

## To Our Beloved Center for Women at Emory Community

The last few weeks have been especially trying. We have rapidly moved our classes and work online and are now evaluating how to “work” while our children or younger siblings take online dance classes in the corner. We are figuring out new boundaries when supervisors text late into the night, when parents call just to chat during the day, and when the hours, days, and weeks seem to melt into one another. Many of us wonder about what’s next for our jobs, our internships, and our general plans for the future.

At the Center for Women at Emory, we are also keenly aware of the unique ways in which women are impacted by COVID-19. We perform most the caregiving responsibilities for our children, our younger siblings, and the most vulnerable members of our families. As the wage gap persists, women face financial instability and economic vulnerability. Most troublesome is that we know that rates of domestic violence significantly increase when stay-at-home orders are in effect. We are constantly thinking about all these things and more.

However, as we begin to try to create a sense of normalcy in a world that is anything but normal, something that has given us great joy is being with one another. At the Center, we have pressed on and continue to host our Graduate Women’s Writing group, Bad Feminists Fridays, Praxis meetings, and check-ins and strategy sessions with our student-staff. In doing so, we have affirmed for ourselves what women have known all along: community (even virtually) is the antidote to the despair of isolation. It is when we are laughing, mourning, and planning together that we are reminded of what is still good.

We want all of you to have those experiences. We know many of you are feeling ‘Zoomed out’ and feel burdened expectation that we replicate every part of our lives online. Trust us, we get it. But times like this require us to push through the exhaustion to find one another. To this end, we are back to running our weekly newsletter to help you find opportunities to connect with other women and nonbinary folks. Here’s what you will see from the Center for Women in the coming weeks:

- We will be streaming Lunafest, a series of short films by and about women
- Praxis is hosting our 2nd annual Not Your Mama’s Feminism UnConference, at the end of April

- Look out for our student created CWE Quarantunes Weekly Playlist to help get you through your week
- Bad Feminists Fridays have gone digital with watch parties and game nights planned
- We are launching a weekly Feminist Kid's Book Club for those of you parenting or caring for siblings and little ones
- Chanel, Natalie, and Tia are hosting virtual office hours for students who have advising needs, questions, or just need to talk to someone at the Center

We hope you'll join us!

Sincerely,

Center for Women at Emory