

THE PRESIDENT'S TASK FORCE ON 21ST CENTURY POLICING

Andrea Ritchie

Andrea J. Ritchie is a civil rights attorney who has engaged in extensive research, litigation, and advocacy focusing on profiling, policing, and physical and sexual violence by law enforcement agents against women, girls and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people of color over the past two decades. She was recently awarded a Senior Soros Justice Fellowship to engage in documentation and policy advocacy to address profiling, sexual harassment and assault, and other forms of discriminatory policing experienced by women.

Over the past 5 years Ms. Ritchie helped found and coordinate Streetwise & Safe (SAS), a leadership development initiative aimed at sharing “know your rights” information, strategies for safety and visions for change among LGBT youth of color who experience of gender, race, sexuality and poverty-based policing and criminalization, and now serves as the organization’s Senior Policy Counsel. As such, she serves on the Steering Committee of Communities United for Police Reform (CPR), a city-wide campaign to challenge discriminatory, unlawful and abusive policing practices in New York City led by grassroots community groups, legal organizations, policy advocates and researchers from all five boroughs. She is also a member of the LGBT Advisory Panel to the Police Commissioner of the New York City Police Department, and as such played a leadership role in researching, drafting, and negotiating comprehensive changes to the NYPD Patrol Guide to offer New York City police officers critical guidance and training with respect to interactions with LGBTQ New Yorkers.

Ms. Ritchie is co-author of *A Roadmap for Change: Federal Policy Recommendations to Address the Criminalization of LGBT People and People Living With HIV*, published by the Columbia Law School Center for Gender and Sexuality Law in collaboration with the Center for American Progress and the Center for HIV Law and Policy, and of *Queer (In)Justice: The Criminalization of LGBT People in the United States* (Beacon Press 2011). She also served as expert consultant, lead researcher and coauthor for Amnesty International’s 2005 report *Stonewalled: Police Abuse and Misconduct Against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in the United States*, consultant for *Caught in the Net*, a report on women and the “war on drugs” published by the ACLU, the Brennan Center for Justice, and Break the Chains, and co-author of *Education Not Deportation: Impacts of New York City School Safety Policies on Immigrant Youth*, published by Desis Rising Up and Moving (DRUM).

Ms. Ritchie graduated magna cum laude from Howard University School of Law, receiving the 2000 Wiley Branton award from Sidley and Austin. Upon graduation, she had the privilege of clerking for the Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan on the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. Ms. Ritchie holds a Bachelors of Science with honors and distinction from Cornell University.