

Morristown, NJ (January 25, 2017) – Dr. Nancy L. Cohen, historian and expert on women and politics, came to the Annunciation Center on January 23 to present *Millennials, Movements and Women's Leadership: Is America Still Not Ready to Elect a Woman President?* The speech was the first event of the new Women's Leadership Speaker Series.

Her presentation contained an analysis of Election Day through a gender lens, how to create social change, and a brief overview of the birth of feminism in the United States.

She explained that women should run for president because they're more collaborative, they complete things in gender equity, and to have a woman leader means that women are respected in that society.

"It's not rocket science," she said. "If we want to make progress toward gender equity, elect more women to office."

The author of four books, most recently *Breakthrough: The Making of America's First Woman President*, is a political commentator and wrote for many print and online publications. She taught and researched for more than 10 years in UCLA, Binghamton University, and other universities.

Cohen, who studied social movements for almost 25 years and has demonstrated since the 1980s, decided to speak at CSE because of its emphasis on social justice. She traveled from Los Angeles to join the Women's March on Saturday and was stunned by the outpouring of every age, ethnicity and religion that came together.

She's a commissioner on the Los Angeles County Commission for Women, and is a consultant for non-profits and elected officials on gender policy and women's leadership. She was elected as an executive board member to the Association of California Commission for Women, and earned her doctorate with distinction from Columbia University.

During her presentation, Cohen suggested that people engage in the electoral process, defend the vulnerable, and speak up in whatever manner that fits their interest.

"It's a time to be studying American history and American politics so that you can defend your values to fight for changes you believe in no matter what side you're on," she said. "If you're scared or concerned or worried about the hate that has come from the newly elected president, this is where you should take hope."



The Women's Leadership Speaker Series will include presentations like Tim Wise, *Speaking Treason Fluently: Anti-Racist Reflections from an Angry White Male* on February 16 and Marquita Pool-Eckhart, *Post-Truth: Civic Responsibilities and Human Rights* on March 17. The details of the events will follow.