

Interview took place at Southall Black Sisters, 21 Avenue Road, Southall, Middlesex, UB1 3BL. See also Interview UKLSE_CT1_SD01_001_001_0012_0001.wav, transcript UKLSE_CT1_SD01_001_001_0012_0001.pdf and photograph UKLSE_CT1_SD01_001_001_0012_0001.tif

Interview Summary.

0:00 mins:

Pragna Patel's experience of working in the women's voluntary and community sector to improve women's structural position in the UK. Pragna is Director at Southall Black Sisters and was one of its founding members of the charity.

Origins of Southall Black Sisters (SBS) as a campaigning group. Growing up in 60s/70s UK. Re-resurrection of SBS.

9:52 mins

A community space for women. Meeting need and giving women a voice. Grassroots movements, eg Law Centre movement. Campaigning and policy informed by frontline work. Gender-based violence focus of frontline work.

17:16 mins

Black women's movement. Absence of black role models. Mahatma Gandhi. Second-generation Asians. Law Centre movement.

24:17 mins

Feminine and masculine not useful as descriptors of leadership styles. Leadership as a collective effort. Vision.

29:14 mins

Ealing Council's withdrawal of funding to Southall Black Sisters in 2008/9.

40:05

Anger and injustice as motivators. Injustice of the legal aid system.

43:04

Secularist approach of SBS. Religion and fundamentalism. Demise of the welfare state.

50:08

Vocation. Self growth. Legal and policy gains. Consciousness raising. Presenting and realising alternatives for women.