutions impact the *causes* of the problem?
- What do we know about the *history* of the problem that must be addressed? (institutional policies, attitudes, beliefs)
- What are the possible starting points? Which institution or institutions? Would that starting point get us to more opportunities for transformation?
- What will be the reaction/retrenchment?
- Who do we have to be in relationship with?
- How will we know if we are headed in the right direction?
OUR OPPORTUNITIES
CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Structural arrangements making it difficult for us all to continue to survive and thrive.
- Shared needs and interests:
  - Climate Change/Peak Oil
  - Declining middle class and growing wage/wealth inequality
  - Need for good jobs, health care, quality schools, access to higher education, etc.
- Changing Demographics (in the US)