Participant Biographies

Aziza Ahmed is an associate professor at Northeastern University School of Law, where she specializes in health law, human rights, property law, international law and development. Her interdisciplinary scholarship focuses on issues of both domestic and international law. She teaches Property Law, Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights, and International Health Law: Governance, Development, and Rights. Professor Ahmed holds a JD from the University of California, Berkeley, an MS in population and international health from the Harvard School of Public Health, and a BA from Emory University. Prior to joining the Northeastern faculty, Professor Ahmed was a research associate at the Harvard School of Public Health Program on International Health and Human Rights. She came to that position after a Women’s Law and Public Policy Fellowship with the International Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (ICW). At ICW, Professor Ahmed engaged in numerous human rights projects pertaining to law and health. Professor Ahmed has worked on legal issues in a variety of country contexts including South Africa, Namibia, India, the United States and the Caribbean, and has worked with various United Nations agencies and international and domestic non-governmental organizations. Professor Ahmed served as an expert member of the Technical Advisory Group on HIV and the Law convened by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and as an expert for the American Bar Association. She is on the board of the Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE) and the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS).
**Brigitte Amiri** is a senior staff attorney at the ACLU’s Reproductive Freedom Project. Ms. Amiri is currently litigating multiple cases, including a challenge to a South Dakota law that requires women seeking abortion to first visit a crisis pregnancy center before obtaining an abortion, a restriction on Medicaid funding for abortion in Alaska, and a law in Texas that has forced one-third of the state’s abortion providers to close their doors. She has also led the project’s challenge on a ban on private insurance coverage for abortion in Kansas, and was lead on a case involving trafficking victims’ access to reproductive health care. She has played a role in almost every reproductive rights case to reach the US Supreme Court in the last 15 years. Ms. Amiri also teaches a reproductive rights seminar at New York Law School, and has been an adjunct assistant professor at Hunter College. She serves on the board of directors of Law Students for Reproductive Justice. Before joining the ACLU, she worked as an attorney at South Brooklyn Legal Services in the Foreclosure Prevention Project and at the Center for Reproductive Rights. She graduated from Northeastern University School of Law in 1999 and from DePaul University in 1996.

**Bebe Anderson** is the Director of the U.S. Legal Program at the Center for Reproductive Rights. The center uses the law to advance reproductive freedom as a fundamental right that all governments are legally obligated to protect, respect and fulfill. Ms. Anderson currently oversees the Center’s U.S. litigation, state advocacy work, U.S.-based human rights work and Law School Initiative. She has worked at the center for twelve ten years; her work as senior counsel and as staff attorney included challenging intrusive mandatory ultrasound requirements on First Amendment grounds in Texas and North Carolina; gaining expanded Medicaid coverage for abortions under state constitutions; and challenging restrictions on minors’ access to abortion services. Ms. Anderson has worked previously as HIV Project Director at Lambda Legal; Co-Executive Director of the HIV Law Project; partner at the California law firm Erickson, Beasley, Hewitt & Wilson; staff attorney at the Legal Aid Society of New York; and associate at a New York law firm. She graduated with honors from Columbia Law School and received a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences from the University of California at Santa Barbara.
Glenn Cohen is professor of law at Harvard Law School, where he serves as co-director of the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology & Bioethics. He is one of the world’s leading experts on the intersection of bioethics (sometimes also called “medical ethics”) and the law, as well as health law. He has spoken at legal, medical and industry conferences around the world and his work has been covered on PBS, NPR, ABC, Mother Jones, The New York Times, The Boston Globe and several other media venues. Professor Cohen’s current projects relate to reproduction/reproductive technology, research ethics, rationing in law and medicine, health policy, and to medical tourism — the travel of patients who are residents of one country, the “home country,” to another country, the “destination country,” for medical treatment. His past work has included projects on end of life decision-making, FDA regulation and commodification. He is the author of more than 50 articles and chapters and his award-winning work has appeared in leading legal, medical and public health journals. He is the editor of The Globalization of Health Care: Legal and Ethical Issues (Oxford University Press, 2013, the introduction of which is available at SSRN), and is currently writing Patients with Passports: Medical Tourism, Law and Ethics (under contract Oxford University Press) as well as working on three other books.

Martha Davis is a professor of law at Northeastern University School of Law, where she teaches Women’s Rights Lawyering, Constitutional Law and Professional Responsibility. She is also a faculty director for the law school’s Program on Human Rights and the Global Economy and creative director for the NuLawLab. Professor Davis has written widely on women’s rights, poverty and human rights. In addition to her numerous articles, she co-edited Bringing Human Rights Home, a three-volume work chronicling the US human rights movement. In 2008, Bringing Human Rights Home was named one of the “best books in the field of human rights” by the US Human Rights Network. Professor Davis’s book, Brutal Need: Lawyers and the Welfare Rights Movement, received the Reginald Heber Smith Award for distinguished scholarship on the subject of equal access to justice, and was also honored by the American Bar Association in its annual Silver Gavel competition. Prior to joining the law faculty in 2002, Professor Davis was vice president and legal director for the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund.
Jessie Hill is a professor and associate dean for Faculty Development and Research at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Associate Dean Hill’s teaching focuses on constitutional law, civil rights, reproductive rights, and law and religion. She is a graduate of Brown University and Harvard Law School. Her scholarship has been published in the *Michigan Law Review*, *Duke Law Journal*, *Columbia Journal of Gender and Law*, and the *Texas Law Review*, among others. Prior to teaching, Professor Hill worked at the Reproductive Freedom Project of the national ACLU office in New York, litigating challenges to state law restrictions on reproductive rights, and then practiced First Amendment and civil rights law with a small law firm in Cleveland. She is a member of the Academic Advisory Board of Law Students for Reproductive Justice and is a frequent lecturer and consultant on reproductive rights issues.

