



**2007**  
**National Summit to Ensure the  
Health & Humanity of Pregnant and Birthing Women**

*Preliminary Program Agenda\**

January 18-21, 2007

Hilton Atlanta Airport Hotel, Atlanta Georgia

\*Important note: All of the information in this preliminary program is subject to change; as such, this version does not include all of the people who will be appearing, final biographical information, or all of the special events that will be occurring throughout this groundbreaking event.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2007**

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8:00 a.m.

On-site registration, breakfast & Summit check-in for pre-registrants

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**Pre-Summit Coalition Training**

10:00 a.m. - 6:00p.m.

All summit participants are invited to an all-day, pre-summit coalition training on Thursday, facilitated by Be Present Inc. ([www.bepresent.org](http://www.bepresent.org).) This training will provide an opportunity for participants to spend time getting to know one another, a chance to understand how they came to do the work they do, and time to acknowledge the personal as well as the political aspects of taking on extremely controversial issues. In addition it will provide an essential forum for a diverse group of people to take time for themselves, to learn who their allies are in the struggle to ensure the humanity and dignity of pregnant women, and to learn more about the personal and political work it takes to build effective advocacy efforts.

Please join us for this day of extraordinary inspiration and insight.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007

8:00 a.m.

On-site registration, breakfast & Summit check-in for pre-registrants

**Opening Keynote: Getting On the Same Page: What the Millions of Women Who Become Pregnant Each Year in the US Have in Common**

9:00 am-10:45 am Welcome, Introductions TBA, Keynote:  
*Lynn Paltrow, JD, Executive Director, National Advocates for Pregnant Women*

**11:15 am-12:45 pm  
Concurrent Friday Morning Sessions, include:**

**Reproductive Health and Maternity Care Providers, Perspectives on Who They Are, What They Do, and the Challenges They Face.**

What are the challenges that abortion providers, midwives, and others who provide birthing care face? What are the popular assumptions and misconceptions about them? How does the history of their professions affect their roles and their work? How do providers reinforce and contribute to popular assumptions about which women are considered "legitimate reproducers" and how do they influence the construction of women's reproductive rights? Can they be effective political advocates, and do they advance or undermine reproductive justice efforts? Panelists include providers and researchers who have interviewed both providers and recipients of care.

**Moderator: Marlene Gerber Fried**, Director, Hampshire College CLPP, Co-Author: *Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organize for Reproductive Justice, and From Abortion to Reproductive Freedom: Transforming a Movement*

**Carole Joffe**, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology, University of California-Davis, Senior Fellow at the Longview Institute, Author, "Morality and the Abortion Provider; Uneasy Allies;" "Pro-Choice Physicians, Feminist Health Activists and the Struggle for Abortion Rights;" "Doctors Of Conscience: The Struggle To Provide Abortion Before and

After Roe v. Wade; Regulation of Sexuality: Experiences of Family Planning Workers”

**Robbie Davis-Floyd**, Ph.D., Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Anthropology at University of Texas-Austin, Author: *Mainstreaming Midwives; Birth as an American Rite of Passag*; Co-author, *From Doctor to Healer, The Transformative Journey*; co-editor, *Reconceiving Midwifery*

**Tamer Yvette Middleton**, MD, independent consultant to family planning clinics in Georgia and Alabama, faculty member of the Adolescent Reproductive Health Project (ARHP), MPH candidate

**Sheila Simms Watson**, CPM, LM, TM, and member of Midwives of Color, and the Midwives Alliance of North America



### **Barriers to Care and Control: From VBAC Bans to TRAP Laws, Do Women Have a Say in Pregnancy and Childbirth?**

The presenters will introduce participants to the growing number of restrictions on reproductive, sexual, birthing, and human rights that pregnant and birthing women face — and identify tools for challenging those restrictions. For example, some pregnant women have been shamed, coerced, or forced into having unnecessary cesarean sections. Others have been threatened with criminal or civil child welfare sanctions for seeking to control the circumstances of their pregnancies, labors, and births. Increasingly, women who wish to try Vaginal Births After C-sections (VBACs) are being told that they cannot do so (in some cases, entire states have banned VBACs). Restrictions on access to contraceptive and abortion services, such as Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers laws (TRAP), are growing. And there are increasing efforts in some states to ban *all* abortions, without exception.

