The Four Questions

Reader:

The four questions are not truly four questions at all. Rather, this section of the Passover seder poses one central question — how is this night different than all other nights? — and offers four answers to explain the meaning of our seder rituals.

Instead of this traditional question, we compel our community and our leaders to ask, and to answer:

Everyone:

Why don't we have Time To Care?

Sing Together:

Mah nishtanah halailah hazeh mi'kol ha'leilot?

Click here to listen to the tune.

Readers:

1. The status quo is entrenched in our society. Old fashioned views of a woman's role as an unpaid caregiver, and not as a critical income earner, persist in the assumptions of our economy.

2. We are told we can't afford a publicly funded paid family leave program, despite its success in almost every other country on Earth, and in states like New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and California.19

3. Small businesses, which employ 50% of Maryland's workforce, don't have the capital on hand to provide a paid family leave benefit on their own — even if they want to. They need everyone to go in on it together.20

4. Those who oppose the bill have been louder than the advocates, many of whom are too busy working and caregiving to have their voices heard!

Recite Together:

But tonight, we will be heard. Tonight, we will raise our voices together to fight for the dignity of our families.

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20 “Voices of Main Street: Paid Family and Medical Leave Stories from Small Business Owners;” The Main Street Alliance, Summer 2019.