Gender and Reproductive Justice

Course Description
Access to reproductive health services, including abortion, is one of the most contested political, social, cultural, and religious issues today. This course will explore the social, legal, and economic barriers to accessing reproductive health care domestically and internationally. The course will draw on various theoretical and analytic tools including critical race theory, critical legal theory, sociology of science, human rights, feminist theory, and a range of public health methods. We will cover domestic, regional, and international legal and regulatory frameworks on SRH.

Goals and Objectives
Students will

- Learn the history of the Reproductive Justice (RJ) movement and the anti-choice movement.
- Understand the major legal battles surrounding the access to reproductive health care.
- Have a clear sense of how theory and practice inform one another in the feminist women’s health movement.

Requirements
- Class Participation
- Class Assignments
- Final Project
- Assigned Discussion Leadership

Class Participation
Students must participate in classroom discussions. To do so students must be present. Students can miss two classes without penalty. Students must submit in writing their reason for being absent before it occurs and must still turn in assignments. Any absences beyond two will result in a percentage decrease from your class participation grade. Tardiness is unacceptable. Excessive tardiness will result in a percentage decrease from your class participation grade. Please bring hard copies of readings to class. If you use a computer during class, you are required to send your notes to me immediately following our class session.
Readings

Historicizing the Reproductive Rights Movement

Class 1


Kristen Luker, ABORTION AND THE POLITICS OF MOTHERHOOD (1985) Read: Chapter 6, “The Emergence of the “Right-to-Life” movement

The Big Ideas

Class 2

Dorothy Roberts, Killing the Black Body (Excerpts)


Class 3

Catherine MacKinnon, Feminism, Marxism, and the State, Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society (Excerpts)


Key Moments: Eugenics

Class 4

Dorothy Roberts, FATAL INVENTION (2011) (Excerpts)

Buck v. Bell, 274 U.S. 200 (1927)

Key Moments: The Rise of the Feminist Women’s Health Movement

Class 5

**Key Moments: Legalizing Family Planning**

*Class 6*

Griswold v. Connecticut, 381 U.S. 479 (1965)

**Key Moments: Legalizing Abortion**

*Class 7*

Marlene Fried. *From abortion to reproductive freedom: Transforming a movement*. South End Press, 1990. (Excerpts)

**Key Moments: The 2000s – The Battles Over Late Term Abortions**

*Class 8*


*Gonzales v. Carhart, 550 U.S. 124 (2007)*

**Contemporary Battles Over Abortion Access: Informed Consent**

*Class 9*

Texas Medical Providers Performing Abortion Services v. Lakey, 667 F.3d 570 (2012)


**Contemporary Battles Over Abortion Access: Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers**

*Class 10*

Whole Woman’s Health v. Kirk Cole, Commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services:


**Contemporary Battles Over Abortion Access: Crisis Pregnancy Centers**

*Class 11*

Amy Bryant. et al., Abortion misinformation from crisis pregnancy centers in North Carolina, Contraception (2012)


**Punishing Pregnant Women**

*Class 12*


Read: Chapter 4 [BB]

*Class 13*


**The Global Reproductive Justice Movement**

*Class 14*

International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (Read Excerpts)


**Class 15**


**HIV/AIDS**

**Class 16**


**Class 17**


**Trafficking and Sex Work**

**Class 18**


Class 19


Class 20


Class 21


Violence Against Women

Class 22

Jonathan Simon, GOVERNING THROUGH CRIME, Governing Domestic Relations Through Crime (Read Excerpts)

Class 23

Mimi Kim, Challenging the Pursuit of Criminalisation in an Era of Mass Incarceration: The Limitations of Social Work Responses to Domestic Violence in the USA, British Journal of Social Work (2013) [BB]


Class 24


Catharine Mackinnon, Women’s September 11th (2006). Read Excerpts [BB]

Reproductive Technologies

Class 25

Kara Swanson, Banking on the Body (2014)(Excerpts)

Class 26


Class 27


Della Wolf is B.C.'s 1st child with 3 parents on birth certificate – CBC News (Feb 6, 2014)