**Sally Hebert**, Vice President, International Cesarean Awareness Network (I-CAN)

**Dr. Anu Kumar**, Executive Vice President, Ipas

**Katherine Taylor**, J.D., Ph.D., Author: "Compelling Pregnancy at Death's Door"

**Reena Singh**, MergerWatch Project

## **Is There a Crisis in US Maternity and Reproductive Health Care?**

Does our health care system listen to, encourage, and support women, or are their encounters with the system disempowering and counterproductive? Some feel that signs point towards a crisis in US maternity care. These include the absence of a continuous birth attendant, the inability of labor and delivery nurses to do their job, and the overuse of invasive monitoring and interventions in normal birth. Presenters will examine what actually happens to pregnant and childbearing women during the course of pregnancy, delivery, and childbirth, as well as what happens when pregnant women seek abortion care and support for miscarriages and stillbirths. Presenters will address the problems women face accessing and receiving reproductive health and maternity care, based on research, provider experience, and the results of Childbirth Connection's second national *Listening to Mothers II* — their landmark survey of women's childbearing experiences.

Moderator: **Nilda Moreno**, MD, Instructor and Family Planning Fellow at Boston University Medical Center, MPH candidate, Author: "Forced Cesarean Delivery: Is it ever justifiable?"

**Marsden Wagner**, MD, MS, Author: *Born in the USA: How a Broken Maternity System Must Be Fixed to Put Women and Children First*; *Creating Your Birth Plan: The Definitive Guide to a Safe and Empowering Birth*

**Maureen P. Corry**, MPH, Childbirth Connection, Co-author: *Listening to Mothers II, Report of the Second National U.S. Survey of Women's Childbearing Experiences*

**Shelley Sella**, MD, Obstetrician-Gynecologist, has been working exclusively as an abortion provider since 2000

**Hytham Imseis**, MD, Maternal and Fetal Health Specialist with the North Carolina Mountain Area Health Education Center

**Friday - Luncheon Plenary**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Past, Present & Future: The Ties that Bind and the Ties that Build**

**Moderator: Paris Hatcher**, Georgians for Choice

**Leslie Reagan**, Associate Professor of History, Medicine, Gender and Women's Studies, University of Illinois College of Law, Author: *When Abortion was a Crime: Women, Medicine, and Law in the United States, 1867-1973*

**Loretta Ross**, Founder and Executive Director, SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Health Collective, Co-Author: *Undivided Rights, Women of Color Organize for Reproductive Justice*

**Erica Lyon**, Director, Educator, and Founder of Realbirth, Author: *The Big Book of Birth*

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2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

Concurrent Friday Afternoon Sessions, include:

**How Might You be Prosecuted? Let Me Count the Ways: Punishing Pregnant Women Based on Claims of Fetal Rights and the War on Drugs.**

The argument that fetuses should be recognized as legal persons is commonly used in the abortion debate. But it is also used to justify state surveillance, control, and punishment of pregnant women who continue their pregnancies to term and women who have suffered unintentional pregnancy losses. Since the late 1970's, hundreds of pregnant women and new mothers have been arrested on criminal charges and thousands have been subjected to punitive child welfare interventions based on the argument that the fetus is a person. If a fetus is treated as separate person for purposes of the law, pregnant woman can be viewed as a "child" abuser before ever giving birth.

Many of these cases are inextricably linked to the war on drugs and to medical misinformation about the relative risks of prenatal exposure to alcohol, drugs, and other substances. But fetal rights arguments have also been used to justify the arrest of a woman who delayed having a c-section, to justify forced c-sections and to prevent a woman from having a Vaginal Birth After a Cesarean Section (VBAC). Presenters include lawyers and women who have been directly affected by these approaches. In addition to discussing cases, panelists will identify actions that people can take to challenge these punitive interventions.

Moderator: **Theshia Naidoo**, JD, Drug Policy Alliance

**Tiloma Jayasinghe**, JD, NAPW Baron Edmond de Rothschild Staff Attorney Fellow

**Jill C. Morrison**, JD, Senior Counsel at the National Women's Law Center

**Mary Barr**, mother and activist, founder of Conexions, a non profit organization that educates the public and prisoners on addictions and related health and justice system issues

**Tayshea Aiwohi**, the first woman in Hawai`i to be charged and initially convicted of manslaughter based on the theory that pregnant women can be held criminally liable for the outcomes of their pregnancies

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### **Providing Support for Pregnant Women: Real Life Stories and Lessons Learned**

In addition to facing pregnancy and labor with little support, some women's decision-making and journeys are complicated by poverty, racism, addiction, environmental hazards and other circumstances. Presenters includes advocates and academic researchers who share their experiences in providing labor support and childbirth services for high-needs women, in helping low-income women access abortion services, and in implementing a unique research model for indigenous communities. Presenters will address ways of improving services and advocacy efforts on behalf of the women they study and work with.

