



A national network dedicated to building a culture of human rights



Human Rights Education Now! Podcast Topic Listing

Episode 33 — Karen Robinson, Part One

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| Time Span | Topics |
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| 00:00–02:05 | Introduction |
| 02:10–04:41 | Origins of interest in human rights and human rights education; Quaker upbringing; discovering the language and framework for understanding human rights. |
| 04:42–10:10 | Degree in Law and Society at American University; Karen's switch to education; graduate studies in International Education; work at the Close Up Foundation as a Program Instructor and Administrator; time at American University as Coordinator for the Center for Volunteerism and Community Service; time as Supervisor of the Office for Disabled Student Services; importance of community service and understanding what it means to work with a community; humbling process of early career work at DC Public Schools; positive influence of Connie Spencer from DC Public Schools; being authentic and honest when working with communities. |
| 10:11–12:40 | American University Freshman Service Orientation; American University's Nanette Levenson and the creation of the service learning program; service learning as collective community work. |
| 12:41–14:17 | Upcoming one-day New York City SDG Service Learning Workshop; creation of human rights service learning program with Felisa Tibbitts at Amnesty international; importance of bringing language of human rights and the Sustainable Development Goals together into learning programs. |
| 14:18–19:34 | Time at Amnesty as Deputy Director, Acting Director, and Director of Human Rights Education; comparing the field of human rights from a few decades ago to the present; the importance of organizations collaborating together in the HRE space; competition for resources sometimes impacting collaboration; the first HRE USA meeting in Boston; change over the decades from HRE organizations working in silos to a more collaborative movement; the importance of working together as opposed to in our own siloed off corners. |

- 19:35–21:41 Time as Chair of the International Human Rights Education Coordinating Committee for Amnesty International globally; similarities and differences between how different regions, countries around the globe approach the movement of human rights education; successes and challenges of the global human rights education movement; the constantly changing goal post in education; the importance of learning from others in the education space; key challenge is generally funding; importance of elevating education as critical in the movement for sustainable change.
- 12:42–28:31 Education as most important piece to bend the arc of history in the right direction; empathy, caring, and the importance of the human rights framework across disciplines and early in education spaces can change the trajectory and course of human history; the need to elevate not only human rights education but all of education in general.
- 28:32–34:16 Time as Managing Director at the Man Up Campaign and working with co-founder Jimmy Briggs; Original idea to host international meeting of young people in South Africa during the World Cup; hosting a 3-day summit in South Africa and lessons learned in management organizational start-up; beginning work at RFKHR.