

The background of the slide is a vibrant, stylized tropical leaf pattern. It features various shades of teal, light blue, and yellow-green, with some leaves in a darker, almost black color. The pattern is dense and fills the entire frame. A thin, light-colored rectangular border is centered on the slide, enclosing the text.

Our Collective Next Steps: Taking Action to Support Survivors of Color, and Our Black and Brown Colleagues

HATC Education Forum
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IN OUR COLLECTIVE NEXT STEPS: TAKING ACTION TO SUPPORT SURVIVORS OF COLOR, AND OUR BLACK AND BROWN COLLEAGUES

Michelle Osborne, J.D, Consultant

In Our Collective Next Steps: Taking Action to Support Survivors of Color, and Our Black and Brown Colleagues, we will examine what the racial reckoning of 2020 has taught all of us about our new work in becoming antiracist.

We will also discuss reasons why our Black and Brown colleagues, with whom we work side by side, often go unacknowledged and unpraised, even as they lead this challenging and necessary work, and how we must support them.

We will explore action steps we must all take to better serve women and children of color who are survivors of sexual assault.



Harborview Abuse & Trauma Center

- Community Sexual Assault Program and Crime Victims Service Center
- Crisis Support
- Trauma Focused Therapy
- Foster Care Assessment Program
- Medial Exams
- Consultation
- Prevention, Education and Training

UW Medicine
HARBORVIEW
MEDICAL CENTER

TODAY'S SPEAKER

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A little bit about me . . .



Michelle M. Osborne, J.D.

- **Consultant: Racial Equity and Social Justice Practice, Non-profit Leadership Development; Ending Violence Against Women & Children**
- **Board Member, Sexual Violence Legal Center, Seattle, Washington**
- **Race and Social Justice Manager, YWCA Seattle | King | Snohomish**
- **Coordinator, Social Media Outreach, Bill Wilson Center, Santa Clara, California**
- **Director, Rape Crisis Center, YWCA of the Mid Peninsula, Palo Alto, California**
- **President, Board of Directors, Women's Institute for Leadership Development for Human Rights (WILD), San Francisco, California**
- **Manager, Multi-Community Outreach, STAND for Families Free of Violence (formerly known as Battered Women's Alternatives) Concord, California**
- **President, Board of Directors, La Casa de las Madres, San Francisco, California**
- **Board Member, Alternatives to Domestic Violence, Riverside, California**
- **Former Deputy District Attorney, Riverside, California**
- **Undergraduate degree from Princeton University**
- **Law degree from UCLA**



