

Pennsylvania Commission for Women

A voice to empower women and girls in Pennsylvania

Who We Are



The Commission for Women is made up of a diverse and inclusive group of volunteer leaders from across the Commonwealth who work collaboratively on behalf of women and girls on both a local and state level.

Who We Are

The 26-member Commission was appointed by Governor Wolf and sworn in on October 7, 2015. Since then the Commission has helped to launch a statewide initiative to address sexual assault among students and has launched programing to lift up Pennsylvania women and girls from all walks of life.



Pennsylvania Commission for Women











- Provide a Voice to Empower Women and Girls in Pennsylvania
- Advocate for and Promote Policies, Procedures, Legislation and Regulations that Positively Impact Women and Girls
- Serve as a Resource on Issues Relating to Women and Girls

Status of Women in PA Report Card 2015

Jobs & Earnings: C+ Political Participation: D-Poverty & Opportunity: C **Reproductive Rights:** C Health & Well-Being: C-Work & Family: D+ **OVERALL GRADE:** C+

Source: Institute for Women's Policy Research, Status of Women Report (2015)

Improving the Status of Women in PA

Policy Initiatives: Government Reform Political Engagement Economics Health and Safety ► Equality

Combating Campus Sexual Assault The Hunting Ground – November 2015

The Commission held a screening of *The Hunting Ground* at the PA Governor's Residence to raise awareness of the problem of sexual assault in schools and on campuses and launched a statewide conversation to address it.



Combating Campus Sexual Assault The Hunting Ground

Since then, screenings of *The Hunting Ground* and conversations about campus rape have been held across the Commonwealth:











Combating Campus Sexual Assault It's On Us PA – January 2016





Governor Wolf joined with Commission for Women to launch "It's On Us PA" – the first statewide campaign to address the crisis of sexual assault in schools and on college campuses.

It's On Us Pledge



Combating Campus Sexual Assault It's On Us PA – Next Steps

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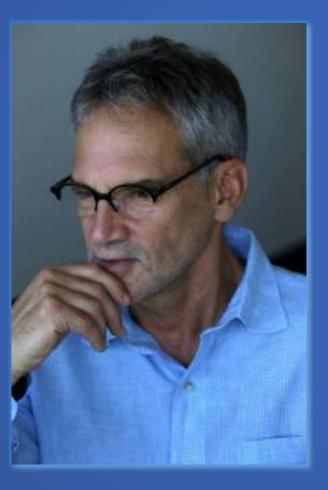
NATIONAL BESTSELLER

Jon Krakauer

RAPE AND THE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN A COLLEGE TOWN

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October 2016 – Author Jon Krakauer visited Pennsylvania and held an event in Harrisburg to discuss campus rape and the It's On Us Campaign. The event was livestreamed with viewing parties held throughout the Commonwealth.

November 2016 – Governor Wolf announced grants of up to \$1 million each to help schools combat sexual violence.

April 2017– Governor Wolf introduced statewide legislation to further combat sexual violence in our schools.

It's On Us PA Legislative Package *April 2017*





It's On Us PA 2017

- Expand PDE's Office of Safe Schools to assist with both K-12 and post secondary institutions
- Publish annual report card on sexual violence and harassment for K-12 and postsecondary institutions
- Amend Pa. School Code to create a comprehensive anti-violence and antiharassment policy
- >Require post secondary schools to adopt an online anonymous reporting system
- Expand K-12 health education in middle and high schools to specifically cover consent and healthy relationships
- >Require post secondary schools to adopt an affirmative consent standard
- Establish an amnesty policy for students who report SA in postsecondary institutions so they need to not fear disciplinary action

Giving Pennsylvania Women a Voice HB 1948

"The Pennsylvania Commission for Women has serious concerns with the process by which House Bill 1948 was voted on and passed by the PA House of Representatives. This bill was brought to a vote without a hearing and without receiving input from medical professionals or organizations in the Commonwealth. If this bill becomes law, it would be one of the most restrictive abortion bills in the country. The Commission feels strongly that any changes to abortion laws that impact women to this degree should not occur without a robust discussion that includes input from both the healthcare community in Pennsylvania as well as the public, particularly Pennsylvania women.

