



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

January 18–21, 2007

Hilton Atlanta Airport Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia

SUMMIT PROGRAM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2007

8:00 am

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

Pre-Summit Coalition Training

10:00am – 6:00pm

The pre-summit coalition training is facilitated by *Be Present, Inc.*, (www.bepresent.org.) This training provides 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 provides 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.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 2007

8:00 am

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

9:00 am – 10:45 am

Opening Session

North Atlanta High School Center for the Arts Women's Chorus

Ms. Rusha Evans, Director

Welcome & Keynote Address:

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

Lynn M. Paltrow, JD, Executive Director, National Advocates for Pregnant Women

10:45–11:15 Break

11:15 am – 12:45 pm
Concurrent Friday morning sessions:

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 Passage*; 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 in-hospital VBACs, while others ban VBAC's with a licensed home-birth midwife). 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.

Moderator: **Rachel K. Jones**, Sr. Research Associate, Alan Guttmacher Institute

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

Patty Skuster, MPP, JD, Policy Associate, Ipas, US

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 pm

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*

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

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

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Concurrent Friday afternoon sessions:

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 as well as 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, a 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

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, and PhD candidate in Women's Studies at the University of Iowa studying the gender and race politics of the natural childbirth movement

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

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

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

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

Sharon Lau, Clinic Defense and Research Director, National Abortion Federation

Carey Ann Ryan, Nurse and Certified Nurse Midwife, Owner of a homebirth practice and involved in Iowa's only birth center, political activism for homebirth and CNM practice.

Susan Yanow, MSW, Founder, Abortion Access Project, Consultant

Jennifer Williams, CPM in Indiana, Founding Member of the Indiana Midwifery Taskforce, prosecuted in January 2006 for practicing medicine and practicing midwifery without a license, activist working on licensure for midwives.

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

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 women's 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, 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 and Centuries of Solace: Expressions of Maternal Grief in Popular Literature*; articles on mifepristone abortion and emergency contraception; author: *Abortion at Work: Ideology and Practice in a Feminist Clinic* and *Women and Self-Help Culture: Reading Between the Lines*

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

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 Caesarean section (VBAC) 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.*

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

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

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

*This Workshops is presented on behalf of the Obstetrics–Gynecology Risk Research
Group

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 in the US and Internationally 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 that 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*

Jamie D. Brooks, JD, Staff Attorney, The National Health Law Program

Cynthia R. Daniels, Associate Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University, Author: *Exposing Men: The Science and Politics of Male Reproduction*

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

6:30–7:00pm

Immediately following Environmental Threats to Pregnant Women and Families there will be a **Premier** of *Protecting the Environment and Preventing Pregnancy Loss: A Conversation with Lois Gibbs, Executive Director of the Center for Health, Environment, and Justice* (30.min), an episode of “Motherhood Lost: Conversations” an educational TV series co-produced by Linda Layne and Heather Bailey, GMU-TV.

6:30–8:30pm

Summit Participants will share their video and film work. Sign-ups for time slots will be available at the Registration table. First up: Aminata Maraesa's, *Woman to Woman: Doula Assisted Childbirth* (Room to be announced).

6:30–7:30pm

Meet with representatives from the US Social Forum to learn more about this event, which will take place in Atlanta this June.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20, 2007

8:00 am

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

9:00 am – 10:45 am

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 Caesarian 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.

Moderator, **Melanie Peña**, MPH and Masters in Latin American Studies, Program Associate, Gynuity Health Projects

Dr. Rodolpho Gomez, Ob/Gyn, PhD., MA, Mother-Child Health Senior Health Systems Advisor, Ipas

Lisa Russell, MPH, Filmmaker; *Love, Labor, 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:

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. A panel of advocates, women directly affected, and counselors working with pregnant women will address issues of access, care, and activism.

Moderator: **Mia Mingus**, Co-Executive Director Georgian's for Choice, New Voices Fellow

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

Imani Walker, Director of Sacred Authority, The Rebecca Project on Human Rights

Tonia Poteat, Physician Assistant, providing primary medical care at the Grady Infectious Disease Program in Atlanta, GA to women living with HIV, Clinical Instructor at the Southeast AIDS Training and Education Center housed at Emory University

Juanita Williams, Consultant to SisterLove, Inc., A Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights Organization for Women, with a Focus on HIV/AIDS, Founding member SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Health Collective

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 and focus on issues relating to medical malpractice insurance. It will also 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). In addition presenters, who will include health-care providers and activists, will examine laws banning funding for abortion services and 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, Healthcare-now

Susan Hodges, President, Citizens for Midwifery

Stephanie Poggi, Executive Director, National Network of Abortion Funds

Commentators: **Karen Sadar–Watt**, MSN, CNM, Southeastern Regional Representative American College of Nurse–Midwives Board of Directors, Full–scope Midwifery Practice, Meridian, Mississippi

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 is 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 barriers.