Facilitators: **Christine Morton**, Sociologist, Doula, and Founder of the Reproductive Network & **Danielle Bessett**, PhD, candidate, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology & Sociology, Williams College

**Teresa Williams**, MSW, Labor, delivery, and postpartum social worker at the University of Washington Medical Center.

**Monica Brasile**, Doula, Childbirth Educator, Women's Studies PhD candidate, researcher: Moms Off Meth (MOM), an Iowa-based woman-to-woman support group for mothers dealing with substance abuse

**Jade Crown** (or other representative), The Birth Attendants -- a group of volunteer doulas serving incarcerated women in Washington State

**Nicole Gallicchio**, University of Chicago Department of Human Development PhD candidate studying doula training and doulas

**Lorenza Holt**, MPH, manager of Birth Sisters, a community doula project at Boston Medical Center, that supports 800 women giving birth each year

**Rachael Kulik**, Sociology PhD candidate, doula working at Hennepin County Medical Center (HCMC) in Minneapolis, Minnesota serving low-income Latina and Somali women

**Aminata Maraesa**, New York University anthropology PhD candidate examining the cultural and structural aspects of midwifery in Belize

**Jeretha McKinley**, BA, Program Replication Manager for the Chicago Health Connection, Community Doula Project

**Annie Menzel**, Certified Professional Midwife, medical translator, University of Washington (Seattle) Geography graduate student

**Michelle Peixinho**, Project Coordinator, Tewa Birthing Project, Tewa Women United, New Mexico (Two-World Harmony and Community Based Participatory Research)

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## **Challenges, Barriers, and Threats Facing Maternity and Reproductive Health Care Providers.**

Childbearing and pregnancy termination are two areas of reproductive health where not only women's choices, but also the abilities of care-providers to work are frequently restricted. Women who want their births attended by a midwife often have difficulty finding one, or finding midwifery care their insurance will cover. For their part,, midwives face a variety of legal, political and regulatory barriers to providing care. In addition, women may be unable to get the maternity care they choose, while midwives may be prevented from providing care via untenable restrictions on midwives and hospital bans on Vaginal Births after Cesarean Sections (VBACs). Women are increasingly having difficulty finding abortion providers, while providers themselves are under attack, whether through restrictive legal and regulatory policies, threats of arrest, or various forms of domestic terrorism. Presenters include advocates and activists on behalf of midwives, abortion providers, and other reproductive health care providers, and they will address strategies to protect providers and the women who rely on their services.

**Susan Hodges**, President, Citizens for Midwifery

**Susan Jenkins**, Attorney in private practice, former general counsel of the American College of Nurse-Midwives

**SharonLau**, Clinic Defense and Research Director, National Abortion Federation

**Susan Yanow**, Founder, Abortion Access Project

Others, TBA

4:30 – 6:30 pm

Second Round, Friday Concurrent Sessions

## **A Holistic Approach to Procreative Issues: Feminist Sociologists Pulling the Strands of Their Lives and Work Together.**

Feminist Sociological Perspectives on Procreative Issues Women do not easily divide into those who have abortions and those who have babies, or those who have babies and those who experience infertility. When it comes to procreative matters, all women are influenced by

the societies in which they live and their place in them: medicalization, new technologies, politics and practices all influence our ability to control their reproductive and family lives. In this panel discussion, participants will discuss the intersections between private realities and public reproductive health issues. Presenters include researchers who have focused on pregnancy and birth-related issues, the health care providers who deal with them, and the women who have lived with and through them.

**Nicole Banton**, Georgia State University Department of Sociology, Ph.D. candidate, writer and filmmaker exploring the social factors that impact African-American women's infant feeding choices, as well as how these choices impact their lives

**Louise Palmer**, Georgia State University Department of Sociology, MA, health policy researcher at the Urban Institute

**Barbara Katz Rothman**, Professor of Sociology at City University of New York. Author, *Weaving a Family The Tentative Pregnancy*; *The Book of Life* ; *In Labor: Women and Power in the Birthplace*

**Wendy Simonds**, Georgia State University Department of Sociology Associate Professor, Co-author: *Laboring On: Birth in Transition in the United States*; *Abortion at Work: Ideology and Practice in a Feminist Clinic* (Rutgers, 1996), *Centuries of Solace: Expressions of Maternal Grief in Popular Literature*, and articles on mifepristone abortion and emergency contraception

**Evelina Weidman Sterling**, Georgia State University Department of Sociology PhD candidate, author *Living with PCOS (Polycystic Ovary Syndrome)* and *Having Your Baby through Egg Donation*

**Kristin Wilson**, Georgia State University Ph.D. Candidate, researching childless women who experience that status from the standpoint of multiple marginalities.

