

The New Agenda
**Violence Against
Women Forum**
April 18, 2009

Irene Weiser
Executive Director, StopFamilyViolence.org

Topic: "The family court crisis - what's happening, why, and how we need to organize to address it."



Irene Weiser has been involved in feminist anti-violence, anti-oppression and community organizing work in a variety of capacities for the past 24 years. In 2000, she founded and has since been the Executive Director of StopFamilyViolence.org, an online activist organization whose members have raised their voices for reform at the national, state and local levels. Their stories have been read into the Congressional Record, incorporated into a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court, and used to shape national policy guidelines.

StopFamilyViolence.org's action campaigns have been instrumental in securing passage of the Violence Against Women Act and have blocked advancement of dangerous "fathers rights" legislation.

For the past three years, Irene has been the coordinator of the Family Court Reform Coalition, a coalition of advocates, organizations and professionals formed in response to the national crisis in the custody court system, where all too often, judges order children to live with abusers and punish, silence, or jail the parent who tries to protect the children from harm. The FCRC's mission is to promote reform and accountability to ensure that victims of domestic violence and child abuse are protected from abuse in child custody determinations.

Saturday
3:00-5:00 pm
cocktail hour to follow
5:00-6:00 pm

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