



December 2019

Gender Equity and Reconciliation International (GERI)

#WeHealTogether

"I knew I had work to do that required men and women finding their way together. This training was that and more."

~ Participant, New York Invitational Training



**GERI Training for U.N. Gender Activists
and ManKind Project Leaders**

New York City
December 6 - 8, 2019



**GERI Training for Clergy,
Ministers, and Religious Lay
Leaders**

Boston
November 5-7, 2019

These two special trainings demonstrate the versatility and robustness of the GERI methodology for widely diverse communities - from U.N. change-makers to religious trail-blazers. See details below.

**Please make a donation to support the continued growth of
Gender Equity and Reconciliation and the mission of restoring
gender peace and harmony in the human family.**



Click to make your tax-deductible donation to Gender Equity and Reconciliation International (GERI). All donations large or small are deeply appreciated.

If you prefer to mail a check, please make out to Satyana Institute and mail to PO Box 1071, Lake Stevens, WA 98258.

www.GRworld.org

Invitational Program with United Nations Gender Activists and ManKind Project USA

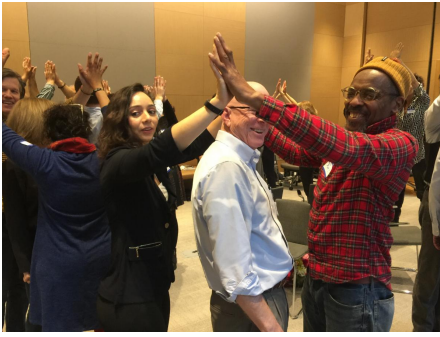
New York City ~ December 6 - 8, 2019

"I went in curious and unsure, I came out feeling a sense of ease and safety that I haven't had in years. I found connection, resolution, and support that would have taken years in any other setting."

GERI is the work that can bring humankind back from the brink."
~ Female Participant

In our three days together, the 36 women and men shared powerful and moving stories of their lives and experiences as men and women. This special invitational GERI *MeToo to WeToo* training was convened for United Nations gender equality activists and key leaders from the ManKind Project (MKP), as well as other leaders from the men's and women's movements.





It was a profound privilege to bear witness to each other's vulnerable and poignant stories--of women's painful experience of sexual assault and harassment, the pain of men having grappled with daily violence as they came of age, the struggles of navigating intimate relationships, and the challenge of taking responsibility for our own contributions to gendered dysfunction and growing into our highest potential as women and men in right relationship.



Men's Honoring Ceremony for the Women

"I've done decades of men's work and have deeply explored one side of this equation. This workshop is a window into the other side with a demonstrable way of bringing both sides to the table to wrestle through the tough work of realization, empathy and reconciliation."

~Male Participant

The compassionate witness

and deep respect with which each person's story was held revealed not only the universal pain of gendered wounding, but also the dignity and resilience of the human spirit. This was reflected beautifully in the honoring ceremonies each group created and offered for the other, uplifting the



Women's Honoring Ceremony for the Men

*"I felt the pain that men hold
and it opened my heart to them. . .
I believe this work is critical and healing. . .
I've never experienced such deep work
in so short a time."
~Female Participant*

this event. The leadership of GERI and our co-sponsors of this event gratefully acknowledge Jon Levitt and Julien Devereux for their generous financial support of this gathering. Special thanks to Saphira Ramensfar, Jon Levitt, Beth Blissman, Ken Kitatani for all of their care and life energy given to support and organize this workshop, and to our fabulous facilitation team for their skillful and heartfelt holding of this group, Cynthia Brix, Will Keepin, Myra Kinds, William Diplock, Michele Breene, Garrett Evans, Silvia Araya, and Jorge Rico.



GERI Facilitation Team

truths, courage, and dignity of the other gender, and together affirming a renewed commitment to the creation of a gender-healed world.

Many thanks to the U.N. Committee for Spirituality, Values, and Global Concerns, the Bahá'í International Community at the United Nations (U.N.), The ManKind Project, the Loretto Community at the U.N., and the Forum 21 Institute for Co-Sponsoring

**Boston Gathering for Ministers, Clergy, and
Religious Lay Leaders
Boston, MA ~ November 5-7, 2019**

The men orchestrated the adornment of the women with "Garments of Praise" (Isaiah 61:3), and honored each woman individually. Then each man declared his personal commitment to gender healing and to working to restore the Creator's intended balance and harmony between the sexes. The women invited the men "Back to



Offering blessings to each other

Eden" and made powerful personal commitments towards healing the gender divisions in the human family. This GERI training of 21 inspiring religious leaders created a unique and intimate space of courageous truth telling, shared vulnerability, and prayerful holding and reconciliation.



