

**ZEDx Women in Iran Forum**  
**Wednesday 5 April 2023**  
**Q&A**

**1. What is a ZEDx?**

- The Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra (ZCMoY) ZEDx is an interactive face-to-face OR online forum to share knowledge, expertise, and information. Similar to a TEDx or TED Talk
- ZEDx enables everyone to have a Zonta Educational/ Enlightening/ Entertaining/ Enthralling etc. Dialogue/ Discussion/ Demonstration and is an X-citing, X-clusive, X-factor X-perience.

**2. Why a Women in Iran Forum?**

- This forum will shine a spotlight on women's rights in Iran and the realities of their existence now.
- Learn why and how women are standing up for their rights.
- Show solidarity and support for Iranian women.
- Opportunity to purchase an updated version of Kylie Moore-Gilbert's book 'The Uncaged Sky' which is an account of her 804 days in an Iranian prison and provides an insightful and powerful description of life for women in Iran. Her book will be available for purchase for \$26.99 on the night at the venue through Fairfield Bookshop.

**3. Forum speakers**

- **Forum Chair – Nicki Lees.** Nicki is a Special Counsel at Maurice Blackburn and specialises in working in Human Rights litigation, including working for many years with Iranian refugees and people seeking asylum. Nicki holds a Master's Degree in International Law and an Honours Degree in Law.
- **Forum Panel** comprises representatives from:
  - **Iranian Women's Association (IWA)** – The IWA was established in 1990 to draw attention to human rights violations in Iran. The IWA advocates for women, asylum seekers and refugees from Iran.
  - **Feminista Melbourne** – Feminista Melbourne is a group of artists and activists fighting for freedom in Iran. They want to use art to raise awareness of the conditions for women in Iran and share their own personal stories of life and experiences in Iran. They want to talk about how global nations can help support women in Iran.
  - **Iranian Female Asylum Seekers and Refugees** – an Iranian woman will explain what it was like to live in Iran, why they seek asylum in Australia and why they can't return to Iran.

**4. How do I register for the ZEDx?**

- Book online via Humanitix <https://events.humanitix.com/zedx-women-in-iran-forum> a registered charity where booking fees cover only their costs, everything else goes to children's education projects in developing countries.
- You will receive a confirmation email within 24 hours of registration and a reminder the day before.

**5. What projects does the Zonta Club of Melbourne on Yarra support?**

- Since 1966 ZCMoY has raised funds to deliver a vast range of projects to empower women and girls worldwide in the workplace, marketplace and community. Currently, we:
  - make breast care cushions for women recovering from breast cancer surgery in five local hospitals
  - provide educational grants for women who demonstrate leadership qualities in local community service
  - provide a Women Taking Climate Action annual award
  - assemble and distribute birthing kits for women in developing countries
  - put together 'pamper packs' of toiletries for women receiving help from family violence service providers
  - award grants to local not-for-profit agencies serving the interests of women and girls
  - support Zonta International projects in conjunction with the United Nations, to strengthen responses to gender-based violence in PNG and Timor Leste, engaging girls on climate change in Madagascar, adolescent girls health and protection in Peru and support the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to End Child Marriage.

**6. If I am unable to attend this ZEDx, can I donate to support Zonta's local and international service and advocacy projects that promote gender equality and the rights of women and girls.**

- Yes – a donation can be made:
  - online through Humanitix <https://events.humanitix.com/zedx-women-in-iran-forum> or
  - transfer an amount into our Club's Bendigo Bank account:  
BSB 633-000  
A/c 162221642  
Reference: 'WIran' & your surname

***Thank you for your support to help build a better world for women and girls.***