



Shared Learning Liberman Lecture: Free, open to the public

Friday, February 7, 11:15 am
Fellowship Hall, Church of Reconciliation
110 North Elliott Rd, Chapel Hill

From Prison to Home: Five Women Share Their Stories

*Professor emerita Joanne Hershfield
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill*

Joanne Hershfield is an author, filmmaker, and former Chair of the Department of Women's and Gender Studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. She was awarded graduate degrees from Stanford University and the University of Texas at Austin and she has published books and articles on Mexican cinema. Professor Hershfield is also a documentary film producer. Recent films distributed nationally and internationally include *Gardening for the Planet*, *Mama C: Urban Warrior in the African Bush*, *These Are Our Children*, and *Men Are Human, Women Are Buffalo*.

In this lecture, Prof. Hershfield provides a brief introduction to her film *Benevolence, a Journey from Prison to Home* followed by a screening of this hour-long documentary. The film traces the journey of five women as they are released from prison and move onto Benevolence Farm in Alamance County, NC. A question-and-answer period will follow this screening. *Benevolence* addresses the unique reentry needs of justice-involved women and provides viewers a rare opportunity to understand the personal experiences that formerly incarcerated women face when they leave prison. This documentary film is an important educational tool for engaging with contemporary issues related to women and criminal justice reform. It reveals how gender affects incarceration and reentry, and the film explores what women face as they move from prison back into society.

This lecture is free and open to the public. However, since there is limited seating available in Fellowship Hall, advanced registration is required for Shared Learning members as well as the general public. You can easily register (one individual at a time) by visiting <https://sharedlearning.us> and navigating to the Liberman Lectures tab. Early registration is encouraged.