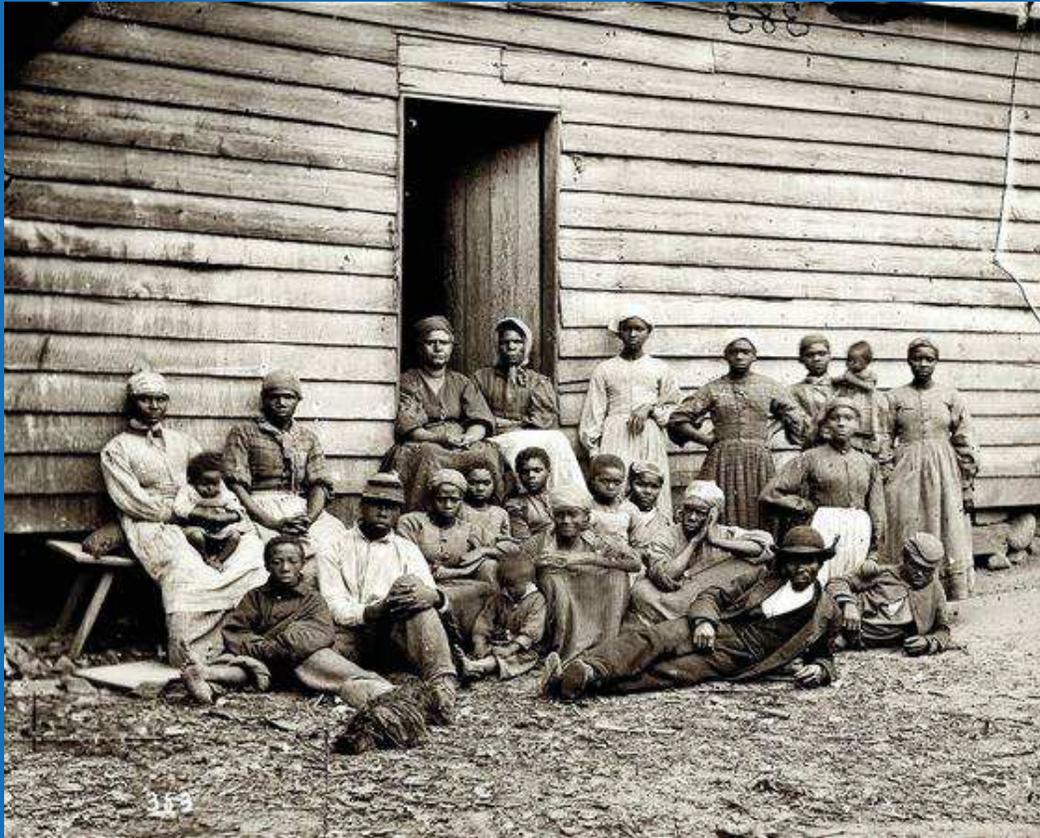
The System was
NEVER BROKEN
IT WAS BUILT
this WAY

*Much of U.S. history is
intentionally missing,
distorted, dismissed
and invisible*



"First Landing of Columbus on the Shores of the New World"; painting by Dióscoro Puebla (1862)

Columbus in the New World: rape, kidnapping, mutilation, torture, and murder of Indigenous women and girls in support of imperialist and genocidal policies



Cumberland Landing, Virginia. Group of escaped slaves at Foller's house, 1862

**Enslaved Black women and girls in the United States: 1619-1865
kidnapped, imprisoned, sold away from family and children, tortured,
mutilated, raped, murdered**

Black and Brown women used for medical experiments without their knowledge or consent (the “father of gynecology” J. Marion Sims experimented on enslaved women [Anarcha, Lucy and Betsey], for instance)



Native and American and indigenous children sent to “Indian Boarding Schools” were deprived of their families, language, spiritual and faith beliefs, cultural values, traditional clothing and regalia, and were subjected to starvation, malnutrition, disease, physical abuse, sexual abuse, torture, murder.



Indian Boarding Schools Chemawa School Oregon girls sitting on school steps c. 1928, Oregon Historical Society.jpg



<http://www.millennialinflux.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/sweatshop-workers.jpg>

**Exploitation, Infantilizing, Rape, Sexual Abuse,
'Exoticization,' Minimization, Silencing and of Asian
and Pacific Island and Native Hawaiian Women**



Japanese American women, children, and men were incarcerated and imprisoned during WWII, deprived of their civil rights

https://images.search.yahoo.com/search/images;_ylt=Awr9F7B4tcFgQblAwlhXNyOA;_ylu=Y29sbwNncTEEcG9zAzEEdnRpZAMEc2VjA3Nj?p=images+of+Japanese+american+in+WWII+camps&fr=mcafee#id=146&iurl=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.thestar.com%2Fcontent%2Fdam%2Fthestar%2Fnews%2Fcanada%2F2016%2F06%2F07%2Fsnapshots-give-rare-glimpse-of-daily-life-at-canadian-wwii-internment-camp-for-japanese%2Finternment-camps.jpg.size.custom.crop.1086x756.jpg&action=click

Sterilization of Black and Brown women without their knowledge or consent as a decades long United States federal and state *governmental policy*.

Civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer noted the “Mississippi appendectomy;”

Madrigal v. Quilligan, a lawsuit challenging sterilization of Latinx women at a Los Angeles county hospital in 1978 found in favor of the doctors and the hospital sterilizing women by the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit;

In 2021, Latinx women *currently* held in U.S. immigration detention



Image from From America’s Forgotten History of Forced Sterilization, by Sanjana Manjeshwar, November 4, 2020, Berkeley Political Review, Featured Image Source: Timeline.com; <https://bpr.berkeley.edu/2020/11/04/americas-forgotten-history-of-forced-sterilization/>

Historic and Modern Abuses Endured By Black and Brown Women Part II

Claiming that when she makes statements of sexual harassment, assault, and violence, she is accused of acting out of spite or revenge, as a woman scorned or spurned (accusations made against Anita Hill by white male senators at the nomination hearings of Clarence Thomas for the Supreme Court, for example)

<https://cdn.newsbusters.org/images>



The “adultification” of young Black girls, starting as young as 5 years old – they are seen as older and less innocent than their white counterparts (see, 2017 Georgetown Law school study *Girlhood Interrupted: The Erasure of Black Girls’ Childhood* at <https://www.law.georgetown.edu/news/black-girls-viewed-as-less-innocent-than-white-girls-georgetown-law-research-finds-2/>)

The hypersexualization by society of young Black and Brown girls – an outgrowth of enslavement and the inability to control their bodies or the ways in which they are perceived and treated by white women and men. A hidden aspect of human trafficking in this country is the trafficking of Black girls and women.



<https://www.eurthisnthat.com/2017/06/29/new-study-says-adults-view-black-girls-as-young-as-5-less-innocent-than-whites/>

Historic and Modern Abuses Endured By Black and Brown Women Part III

Black and brown women are incarcerated at rates higher than their presence in the population – and those rates are growing:

Black women are 13% of the female population generally, but represent 30% of all incarcerated women in the U.S. Hispanic women are 11% of all women in the U.S., but represent 16% of incarcerated women

Among all female state prisoners, two-thirds are mothers of a minor child; and more than 8.3 million children have a parent under correctional supervision and more than one in five of these children is under five years old

– ACLU Facts About the Facts About the Over-incarceration of Women in the United States, <https://www.aclu.org/other/facts-about-over-incarceration-women-united-states>



(iStock.com/thawornnurak)
<https://www.blackenterprise.com/incarcerated-women-black-mothers-day/>



EXPLORACION: UTILIZACION DEL TIEMPO Y EL TRABAJO DE LAS MUJERES EN BENEFICIO DE OTROS



Racist taunts, invective, lies, abuse and death threats made with no fear of consequences, particularly against women of color gaining or coming into power (*see*, Michelle Obama, Kamala Harris, Stacey Abrams, etc.)

Look at the death threats made against every single woman of color in the U.S. Congress, the Senate, the Cabinet, Mayors of Cities, and other high ranking state and federal positions throughout the United States.

These ugly and violent efforts are to ensure that Black and brown women are seen as not credible, and to silence them, and to make sure they are not heard.

<https://politicallyincorrecthumor.com/meme-galleries/kamala-harris-meme-gallery/>

