

**INTRODUCTIONS to Deepak Bhargava and Heather Booth  
By Torie Osborn - Making Waves for Democracy 10/23/22**

**Both our speakers asked me to keep the intros SHORT, so I'll try....**

**DEEPAK BHARGAVA is one of the smartest people I've ever known. In my view the term THOUGHT LEADER was invented for him....I met Deepak when I was ED of Liberty Hill Foundation and he was ED of Community Change in DC, a position he held for 16 years until 2018. They're a progressive anti-poverty group founded by Bobby Kennedy in 1968 whose motto is POWER FROM THE GROUND UP.... Community Change works the INSIDE-OUTSIDE game brilliantly -- I was literally at a Board meeting in 2010 when we found out the Affordable Care Act got the final vote; people in that room had clearly worked directly on it!....AND they also support Community Organizing in low income communities of color across the country ..... Deepak and his husband of 25 years Harry Hanbery put out my favorite online newsletter, *Platypus* – whose motto is Justice, Joy and Ideas.... You've heard me quote it many times...**

**And we're also lucky to have HEATHER BOOTH here today. We became friends on that Community Change Board, but truth be told, I knew of her long before that. She co-founded the Chicago Women's Liberation Union in 1969 and was a "movement" leader I**

**idolized back then. BY THE WAY, I did NOT know about the JANE Collective – founded in 1966 -- when I ran the abortion underground myself in the early ‘70s!**

**Heather has been a mighty lifelong warrior for social justice. She was part of Freedom Summer in 1964, founded Chicago’s Midwest Academy in 1973. In 2017, a documentary about her was released. She was married to Paul Booth from 1967 till his death of leukemia in 2018. (Paul was a founder of SDS and longtime leader at AFSCME, and another “movement” leader I looked up to in those formative days.) These days, Heather is experiencing a new bout of celebrity because of The Janes, the recent HBO documentary, and, more recently, the Hollywood movie CALL JANE starring Sigourney Weaver and Elizabeth Banks that just came out.**

**Heather is a humble woman – but she is a relentless organizer. Both she and Deepak are mainstays of the progressive movement nationally...TOGETHER these two heavyweights have mentored hundreds of young organizers and are two people I admire tremendously. I am THRILLED they are both with us today – I want to toss out some questions and then turn it over to them for a conversation for about 40 minutes**

- 1. Talk about the overall lay of the political landscape as you see it...**
- 2. The election! Each of you please share your thoughts....**

- 3. OK, after the midterms what should progressives fight for if we hold the House and Senate? Then, if we lose one chamber?**
- 4. What else is on your mind these days besides the midterms...**
- 5. If time, WHAT GIVES YOU HOPE??**

**HEATHER let's start with you**