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## **Pregnancy, Birth, & Distortion of Risk**

This workshop combines medical ob providers and personal experience to look at doctor patient communication and distortion of risk. The doctors will examine the ways in which the perception and

communication of risk are distorted in medical decision-making around pregnancy and delivery, to the detriment of the pregnant woman and, often, her fetus or infant as well. For example, Vaginal Birth After C-section is not permitted in some institutions, even though the risk of fetal harm is equivalent to the risk of fetal harm in a woman's first vaginal birth. In the first scenario hospital policy might demand cesarean section, but might at the same time forbid elective primary cesarean section – opposite reactions to similar risk. Second, decisions are often driven by distorted ideas about risk to fetal well-being: worries about the risks of interventions (themselves often misinformed) are noticed to the exclusion of the genuine and demonstrable risk of *not* intervening, with the ironic result that the fetus is often placed at greater risk.

**Elizabeth M. Armstrong**, PhD, MPA, Assistant Professor, Sociology and Public Affairs  
Princeton University, Author: *Conceiving Risk, Bearing Responsibility: Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and the Diagnosis of Moral Disorder*

**Lisa Harris**, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Obstetrics & Gynecology, University of Michigan, Medical Director of Planned Parenthood Mid-Michigan Alliance

**Rebecca Kukla**, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy, Carleton University, Canada

**Miriam Kuppermann**, PhD, MPH, Professor, Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences and Epidemiology & Biostatistics, University of California, San Francisco

**Margaret Olivia Little**, PhD, Associate Professor, Philosophy and Senior Research Scholar, Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University

**Anne Drapkin Lyerly**, MD, MA, Assistant Professor, Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Faculty Associate Center for the Study of Medical Ethics and Humanities, Duke University

**Lisa M. Mitchell**, PhD, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, University of Victoria, Canada

## **Environmental Threats to Pregnant Women and Families**

Pregnant women are often portrayed as presenting the greatest threat to the unborn — whether by having abortions, by using drugs, or by failing to follow doctor's advice. Yet serious environmental health hazards that pose significant risks to pregnant women and fetuses are minimized or ignored. To the extent that environmental problems are recognized at all, they are often blamed on overpopulation — which is portrayed in turn as the consequence of women of color having too many children. Presenters in this workshop will explore these competing images, the nature and scope of environmental threats to both women and men's reproductive health, and the relationship between environmental hazards and pregnancy loss. Presenters will present concrete examples of real action people can take to address these issues.

Moderator: **Linda Layne**, PhD, Hale Professor of Humanities and Social Studies Department of Science and Technology Studies, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Author: *Motherhood Lost: A Feminist Account of Pregnancy Loss in America*

**Cara Page**, National Director, Committee on Women Population and the Environment

Others, TBA

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*SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2007*

**8:00 a.m.**

On-site registration, breakfast & Summit check-in for pre-registrants

**9:00 am-10:45 a.m.**

***Saturday Opening Plenary***

**Can We Ensure the Health and Humanity of Pregnant Women When We Value Their Health and Lives so Little? A National and International Perspective.**

Presenters on this panel will look at how over- and under-treatment threaten the lives of pregnant women in the US and throughout the world. While the US engages in a debate about re-criminalizing abortion, unsafe and illegal abortion is the cause of nearly 70,000 maternal deaths per year and is among the top five causes of maternal mortality worldwide. While the US is fast approaching a c-section rate of 30% or higher in some hospitals, obstetric fistula - which can be prevented with access to health care - debilitates at least 50,000-100,00 women each year worldwide. Experts on this panel will address both national and international health and political trends, and describe activist efforts to "humanize" birth and ensure the rights of pregnant women in the US and internationally.