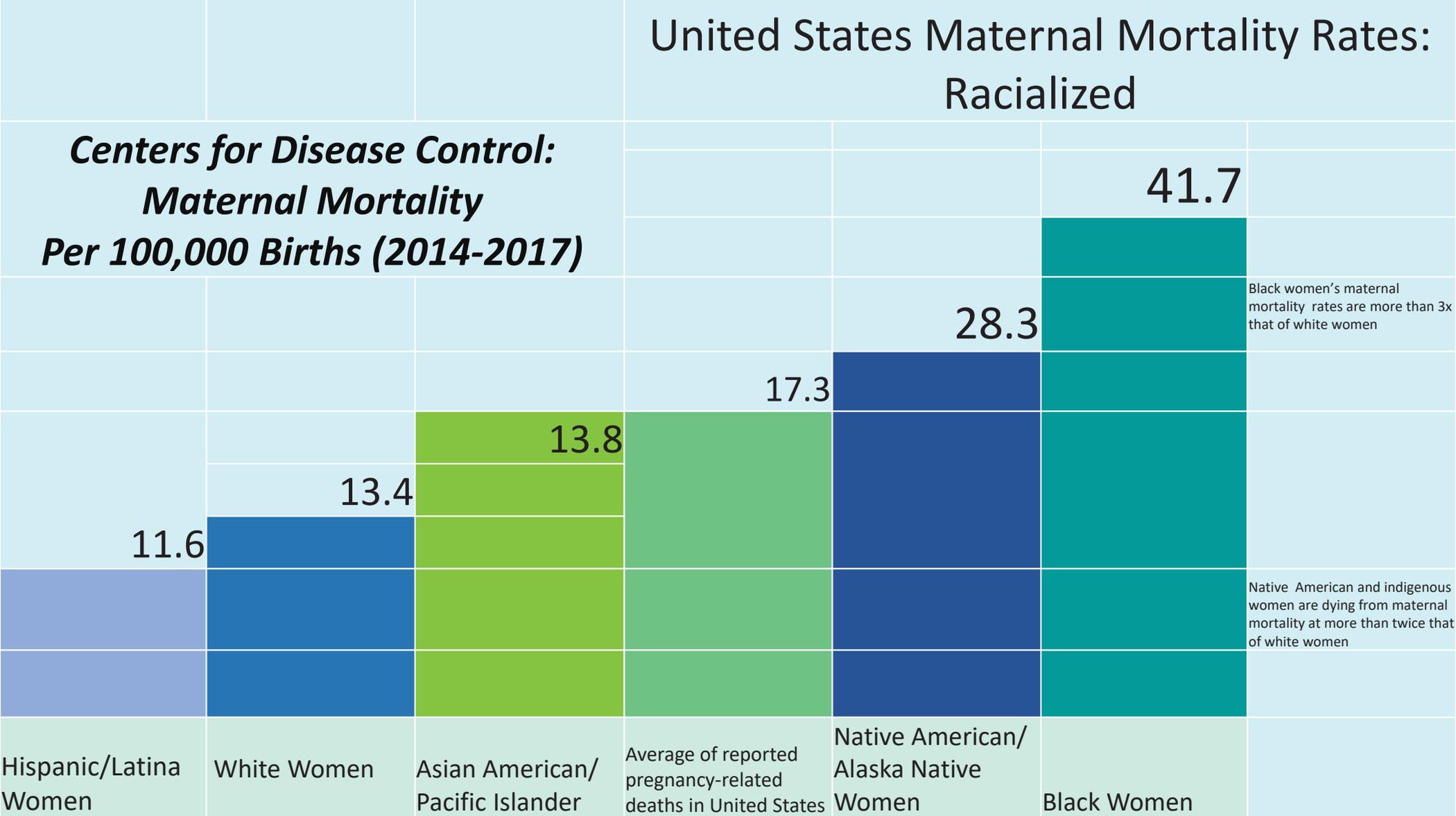
According to the National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community:



- One in five black women are survivors of rape.
- One in four black girls will be sexually abused before the age of 18.
- For every black woman who reports rape, at least 15 black women do not report.
- Thirty-five percent of black women experienced some form of contact sexual violence during their lifetime.
- 40 to 60 percent of black women report being subjected to coercive sexual contact by age 18.
- Seventeen percent of black women experienced sexual violence other than rape by an intimate partner during their lifetime.
- Black women also experience significantly higher rates of psychological abuse — including humiliation, insults, name-calling and coercive control — than do women over all.

United States Maternal Mortality Rates: Racialized

**Centers for Disease Control:
Maternal Mortality
Per 100,000 Births (2014-2017)**



Cases where women, and especially Black and Brown women, are survivors of DV or SA are adjudicated or disposed of by law enforcement or district attorneys without her knowledge or consent (see, for instance, 2016 Seattle Times expose on Seattle Police Department's Sex Crimes Division)

Rape kits are not tested, and women who were subject to rape and sexual assault never had the opportunity to pursue their attackers or receive any justice for the pain they suffered. Detroit and New Orleans are just two cities, with women of color who were most affected by the indifference to pursuit by law enforcement of a serious crime.

Cases where Black and Brown women are assaulted and killed by law enforcement (Oklahoma City former cop Daniel Holtzclaw convicted of serial rapes of Black women; un armed black women killed by cops – Sandra Bland, Breonna Taylor, etc.)



“Say her name” posters on display May 20, 2015, at a New York City vigil for black women and girls killed by the police. (Photo: Courtesy of All-Nite Images via Wikipedia Commons)



Harriet Tubman

Escaped enslaved woman

Underground Railroad Conductor

Nurse

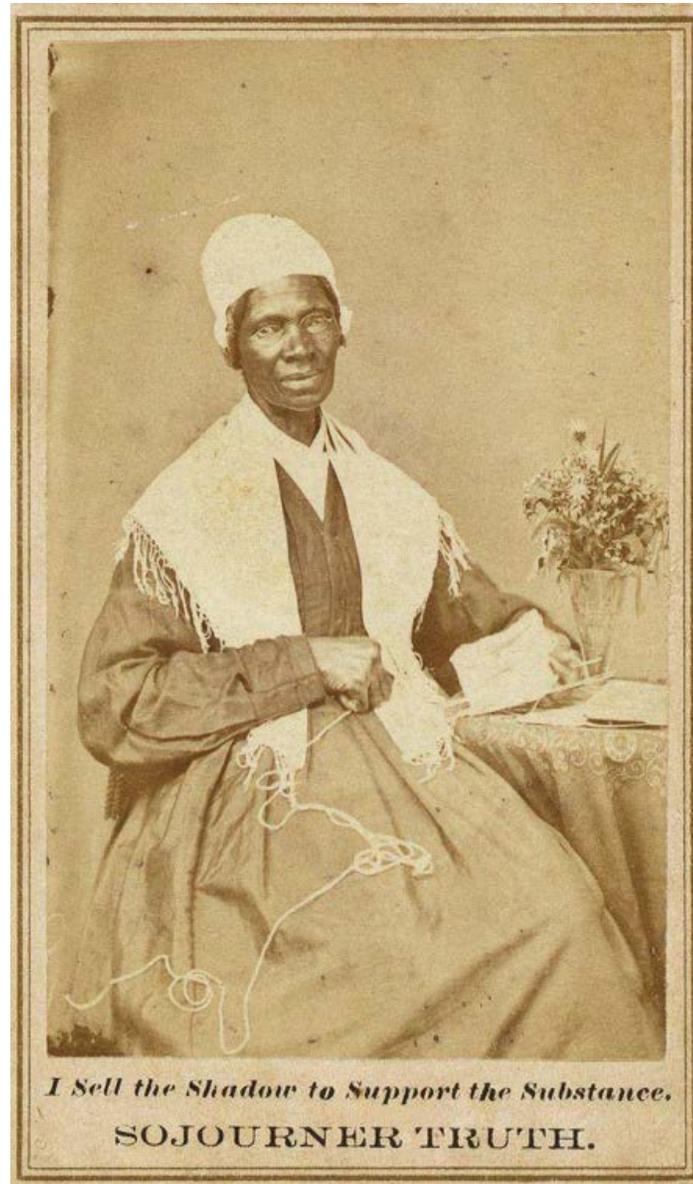
Armed spy and Union Army Scout during the Civil War