Renée Landers is professor of law and director of the health law concentration at Suffolk University Law School, where she teaches health law, constitutional law and administrative law. Before joining the Suffolk in 2002, Professor Landers served as counsel in the health law group at the Boston law firm Ropes & Gray for five years. Prior to that, she served as deputy general counsel for the US Department of Health and Human Services. Professor Landers is the author of numerous book chapters and articles, including “‘Tomorrow’ May Finally Have Arrived — The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: A Necessary First Step toward Health Care Equity in the United States” in the Journal of Health and Biomedical Law. She has co-authored an article, “Medicaid Expansion Under the 2010 Health Care Reform Legislation: The Continuing Evolution of Medicaid’s Central Role in American Health Care,” in the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys Journal and “Supreme Court Review of the Health Care Reform Law,” in The New England Journal of Medicine. Professor Landers has appeared on CNN and has been a frequent contributor on NECN.

Wendy Parmet is associate dean for academic affairs and George J. and Kathleen Waters Matthews Distinguished University Professor of Law at Northeastern University School of Law. A leading expert on health, disability and public health law, Associate Dean Parmet directs the law school’s JD/MPH program with Tufts University School of Medicine as well as the Program on Health Policy and Law. In the spring of 2003, she was named a Matthews Distinguished University Professor, an award that recognizes and furthers the scholarly and creative activities of prominent Northeastern University faculty. She is also a co-editor of the law school’s SSRN online publications, Human Rights and the Global Economy and the Northeastern University School of Law “Public Law and Legal Theory Paper Series.” Professor Parmet teaches Public Health Law, Health Law and Torts, and has published articles on public health, bioethics, discrimination, health law and AIDS law. She is co-author of Ethical Health Care (Prentice Hall, 2005), Debates on US Health Care (Sage Press, 2012) and author of Populations, Public Health and the Law (Georgetown University Press, 2009).

Jeremy Paul is dean of Northeastern University School of Law. Before coming to Northeastern, Dean Paul served for 23 years on the faculty of the University of Connecticut School of Law,

**Julie Rikelman** is litigation director for the Center for Reproductive Rights Litigation Director, where she recently served as one of the lead attorneys working on invasive ultrasound laws, helping to build an innovative legal strategy that exposes the way in which these laws violate the First Amendment rights of both patients and their doctors. She was also part of the center’s team in a successful challenge in the US Supreme Court (in *Ferguson v. City of Charleston*) to a local policy requiring a hospital to report to the police confidential medical information of poor and minority pregnant women. She also has defended the rights of teenagers in Florida and Alaska to make their own reproductive health choices and litigated against restrictions on medication abortion. In 2004, she won the National Law Journal Pro Bono Award. Ms. Rikelman graduated with honors from Harvard Law School and Harvard College.

**Sonia Suter** has been a professor at George Washington University Law School since 1999. She teaches Torts, Genetics and the Law, and Law and Medicine (a course on bioethics in the law) and her scholarship focuses on legal and ethical issues in medicine and genetics. She has written about such issues as the routinization of prenatal testing, genetics exceptionalism, privacy and property protections of genetic information, reproductive technologies and eugenics, constitutional theories of reproductive rights, the commodification of assisted reproductive technologies, informed-consent law, physician-assisted suicide, end-of-life decision making, DNA forensics, newborn screening, etc. She has also advised and worked with policy makers on issues related to genetics and bioethics. She holds a BA from Michigan State University and earned an MS and PhD candidacy in human genetics from the University of Michigan, where she also attended law school. Before attending law school, she worked as a
genetic counselor for two years, obtaining clinical experience that has informed much of her scholarship and teaching. She has served as a visiting assistant professor at the University of Michigan Law School, where she taught Torts, Genetics and the Law, and Bioethics and the Law for two years. She also held a two-year Greenwall Fellowship in bioethics and health policy at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins universities.

Martha Walz joined the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts as president & CEO in March 2013. Before that, she represented the Eighth Suffolk District as a Massachusetts State Representative for eight years. Among her many legislative achievements, she was the lead sponsor of the 2007 law that created a 35-foot buffer zone to protect the privacy, dignity and safety of patients and staff at Planned Parenthood health centers. During her time in the legislature, she championed family planning funding, teen pregnancy prevention programs, comprehensive and age-appropriate health education and education reform. She is also the author of the state’s anti-bullying law. In addition to her legislative experience, Ms. Walz has held leadership positions at nonprofit and public organizations, including Jumpstart for Young Children and Boston Public Schools. Her volunteer positions have included serving on the Charles River Water Quality Commission, the Kingsley Montessori School Advisory Council, the Women’s Lunch Place board of directors and advisory committee, and seven years on the NARAL Pro-Choice Massachusetts board of directors.