ABSTRACT

While prior scholarship has rightly identified intersectionality's vulnerability to cooptation and misinterpretation, the explosion of interest in intersectionality over the past three years of renewed women's social movements has heightened the need for scholars of intersectionality to hone their public intellectual skills. At the same time, the institutionalization of intersectionality as an interdisciplinary and explicitly critical approach gathers powerful sociopolitical capital to the field of study. Accounting for the ways in which intersectionality as a field of study is both vulnerable and powerful captures the heart of what intersectional analysis is all about.

BIOGRAPHY

Ange-Marie Hancock Alfaro is Dean's Professor and Chair of the Department of Gender & Sexuality Studies at the University of Southern California. She is a globally recognized scholar of intersectionality theory, the world's leading analytical framework for analyzing and resolving inequality. She has written numerous articles and three books on the intersections of categories of difference like race, gender, class, sexuality and citizenship and their impact on policy: the award-winning The Politics of Disgust and the Public Identity of the “Welfare Queen,” (2004), Solidarity Politics for Millennials: A Guide to Ending the Oppression Olympics (2011) and Intersectionality: An Intellectual History (2016). The applied forms of her research focus on diverse donors in philanthropy, partnerships between funders and nonprofits for social change, and cross-sector training of leaders to implement intersectionality.