Guided the Combahee River Raid, freeing hundreds of enslaved people

Political Activist

Abolitionist

Suffragette



Sojourner Truth

Escaped enslaved woman

Mother

Nurse

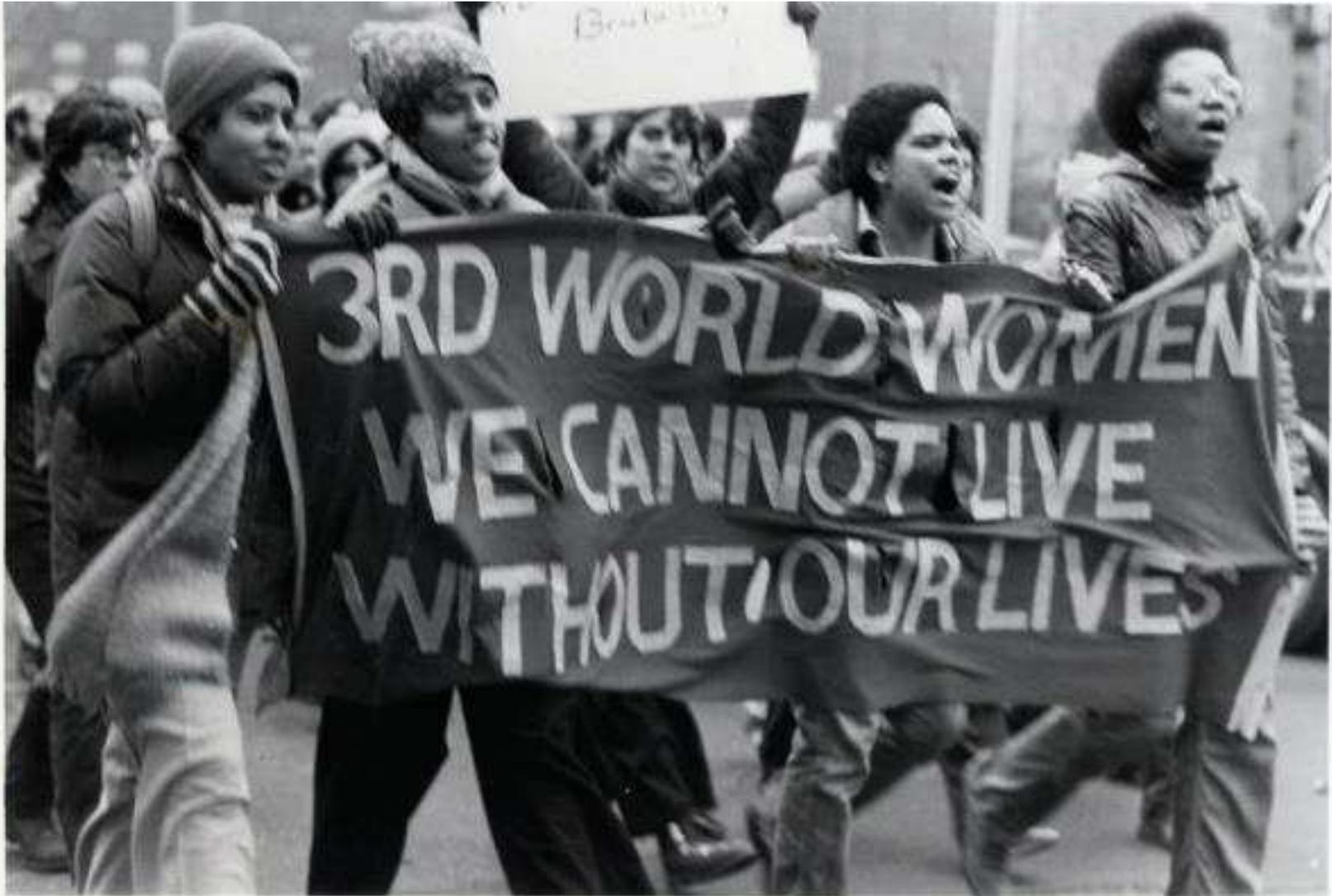
Public Speaker- "Ain't I A Woman"

Business Woman

Political Activist

Abolitionist

Suffragette



<http://images.rapgenius.com/ff9ee0a248d6712e3006f899a27cbe84.1000x692x1.jpg>

Members of the Combahee River Collective. Their historic 1977 statement stated Black feminist values.