

## **Addressing Issues of Power, Privilege and Social Justice**

Mindy Ing

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### **Presentation Summary**

In her presentation, Mindy Ing emphasized the importance of offering cultural competence training as a stand-alone training to help workers build experiential and integrative skills. She stated that what is frequently offered as cultural competence training is actually often really diversity training, which does not offer more advanced training towards cultural competence. One obstacle to providing cultural competence training as a stand-alone training is that trainees arrive with varying needs and levels of understanding of diversity and cultural competence, and this often necessitates blending the topics of diversity and cultural competence. Though professionals may enter the field of social welfare for similar reasons, workers need more opportunities to discuss shared values, how those values may be interpreted and acted upon differently, and how this creates different worker biases.

Ms. Ing demonstrated several training exercises for trainers to use to teach skills that address the complex roles of power and privilege as well as techniques for forging better connections in social contexts by building upon strengths.