Moderator, **Lorenza Holt**, MPH, Birth Sisters Program Manager, Boston Medical Center

OB–GYN/Midwifery Service, a community doula project at Boston Medical Center that supports 800 women giving birth each year

Robyn Churchill, Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM), Mt Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, Massachusetts, running two grant–funded programs for pregnant and birthing immigrant women, Founding Director, Latina Doula Program at Mt Auburn Hospital.

Jessica Gonzalez–Rojas, Director of Policy and Advocacy, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, President of New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE) and is an Advisory Member of the Women of Color Policy Network

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

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

Saturday Luncheon Plenary

Who is Considered a Legitimate Reproducer?

1:00 pm

While many participating in this conference have spent their lives seeking to ensure the health and humanity of pregnant women, that work often takes place in a highly politicized context that 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 transgender 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.

Donna Haukaas, Reproductive Justice Outreach Coordinator 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 pm – 4:30 pm

Concurrent first-round Saturday afternoon sessions:

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 will address these interrelated questions.

Moderator: **Peggy Brown**, Executive Director of Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault

Jodi Hinds, Doula, Childbirth Educator, Counselor, providing safe passage counseling services for pregnant women who are survivors of abuse in the childbearing years

Julie Burkhardt, 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

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. The humanity of young women is challenged through parental consent and notification laws, which sometimes subject young women to humiliating court hearings. Young motherhood has been criticized as a symptom of social dysfunction, while 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), 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 gender-based discrimination, 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, National Advocates for Pregnant Women Board Member

Cynthia Calvert, JD, Deputy Director, WorkLife Law 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

4:45 – 6:45 pm

Concurrent second-round Saturday afternoon sessions:

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.

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

Deborah Billings, PhD, Senior Research Associate, Ipas

Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas, Director of Policy and Advocacy National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health, President of New Immigrant Community Empowerment (NICE) and is an Advisory Member of the Women of Color Policy Network

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; 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, which examines the human rights violation of pregnant women in jails, prisons, and immigration detention centers, addresses 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.

Moderator: **Rachel Roth**, PhD, Soros Justice 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*

Brigitte Amiri, JD, ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project

Robin Levi, JD, Human Rights Director, Justice Now

Tina Reynolds, Women on the Rise Telling HerStory (WORTH), Children's Services Coordinator, Osborne Association; Board member of JusticeWorks Community

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

Karen Shain, Co-Director, Legal Services for Prisoners with Children

Christina Voight, PhD Sociology/Women studies candidate at The City University of New York, US Justice Fund, Open Society Institute-US Justice Fund

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 — or to the US's extraordinarily high infant mortality rate. There are an estimated 900,000 pregnancy losses in the United States each year. Today, with respect to infant mortality, the United States posts worse results than most industrialized countries, with a near-bottom ranking of #36. 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 University

Linda Layne, PhD, Hale Professor of Humanities and Social Studies
Department of Science and Technology Studies, Rennselaer 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)

6:45–8:00 pm

Immediately following **Ignoring Millions of Women, Millions of Children... will be an Airing of *Preparing for Home Pregnancy Loss: A Conversation with Sandy Maclean of WomenCare***, (30 min.) an episode of "Motherhood Lost: Conversations" an educational TV series co-produced by Linda Layne and Heather Bailey, GMU-TV.

Followed by the Premier of *Combating the Criminalization of Stillbirth and Miscarriage: A Conversation with Lynn Paltrow, Esq., Executive Director of National Advocates for Pregnant Women* (30 min.) an episode of "Motherhood Lost: Conversations" an educational TV series co-produced by Linda Layne and Heather Bailey, GMU-TV.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2007

8:00 am

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

Sunday Morning Plenary

9:00 am

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 to explore common values and goals, and their 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.

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

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:

10:15 – 12:15

What National, State-Based, and Grassroots Actions Work 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

Jessica Arons, 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

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

Tina Reynolds, MSW, WORTH, Coordinator of Children's Services, The Osborne Association, Prison Reentry and Family Services

Mary Johnson, MSW, WORTH, Director of Reentry Services, Women's Prison Association

Natane Singleton, MPH, PPFA Policy Analyst, Ensuring Access to Emergency Contraception, Action inside and outside of existing organizations to advance reproductive justice

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, which represents collaboration between the Council on the Anthropology of Reproduction and ReproNetwork, 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 H. Morton, PhD, Research Sociologist, Doula, and Founder of the Reproductive Network ("ReproNetwork")

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

12:15–1:00

Closing Reflections, Stories, Visions for Change

Susan Yanow, MSW, Founder, Abortion Access Project, Consultant

Sharon Gary-Smith, Board Chair and Gender Justice Committee member, Western States Center, Portland, OR

Angela Moreno, NAPW Summit 2007 coordinator, ALACE-trained doula, Community Birthing Project of NYC, Border Action Network, Spirit In Motion project of the Movement Strategy Center

Closing song performed by **Mariotta Patrice Gary-Smith**, MPH candidate Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University

**Program adjourns at 1:00 pm on Sunday.
A box lunch will be provided starting at 11 am.**