**Dr. Rodolpho Gomez**, Senior Health Systems Advisor, Ipas

**Lisa Russell**, MPH, Filmmaker; *Love, Labors Loss*

**Debra Pascali-Bonaro**, International MotherBaby Friendly Initiative, IMBFI Co-Chair, DONA International Doula trainer, Childbirth Educator, Passion for Birth-Lamaze Teacher Trainer and President of MotherLove

**Henci Goer**, Advocate, Medical Writer, Author: *The Thinking Woman's Guide to a Better Birth; Obstetric Myths Versus Research Realities*

11:15 – 12:45

Concurrent Saturday morning workshops include:

## **Can We Ensure the Health and Humanity of Pregnant and Birthing Women who are Stigmatized by Disability, HIV, and Drug Use?**

Access to respectful, appropriate and supportive maternity and reproductive health care is often denied to women stigmatized by disability, HIV, and drug problems. Women with health problems also face special penalties and punishments. Advocates, women directly affected and counselors working with pregnant women will address issues of access, care, and activism.

**Corinne Carey**, JD, Deputy Director, Break the Chains Communities of Color and the War on Drugs

Others TBA

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## **Can We Ensure the Health and Humanity of Pregnant Women in a Country That Has No National Health Insurance System and Where Health Care Financing so Often Denies, Limits, or Influences the Course of Care?**

The United States remains the only western industrialized country not to have a national system of health insurance. Moreover, it does not guarantee health coverage for all pregnant women, caregivers or their young children. This workshop will provide an overview of a system that leaves 46 million people without health care coverage. This workshop will also on issues relating to medical malpractice insurance and address how economic considerations shape conventional obstetric care, looking at whether they create incentives for highly medicalized interventions and disincentives for preventive care (such as midwives and lactation consultants). Presenters will also examine laws banning funding for abortion services. Presenters include health-care providers and activists who will discuss advocacy strategies and efforts.

Moderator and Commentator: **Tamer Yvette Middleton**, MD, independent consultant to family planning clinics in Georgia and Alabama, faculty member of the Adolescent Reproductive Health Project (ARHP), MPH candidate

**Marguerite Rece** , RN, Health-Care Now

**Susan Hodges**, President, Citizens for Midwifery

**Stephanie Poggi**, Executive Director, National Network of Abortion Funds

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### **Can We Ensure the Health and Humanity of Pregnant and Birthing Immigrant Women?**

Latinas and Asian Pacific Americans (APA) represent two of the fastest growing populations in the United States. Access to all forms of reproductive health and maternity care for these groups of women are significantly influenced by US immigration policy, health policy, and prejudice. This workshop will address health disparities that these women experience as well as the real life experiences of women who work with and/or are members of immigrant communities. Advocates and health care providers for pregnant and birthing Latina and APA immigrant and non-immigrant women will address both the challenges these women face and the creative ways women help themselves to overcome the barriers they face.

**Jane Arnold**, Certified Nurse Midwife and Provider at the International Family Clinic in rural North Carolina

**Iris Ayala**, RN, Manager, Proyecto Salud, a primarily Latino clinic in Eastern Pennsylvania

**Priscilla Huang**, Project Director, Reproductive Justice/Women's Law Fellow at the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum

**Miriam Pérez**, Advocacy Associate, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, certified doula

### ***Saturday Luncheon Plenary***

Who is Considered a Legitimate Reproducer?

1:00 p.m.

While many participating in this conference have spent life-times seeking to ensure the health and humanity of pregnant women, that work takes place in a highly politicized context that often defines some women as deserving motherhood and others not. Race and class have always been at the center of reproductive politics and policies in

the United States - from slavery through various waves of immigration, across periods of criminalized and decriminalized contraception and abortion access, and in both times of acceptance and times of shame for young and single pregnant women and for lesbian and transgendered people. This panel of extraordinary activists, writers and academics will address the question: "Who gets to be a legitimate pregnant woman and mother in the United States, and who does not?" They will address both the past and the future, identifying the Human and Constitutional rights principles that apply and what action people can take to ensure the health and humanity of all pregnant and birthing women -- regardless of class, race, sexuality, and ability.

**Charon Asetoyer:** Executive Director, Native American Women's Health Education Resource Center

**Dorothy Roberts,** Professor of Law Northwestern University School of Law, Author: *Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction, and the Meaning of Liberty*; *Shattered Bonds: The Color of Child Welfare*

**Rickie Solinger,** Author: *Pregnancy and Power: A Short History of Reproductive Politics in America*; *Beggars and Choosers: How the Politics of Choice Shapes Abortion, Adoption and Welfare in the United States*

**Miriam Yeung,** Director, Public Policy & Government Relations, Causes in Common: Reproductive Rights and LGBT Liberation, The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center

3:00 – 4:30 pm

Concurrent first-round Saturday Afternoon Sessions, include:

### **Can We Ensure the Health and Humanity of Pregnant Women When Violence Is So Pervasive in Their Lives?**

Pregnant women, whether seeking to end a pregnancy or to continue to term face extraordinary violence in their lives. This workshop will address such issues as: How pervasive is violence against women, including those who become pregnant? How does violence affect women who are seeking reproductive health and maternity care? How does the abortion debate distort or distract attention from an epidemic of violence against women? What do counselors, providers, and activists need to know about domestic violence in order to be effective in their work and to stop the violence?

