

Gender Equity in the Age of ICE 3.18.26

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Attendee Feedback

- Attending the panel on legal support for immigrants opened my eyes to the many ways that vulnerable communities face both **visible and invisible forms of violence**. I was struck by how a lack of legal status can be exploited as a form of control, making immigrants more susceptible to sexual assault, human trafficking, and abuse. The panelists talked about how important it is for immigrants to have **safe spaces** where they can share what has happened to them and be heard. They explained that many protections that used to help immigrants are not as reliable today, which shows the need for **more support, education**, and legal help for the people they work with.
- The discussion about **detention centers** in San Diego was particularly impactful. I learned how the system is tied to financial incentives, and how families often struggle to find and communicate with loved ones, especially women in custody. This raised questions for me about the **ethics of a system that profits from confinement**. Overall, the event helped me understand that supporting immigrants requires both legal protections and systemic reforms, as well as a focus on **compassion and transparency**."

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