

***RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, INC. (RMA)
invites you to attend its meeting, on Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2012.
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Pl., Greenwich.***

DR. SUSAN BISSELL.



***PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM VIOLENCE: THE
GLOBALIZATION CHALLENGE***

A strong case can be made that the most overlooked social issue in the world today is violence against children. We tend not to comprehend the full extent of the problem by limiting its scope to physical force, such as those caused by armed conflict; but the term properly extends to numerous and varied areas of exploitation and abuse.

Dr. Susan Bissell is Chief of Child Protection at UNICEF. Her responsibilities include armed violence, sexual abuse and exploitation, trafficking, child-labor, and gender-based violence. Perpetrators include family members, caretakers, teachers, law-enforcement authorities, state and non-state actors and other children. Only a small proportion of acts of violence, exploitation and abuse are reported and investigated, and few perpetrators are held accountable.

Globalization involves a set of socioeconomic, cultural, political and environmental processes that intensify the connections among nations—marked by the ease of transmission of information, resources, and people across borders . It has, in many respects, made the issue of child protection more severe and also more difficult to deal with. Countries may enact effective child labor laws, but have little or no control over goods sold in their stores produced elsewhere under exploitative conditions. The revenue from human trafficking surpasses the revenue from arm sales. But these are only the most obvious. For example, poverty in and of itself (consider health issues) exacts a terrible toll.

Dr. Bissell holds a Ph.D. in Public Health from the University of Melbourne and a M.A. in law, economics and international relations from the University of Toronto. A widely-published author, she was recently awarded an honorary professorship at Barnard / Columbia University, and the Dr. Jean Meyer Global Citizenship Award from Tufts University. When not traveling the world, she resides in Greenwich, married to the RMA's own, Jim Himes.

RMA members and their guests should arrive by 9:45 AM for our full meeting. The general public should plan to arrive at 10:45 AM. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church in Greenwich. No Charge and No Reservations are required. For additional information, call John Decsepel, 203-637-2393; decsepel2@aol.com.