Presenters including health care providers, counselors and activists who will address these interrelated questions.

**Jodi Hinds**, counselor, providing safe passage counseling services for pregnant women who are survivors of abuse in the childbearing years

**Julie Burkhart**, Executive Director of ProKanDo, a Kansas based reproductive rights political action committee

**Dr. Sheryl Heron**, MD, MPH, Department of Emergency Medicine, Emory University, Atlanta, GA (SH, LLH)

Commentator: **Sara Ainsworth**, JD Northwest Women's Law Center

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### **Are We Ensuring the Health and Humanity of Young Women Who Become Pregnant?**

This workshop will address particular barriers young women face in obtaining contraception and abortion services at the same time it challenges prejudices and stereotypes about young mothers. While the humanity of young women is challenged through parental consent and notification laws, sometimes subjecting young women to humiliating court hearings, young motherhood has been criticized as a symptom of social dysfunction, and teen mothers are often looked at as problems to fix rather than young women who have made conscious and healthy choices about their lives. Presenters, who include young women and their advocates (young and older) who will address challenges that today's young women face, the choices young women are making regarding motherhood, and the kinds of support and advocacy the presenters engage in.

Moderator: **Aimee R. Thorne-Thomsen**, MPA, Executive Director Pro-Choice Public Education Project

**Sondra Goldshein**, JD, State Strategies Attorney, ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project

**Benita Miller**, JD, Brooklyn Childcare Collective

**Lauren Mitchell**, Hampshire College Senior, studying midwifery and reproductivity in literature; contributor, *We Don't Need Another Wave: Dispatches from the Next Generation of Feminists*; Gynecological

Teaching Associate at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey

**Yomara Velez**, Open Society Community Fellow and Union Square recipient, teen mother, welfare recipient, founder of Sistas on the Rise

**How Can We Ensure the Health and Humanity of Pregnant and Birthing Women When Pregnant Women, Mothers, and Breastfeeding Women Find So Little Support From Their Workplaces and Communities?**

Unfortunately, one of the things that pregnant women should expect when they are expecting is employment discrimination. Although there are now a variety of laws that prohibit discrimination against women, many millions of women, including those who work in part-time positions or are employed by small companies, may still be without protection of any kind. Moreover, unlike many other countries, the United States does very little to protect pregnant women and families. For example, the United States is one of only two industrialized nations in the world that does not require any *paid* maternity or paternity leave. In addition many women face barriers to breastfeeding at work or in public places. Presenters will address the many forms of discrimination pregnant and parenting women face in the workplace and strategies for challenging that discrimination.

Moderator: **Cheryl Howard**, JD, Mediator, Consultant, former General Council to the New York City Human Rights Commission, Board Member, National Advocates for Pregnant Women

**Cynthia Calvert**, JD, Deputy Director, Work-Life Program

**Ikeita Cantú Hinojosa**, JD, MSW, LBSW, Associate Counsel Legislative Affairs Manager of Government Relations and Political Action, National Association of Social Workers

**Elisabeth Ryden Benjamin**, JD, Director, Reproductive Rights Project, NYCLU

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4:45 – 6:45 pm

**Concurrent second-round Saturday Afternoon Sessions, include:**

## **Medical Interventions That Can Help and Hurt: How Do We Ensure Women's Informed Consent, and Women's Ability to Protect Their Reproductive Health and Lives?**

Some women have been subjected to interventions or given drugs during labor that they did not want or were never informed about. In some cases these interventions have resulted in the death of both the mother and the baby. Other women, deprived of access to safe abortion procedure are turning to easy-to-obtain technologies that are not necessarily the exclusive domain of health care providers or easily subjected to state control to ensure their ability to safely end a pregnancy. This multifaceted workshop will address a range of issues regarding self-help, self-care and informed consent. Presenters will look at what happened to the self-help movement in the United States, lessons learned from the experiences of women in Latin America, and education and organizing efforts in the US today to ensure that women have control over their health and health care during pregnancy, delivery and childbirth.

