

Carolina Gottardo

Interview took place via Zoom. See also Interview UKLSE_CT1_SD01_001_001_0005_0001.wav, transcript UKLSE_CT1_SD01_001_001_0005_0001.pdf and photograph UKLSE_CT1_SD01_001_001_0005_0001.tif

Interview Summary.

0:00 mins:

Carolina Gottardo's experience of working in the women's voluntary and community sector to improve women's structural position in the UK. Carolina was Director of the Latin American Women's Rights Service between 2012-2017. She is also a member of the UN Women's Global Expert Working Group on Gender and Migration.

Being a migrant. Working overseas on women's human rights. Intersectionality of discrimination. Women and men's experience of migration different. Working in women's rights driven by personal experience

5:42

Resilience of excluded women. Two inspirational migrant women, one from Afghanistan living in Australia and the other from Pakistan living in the UK.

11:10

True women's leadership embracing sisterhood and community. UK BAMER women's movement an example of feminist leadership in action. Operationalising power as inclusive not competitive. Women's approach to leadership as collective, collaborative, non-hierarchical and dialogical. Leadership motivated by sisterhood. Achieving substantive changes for marginalized women. Women's individual resilience.

17:49

Intersection between gender equality, migration and asylum – a worldwide issue. Migrant women's rights spanning women's and migration sectors. LAWRS becoming a policy organisation. LAWRS developing and launching 'Step Up' campaign. Developing a women's only safe space programme for women survivors.

26:32

Women's sector leadership as consultative and questioning power. Leadership style as participative, non-hierarchical and dynamic. Being part of a bigger movement and self-growth. Growing up in a conservative Latin American society.

33:46

Step Up campaign being initiated by a BAMER women's organization and achieving change for migrant women. Women's self-empowerment and advocacy. Issues affecting undocumented migrant women attracting mainstream attention.

37:28

Collective action challenging patriarchy. Mainstreaming violence against women and girls. Developing sisterhood. Giving women a voice. Changing societal attitudes. Gains but gender equality not yet a reality. Threat of fundamentalism. Working with younger women to grow the movement. Continuing struggle for gender equality. Beijing Platform for Action.