"The Commission for Women will continue to follow the path of this bill in the Pennsylvania General Assembly and will provide further analysis and information as the process moves forward in order to keep Pennsylvania women, and all Pennsylvanians, informed."

-The Pennsylvania Commission for Women

Giving Pennsylvania Women a Voice Statement on the Philadelphia Parking Authority's Sexual Harassment Investigation: September 2016

"The conduct by Vince Fenerty as revealed by an internal investigation by the Philadelphia Parking Authority this week is unacceptable and reprehensible. There should be absolutely no tolerance of sexual harassment of any kind in any Pennsylvania workplace.

Sexual harassment not only has a detrimental impact personally on the women who are subject to it, but also on our broader economy. It impedes a woman's job performance and, therefore, impacts her ability to grow and advance professionally. This type of behavior devalues women and their contributions to the workforce."

Honoring Those Who Have Gone Before Us Women's History Month Event to Honor Female Veterans – March 2016 & 2017



During Women's History Month, the Commission joined Governor and First Lady Wolf to recognize a special group of Pennsylvania women who are often overlooked and under recognized – our female veterans

College to Careers: Women In Technology *November 2016*





Women in Transportation Town Hall: Drexel University, April 2017





HR 273: Women Need a Seat at the Table *April 2017*



- Joined with the Forum of Executive Women and Representative Kate Harper
- Unanimously passed House Resolution urges all public, private and non-profit institutions doing business in PA to have a minimum of 30% of women directors on its Boards by end of 2020 with the ultimate goal of equal representation in leadership positions.

#WhyIVote Improving Voter Engagement—Fall 2016

In October 2016, the Commission launched a social media campaign that highlighted examples of why voting is important to women across Pennsylvania.

Why I Vote - Commission Chair Randi Teplitz:

"I vote because I am a United States citizen, a woman, and a mom.

I vote to ensure equality, choice, freedom and opportunity.

I vote because I care not just about myself and my family, but my community and those in need of a compassionate helping hand.

I vote to stand up against discrimination and gun violence.

I vote to ensure access to high quality public education for all children.

I vote to protect women and children from domestic and sexual violence.

I vote to keep our world safe and clean and free for my children and future grandchildren.

I vote to honor the women who came before me and fought for this right and for those who live in countries who do not currently have the right.

I vote because my vote matters and my vote is my voice and my power.

I vote because when women vote, we change the world."

#whyivote #pawomen



#GlassCeiling

Highlighting the Strong Women Who Have Paved Our Paths

In October 2016, the Commission for Women launched a project to highlight the amazing Pennsylvania women who have shattered various glass ceilings, making it just a little easier for all of us to continue accomplishing great things.



Crystal Bird Fauset First African American woman elected to the PA legislature Cindy Shapira First woman chair of the PASSHE Board





Leslie Anne Miller First female president of the PA Bar Association Dr. Edith Mitchell First female physician to obtain the rank Brigadier General in the U.S. Air Force





Genevieve Blatt First woman to hold statewide office - State Secretary of Internal Affairs

Lifting up the Next Generation Girls on the Run at the Residence Sleepover – May 2016

Forty amazing 3rd to 5th grade girls who just completely a 10-12 week training program and 5K race were selected by their coaches and council directors to participate in the first-ever "Girls on the Run at the Residence" sleepover at the Governor's Residence.

"The Commission strives to support organizations and programs that benefit and advance the lives of women and girls in the commonwealth and, by empowering young women to build confidence and self-esteem and define their lives on their own terms, Girls on the Run stands out as an exemplary example."

- Randi Teplitz, Chair





Building Partnerships Breaking Silos and Bridging Gaps Toward a Better Pennsylvania for

Women

With limited resources, the Commission continues to work to build strategic partnerships with groups and individuals across the Commonwealth to collaborate and create the greatest impact possible for women and girls.













Fostering Collaboration Between Commissions <u>PECO Networking Breakfast April 2017</u>



Questions?



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