**Deborah Billings**, PhD, Senior Research Associate, Ipas

**Angela Hooton**, JD (formerly NLIRH) NARAL NY

**Judy Norsigian**, Executive Director, Our Bodies Ourselves, Boston Women's Health Book Collective

**Maddy Oden**, Executive Director, The Tatia Oden French Memorial Foundation

**Olivia Ortiz**, Psychologist and Co-founder, Genes, Instituto de Género y Salud Sexual +

**Melanie Zurek**, EdM, Executive Director, Abortion Access Project

**"If You Wanted Better Care, You Shouldn't Have Gone to Prison." How Do We Ensure the Health and Humanity of Pregnant and Birthing Women in US Jails and Prisons?**

While people involved in advocating for reproductive and maternity rights might not think they should care about imprisoned women, the conditions of pregnancy and childbirth in these settings affect a growing number of women and provide clear indication of how our society values -- or devalues pregnant women, mothers and families. Today, more than a million women in the United States are under the control of the criminal system. A majority of these women are mothers of young children and many experience pregnancy while imprisoned. The conditions for imprisoned pregnant women are often cruel, including being shackled during labor, subjected to violence, and being denied essential medical care. This workshop will examine the human rights violation of pregnant women in jails, prisons, and immigration detention centers addressing the abysmal pre and post natal care women receive and the extent to which access to abortion services are delayed, denied or coerced. Presenters will also examine the difficulties in accurately documenting these abuses, in changing public opinion, and will examine legal and alternative strategies to fight for reproductive justice for women in prisons. Presenters include academics, activists and members of Women on the Rise Telling HerStory (WORTH), an association of women who have been empowered by their own experiences.

**Brigitte Amiri**, JD, ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project

**Robin Levi**, JD, Human Rights Director, Justice Now

**Cassie Pierson**, JD, Staff Attorney, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children

**Rachel Roth**, Soros Fellow, Author: *Making Women Pay: The Hidden Costs of Fetal Rights*; Co-author: *Abortion Funding: A Matter of Justice*, Contributor: *Defending Justice: An Activist Research Kit*

**Sophia Sanchez**, Co-coordinator, the Girls Detention Advocacy Project, Center for Young Women's Development

**Women on the Rise Telling HerStory** (WORTH) representatives from an association of women who have been empowered by our own experiences. Through mentoring and mutual support, leadership and telling our stories, WORTH transforms the lives of women affected by incarceration and changes public perceptions and policy

**Tina Reynolds**, Children's Services Coordinator, Osborne Association; former board member of JusticeWorks Community

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**Ignoring Millions of Women, Millions of Children: How the Debate About Abortion and Maternity Care Ignores Issues of Pregnancy Loss and Infant Mortality.**

Women who have suffered miscarriages and stillbirths find that existing clinics, practices, and programs fail to provide effective support for their experiences. Meanwhile the current debate about abortion, maternity care, fetal rights and fetal personhood take place without regard to the extraordinarily commonplace experience of pregnancy loss, and to the US's extraordinarily high infant mortality rate. There are an estimated 900,000 pregnancy losses in the United States each year. Today, the United States ranks near the bottom of industrialized countries at number thirty-six -- with respect to infant mortality. In 2002, the first year in almost a century during which the infant mortality rate in the United States actually *increased*, the mortality rate for African American infants was almost *two and a half times greater* than that of non-Hispanic white infants. Presenters will address issues of research, care and political action to address the needs of women experiencing pregnancy loss and to confront and reduce the infant mortality rate in the US.

Moderator: **Jackie Payne**, Government Relations, Planned Parenthood Federation of America

**Monica Casper**, PhD, Director Women's Studies Vanderbilt

**Linda Layne**, PhD, Hale Professor of Humanities and Social Studies  
Department of Science and Technology Studies, Rensselaer  
Polytechnic Institute, Author: *Motherhood Lost: A Feminist Account of  
Pregnancy Loss in America*

**Shafia M. Monroe**, Midwife, Organizer, Founder of the nation's first black midwifery, infant mortality prevention, pregnancy support and midwife training non-profit organization, the International Center for Traditional Childbearing (ICTC).

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2007

**9:00 am**

On-site Registration, Breakfast & Summit pre-registrant check-in  
begin

***Sunday Morning Plenary***

9:30 a.m.

**Strategies for Coalition Building and Change at the Grassroots,  
State, and National Levels**

Summit sponsors and participants share fundamental goals: to ensure the ability of women to control their reproductive lives; maintain their rights to informed consent and bodily integrity; raise healthy children in a healthy environment; afford healthcare, and to have their work as parents valued. The Sunday morning opening plenary and special programs that follow will provide an opportunity explore common values and goals, and its implications for each group's agendas and strategies. Presenters will discuss social and political change models and activities that work, and address the possibilities and challenges of developing a shared agenda and collaborative activities for promoting reproductive justice and human rights.

