"Civil Rights in Hawai‘i and Beyond: From Legislation, Law Enforcement, & Jurisprudence to Justice, Reconciliation, & Healing"

The moral arc of the universe may bend toward justice, but the struggle for civil rights is born out of injustice. In 2013 we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1963 enactment of Hawai‘i’s fair employment law, one year before the commemoration of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. We can celebrate enactment of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and court decisions and legislation that inch us closer to marriage equality. But we face the dismantling of the Voting Rights Act, attacks on affirmative action, discrimination against COFA immigrants, and the use of civil rights rhetoric in attacks on Hawaiian programs and steps towards self-determination and governance. We see the impact of “stand your ground” laws, while we reexamine the costs of incarceration without effective reentry and reintegration.

How did we get here? Where are we going? How are we in Hawai‘i affected by national civil rights issues and events? And, how do we move from legislation, law enforcement, and jurisprudence to justice, reconciliation, and healing?

Please join us for a civil rights “talk story” moderated by Avi Soifer (Dean of UH William S. Richardson School of Law) with guest speakers:

Bill Tamayo, Regional Attorney, US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission San Francisco

Dina Shek, Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai‘i Legal Director

Joakim Jojo Peter, Chuukese Community Advocate

Moses Haia, Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation Executive Director

Presented by:
Japanese American Citizens League Honolulu Chapter
Hawai‘i Friends of Civil Rights
Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation
UH William S. Richardson School of Law
UH Office of Student Equity, Excellence and Diversity
Medical-Legal Partnership for Children in Hawai‘i
Hawai‘i Government Employees Association
Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission
National Asian Pacific American Bar Association Hawai‘i Chapter
US Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity