

# Punishment Without Crime: How Our Massive Misdemeanor System Traps the Innocent and Makes America More Unequal



**Women For: Orange County**

**Wednesday, July 24, 2019**

**11:00—Refreshments**

**11:30—Meeting Begins**

**Irvine Ranch Water District Duck Club**

**15 Riparian View, Irvine**



Professor Alexandra Natapoff of UCI Law School is an award-winning legal scholar and criminal justice expert. She is a 2016 Guggenheim Fellow, and her book *Punishment Without Crime: How Our Massive Misdemeanor System Traps the Innocent and Makes America More Unequal*, reveals the powerful influence that misdemeanors exert over the U.S. criminal system. She is Professor of Law at the University of California, Irvine, a graduate of Yale and Stanford, and a member of the American Law Institute. She has testified before Congress; she has helped draft state and federal reform legislation; and she appears frequently in national media outlets.

Every year, approximately 13 million Americans are charged with misdemeanor offenses. Those cases make up the vast majority of the U.S. criminal system. While the crimes are typically minor, the punishments often ruin people's lives. Although we now recognize mass incarceration as a multi-billion-dollar dehumanizing debacle, the misdemeanor behemoth does quieter damage on an even grander scale, making the poor poorer and widening our nation's racial divide. Drawing on a decade of original research, prize-winning legal scholar Alexandra Natapoff lays bare the inner workings of our massive and surprisingly harsh petty offense process.

Please join us for what is sure to be an interesting and informative meeting.

**Free and open to the public. Men are cordially invited.**

**Women For: Orange County** is a volunteer, non-partisan organization dedicated to advancing Human & Civil Rights, Peace, Social Justice, Education, Health Care and the Environment.

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