**Rev. Debra W. Haffner**, Founder, Religious Institute on Sexual Morality, Justice, and Healing

**Deborah Peterson Small**, JD, Executive Director, Break the Chains, Communities of Color and The War on Drugs

Concurrent Sunday sessions, include:  
10:45-12:30

**What National, State-Based and Grassroots Action Works to  
Ensure the Health and Humanity of Pregnant and Birthing  
Women?**

This extended roundtable workshop will address a range of models, actions, and activities to advance reproductive justice

Moderator and Facilitator: **Wyndi Anderson**, Consultant, National Advocates for Pregnant Women & Harm Reduction Project

**List in formation:**

**Jessica Arrons**, Director, Women's Health and Rights Program at the Center for American Progress, More than a Choice: A Progressive Vision for Reproductive Health and Rights

**Freeda Cathcart**, Founder, Mothers United for Midwifery, the Maternal Civil Rights Movement

**Lucianno Colonna**, Executive Director, Utah Harm Reduction Project, Effective cross-coalition work in the Melissa Rowland case

**Paris Hatcher & Mia Mingus**, Georgians for Choice, Building and sustaining a state-based multi-issue reproductive justice coalition

**Nicette Jukelevics**, Chair, Coalition for Improving Maternity Services (CIMS), using Ten Steps to the MFCI pamphlet for pregnant women as a positive way to make changes in the maternity care system.

**Dominique Mckinney**, Young Women's Empowerment Project

**Shafia Monroe**, Midwife, Organizer, Founder the International Center for Traditional Childbearing (ICTC), using midwifery as a political organizing tool for family and community development

**Jackie Payne**, Government Relations, PPFA, Ensuring Access to Emergency Contraception, Action inside and outside of existing organizations to advance reproductive justice

**Katherine Prown**, legislative chair of the Wisconsin Guild of Midwives, Effective legislative, coalition-building, and grassroots strategies in Wisconsin to support access to midwifery care and to protect the birth choices of the underserved populations

**WORTH**, Women on the Rise Telling HerStory, an association of women who have been empowered by their own experiences to improve their lives and to take effective political action

**Connecting the dots: Linking .edu with .org: An Interactive Networking Workshop for Advocates and Academics**

In this workshop, participants will engage across advocacy and academia to connect social science research with reproductive health and rights advocacy. Speaker Marlene Gerber Fried will highlight her experiences, providing examples of successful partnerships in abortion rights advocacy. Workshop participants will then move into smaller Working Groups facilitated by social science researchers, each Group focusing on a specific topic (e.g., childbirth education, abortion, international reproductive health, fetal imaging, doula and midwifery care, etc.) to brainstorm ideas for specific, practical types of supportive relationships among advocates and academics, individuals and institutions. The desired goal is to connect and weave a tapestry of services and information sharing collectively vs. working individually and re-creating the wheel. This workshop represents collaboration between the Council on the Anthropology of Reproduction and ReproNetwork. The workshop welcomes all constituencies, including advocates, care providers, academics, and others for an engaging, productive dialogue and action agenda creation.

**Elizabeth M. Armstrong**, PhD, MPA, Assistant Professor, Sociology and Public Affairs Princeton University, Author: *Conceiving Risk, Bearing Responsibility: Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and the Diagnosis of Moral Disorder*

**Danielle Bessett**, PhD candidate, Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology & Sociology, Williams College

**Marlene Gerber Fried**, Director, Hampshire College CLPP, Co-Author: *Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organize for Reproductive Justice, and From Abortion to Reproductive Freedom: Transforming a Movement*

**Anu Kumar**, Executive Vice President, Ipas

**Courtney Jackson**, Ibis Reproductive Health

**Lynn Morgan**, PhD., Professor Anthropology, Mt. Holyoke, Co-editor: *Fetal Subjects, Feminist Positions*

**Christine Morton**, Sociologist, Doula, and Founder of the Reproductive Network

**Louise Marie Roth**, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Arizona

**Barbara Katz Rothman**, Professor of Sociology at City University of New York. Author: *Weaving a Family The Tentative Pregnancy; The Book of Life; In Labor: Women and Power in the Birthplace*

**Ruth White**, Assistant Professor, Seattle University College of Arts and Sciences - Society, Justice & Culture

Closing

Program adjourns at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday