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### LIBRARY EXHIBIT OPENS TO GREAT ACCLAIM. 80 YEARS SINCE WW II PACIFIC WAR: REMEMBER THE “COMFORT WOMEN!”



On September 26, more than 150 people squeezed into the lower room at the Main Branch of the SF Library in order to honor the legacy of the hundreds of thousands of women and girls who were sexually abused during WWII. The occasion? A [new exhibit](#) featuring photos, copies of original paintings, maps and resources.

Presided over by CWJC's co-chairs: Retired Judges, Lillian Sing and Julie Tang, speakers featured Vice Consul Shouzheng Yang of the Peoples Republic of China,

members of the Board of Supervisors including board President, Raphael Mandelman and members of the community such as Win-Mon Kyi of the Myanmar Student Union and Marily Mondejar of the Filipina Women's Network.

Our keynote speaker, Professor Peipei Qiu, personalized what it meant to be both a victim and survivor by telling of the ordeals and subsequent life of Peng Zhuying. In the next few months members of the public will be able to learn more about Peng, who was forced to become a comfort woman in China, as she is the subject of our AI program, Eternal Testimony.

Judge Tang reminded us of the dangers of historical denialism: to deny the truth and rewrite history. She echoed the demand of the “comfort women” movement to Japan: “Apologize – formally and officially – for your wartime crimes!” Speaker after speaker spoke of the importance of honoring the suffering of so many women in the past and how we must link that with demanding an end to gender violence in the present.

Members of CWJC connected the issue of the “comfort women” and wartime violence to the increasing militarization both here and abroad.

As Judge Sing pointed out, there are few survivors left alive, so the time for an apology becomes ever more important. As the quotation on the plaque at the “Comfort Women” Memorial reminds us:

“Our greatest fear is that we will be forgotten.”



The morning concluded with people going upstairs and viewing the exhibit itself.

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**YOU CAN VISIT TOO:**

**Third Floor: International Section**

**San Francisco Public Library: Main Branch, 1400 Larkin Street (Civic Center BART)**

**For Tours go to: [comfortwomencoalition@gmail.com](mailto:comfortwomencoalition@gmail.com)**

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**HOT OFF THE PRESSES: NEW TEACHING GUIDE**

**Teaching Conflict-Related Sexual Violence  
Through Human Rights Education:  
The Case of the Japanese Military's  
"Comfort Women"**



**Jing A. Williams and Phyllis Kim**

Framed through human rights education, this practical guide equips educators with background knowledge, lesson plans, resources, and classroom strategies for addressing an often-overlooked area of social studies. Designed for use across subjects and contexts, this book supports teachers in moving beyond presenting human rights as an abstract topic by equipping educators to confront difficult histories while expanding students' understanding of both past and present.

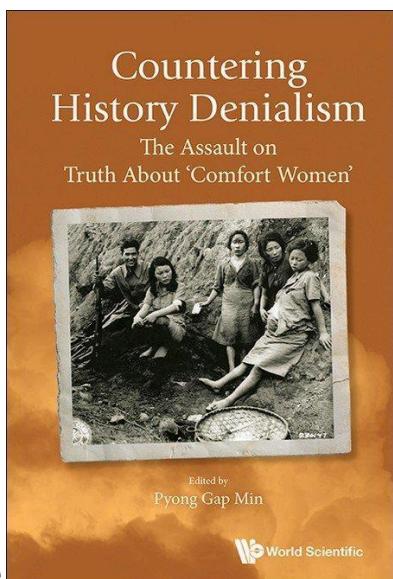
Here's what the critics say:

Confronting the history of sexual violence is among the most extreme challenges we face—and embedding it meaningfully in education is even more daunting. The history of the Japanese military’s “comfort women” is not theirs alone; it is a living narrative of gender, war, and justice. This book offers a profoundly moving and urgently practical guide to teaching this unresolved human rights history.

—Boeun Cha, Yonsei University

## To purchase [Teaching Conflict](#)

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The Japanese government has consistently tried to deny their responsibility in establishing and maintaining the “comfort women” system of sexual slavery. This has included pressuring other governments to either not build or to take down “comfort women statues,” taking educational content out of text books and encouraging so-called scholars to write articles and books denouncing and deriding the women. Lately, this effort has been led by J. Mark Ramseyer.

Professor Pyong Gap Min, a leading scholar and advocate for the comfort women has edited, *Countering History Denialism*, criticizing Ramseyer and clearly showing the danger of historical denialism.

Authors include Yoshimi Yoshiaki, Tomomi Yamaguchi and **CWJC's Judith Mirkinson**.

To purchase [Countering History Denialism](#).

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Stipend  
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**Program Includes:**

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Phyllis Kim, CARE Executive Director

Email: [info@comfortwomenaction.org](mailto:info@comfortwomenaction.org)  
<https://ComfortWomenAction.org>

**START HERE**

**QR Code**

CWJC wishes all a wonderful holiday season and best wishes for the New Year!

Remember to visit the SF Library Exhibit!