Small Group Sharing

Together we brought forth personal stories of gendered pain, revealing our own wounding and awakening our mutual empathy as women and men - in the workplace, in church, in intimate relationships, and as children and young adults grappling with the challenges of gender injustice and

conditioning. The depth of these stories was received by an equal depth of listening, hearing, and seeing by the rest of the group as we took in and deeply witnessed the stories of others.

This depth of receptive listening flowered beautifully

into honoring ceremonies created by the men and the women for one another.



Prayer offered by the women during their honoring ceremony:

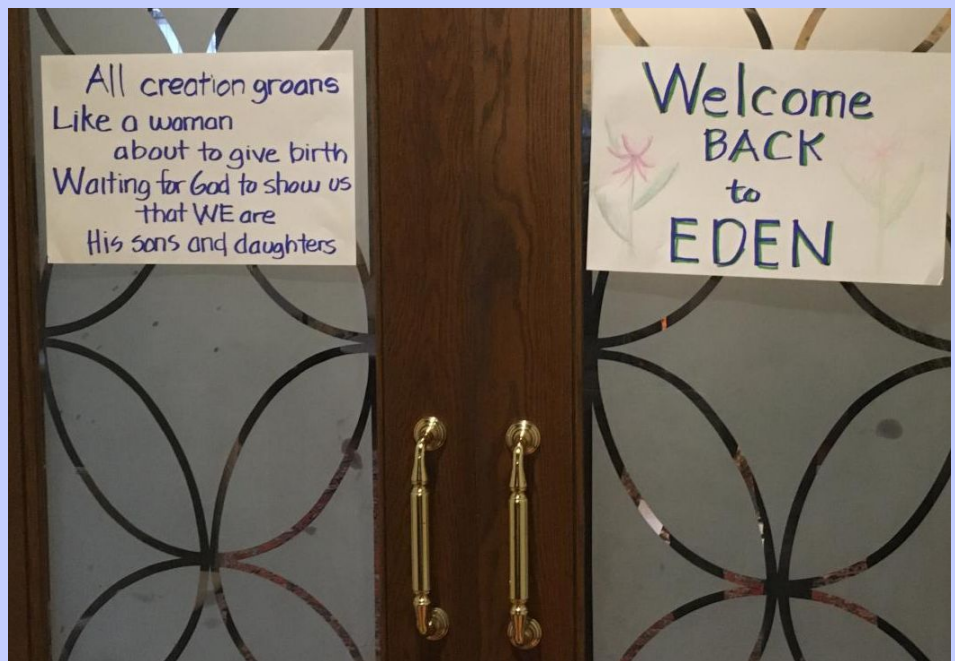
Lighthearted GERI Activity

"Our brothers of GERI

*Courage be your names
Your healing come
God's will be done
In your bodies, minds, & souls*

*We give you today
Our eyes and ears
Forgive us our deafness
As we forgive those
Who don't hear us*

*We walk not by ourselves
But together in God's image
For ours is the calling
To God be the glory
Forever and ever. Amen."*



Entrance to Women's Honoring Ceremony for Men

"After having spent a few days really baring my soul and uncovering my own brokenness, and better understanding more the pain others have experienced - - seeing that sign [Welcome back to Eden] made my heart leap with hope at what relationships between men and women were intended to be and can be in the context of communion with their creator."

~Male Participant from Boston Training

Deep gratitude to Emily Nielsen-Jones and the Imago Dei Fund for their support of this training. Many thanks to Michele Breene and Myra Kinds for their prayerful convening and organizing, and to our facilitation team Cynthia Brix, Will Keepin, Myra Kinds, Michele Breene, Garrett Evans, Lora



Gender Equity and Reconciliation International (GERI) has been bringing people, of all sexual orientations, together for healing and reconciliation for 27 years. Our work has been introduced in ten countries to date, and we are currently conducting comprehensive training programs in four countries: United States, Kenya, Colombia, Nepal.

GERI is a project of the Satyana Institute, a non-profit training organization. Satyana Institute relies upon the support of individuals and sponsoring organizations

Any donation, small or large, is gratefully received.

For more information visit:
www.GRworld.org