

FEBRUARY 8, 2021 VOLUME 4



Civic  
Education  
Center

## NEWSLETTER

DIALOGUES | CA SEAL OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT | COMMUNITY SERVICE  
| E PLURIBUS UNUM | SPOTLIGHT ON BLACK HISTORY MONTH



### TABLE OF CONTENTS

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#### DIALOGUES

---

#### CA SEAL OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

---

#### COMMUNITY SERVICE

---

#### VISALIA UNIFIED PROJECTS

---

#### E PLURIBUS UNUM

---

#### SPOTLIGHT ON BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### CIVIL DIALOGUES AND YOUTH VOICE

*Dr. John Minkler*

Civil dialogue and deliberation are essential skills to solve critical public problems and secure our democracy. Our first Dialogue on Women's Rights; Past, Present, and Future was held in November with partners, Fresno State Ethics Center and League of Women Voters of Fresno. A livestream Community Dialogue featuring panelists discussing women's rights was broadcast on November 12. It included a moderator, Lindsay Callahan, and 4 panelists, with questions submitted by the audience of over 200 people, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOpEIWVNswM>.

A 3-day Web Dialogue followed, including over 80 middle and high school and college students. The League of Women Voters offered mini-grants of \$500 for projects promoting women's rights. One project will be drama students at Fresno State creating a play and video of legal rights for women. Another involves developing a place around Sanger High School, where students can get help with trauma and support for mental health.

A virtual civil Dialogue on Racism will be held on Thursday, April 8, 3:30-4:15pm, sponsored by the Civic Education Center and the Ethics Center at Fresno State University. This dialogue will be a livestreaming event with four youth panelists moderated by Brandon Gridiron, Equity and Access Administrator at Visalia Unified School District. Secondary and college students from the Central Valley will ask questions by texting or chat. Our goal is to give youth a voice on the impact of racism and what they seek to address this critical issue.

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