State Perspectives on Reproductive Justice

5th annual conference :: February 20-21, 2015
Norman, Oklahoma
take-root.org

hosted by:
Women's and Gender Studies Program,
The University of Oklahoma

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2015 Conference Schedule

Emcee: Emma Newberry-Davis and Melanie Adams

Friday, February 20, 2015

Pre-Conference Activist Trainings

8:30 - 9:00 am  Pre-Conference Registration and Check In

9:00 - 4:00 pm  Option 1: Organizing 101
Facilitator: YP4
Room: Oklahoma Memorial Union Governors Room

Option 2: Deeper Exploration
Facilitator: CoreAlign
Room: Oklahoma Memorial Union Associates Room

4:30 - 6:00 pm  Conference Registration and Check In
Thurman J White Forum Building Hub

5:00 - 6:00 pm  Poster Session
Forum Building Corridor B

6:00 - 7:30 pm  Opening Plenary:
Showcase of Collaborative Efforts in the Movement
This large session gives participants a small preview of some of the many speakers they can see at Take Root 2015.
Presenters: Pamela Merritt, Carol Mason, Lena Khader, Sarah Adams-Cornell, and Deborah Small
Room: Forum Room

7:30 - 10:00 pm  Entertainment: Furlough Sextet
and
Networking Reception
Please join us for an opportunity to meet, greet, and get to know other activists, academics, and students doing RJ work around the country. Light appetizers will be provided and a cash bar is available.
Forum Building Conference Room B
2015 Conference Schedule

Saturday, February 21, 2015
Thurman J White Forum Building

8:00 - 8:30 am  Registration and Breakfast
Forum Hub

8:30 - 8:45 am  Welcome

8:45 - 9:30 am  Keynote Address: Andrea Smith

9:30 - 9:45 am  Announcements

10:00 - 11:15 am Break Out Session One

Panel: Birthing a Movement
Birth justice is about more than just access to midwifery and labor support; it's about healthy bodies, families, and communities. This session will discuss the importance of maternity care and birthing in the reproductive justice movement.
Presenters: Kellee Coleman, Farah Diaz-Tello, Shayla Lawrence, and Indra Lusero
Moderator: Misha Klein
Room: A5
Session Patron: Julie M Davis

Strategic Action Session: Hands Up RJ: Lessons in the Aftermath of Ferguson
This strategic action session will equip activists with frameworks, knowledge, and practice cases for long-term coalition work that will build power from the ground up. Participants will engage in a variety of exercises, report lessons learned, and share knowledge about coalition work in various contexts.
Presenters: Leah Clyburn, DeMarco K Davidson, Waylon McDonald, Pamela Merritt, and Nikia Paulette
Room: Conference Room B

Panel: Cross-Movement Collaborations: Environmental & Reproductive Justice
This panel discussion will feature frontline voices doing environmental/climate justice and land defense work in their communities, demonstrate how their goals to fight extraction and pollution directly aligns with RJ, and initiate conversation on how to bridge these gaps.
Presenters: Paulette Blanchard, Brenda Golden, Yudith Nieto, and Yucca Westrup
Moderator: Roksana Alavi
Room: B5

Panel: Reproductive Justice in Oklahoma
Oklahoma politicians and lobbyists will discuss the state of reproductive rights in Oklahoma and their work to enact change in public policy.
Presenters: Tamya Cox, Connie Johnson, Martha Skeeters, and Emily Virgin
Moderator: Kathleen Crowther
Room: B4
2015 Conference Schedule
Saturday, February 21, 2015

10:00 - 11:15 AM  Break Out Session One Continued

Panel: RJ & Civic Engagement: How do we develop and support effective reproductive justice activism and civic engagement?
What is civic engagement? Often people in Red States have found that efforts to organize have been discouraged by existing organizations and that there has been little encouragement to organize across issues. How do we raise expectations, and gain the power we need to bring about real change?
Presenters: Cristina Aguilar, Julie Burkhart, and Margarida Jorge
Moderator: Lynn Paltrow
Room: B1

Panel: Reproductive Justice and Faith Communities
Panelists will discuss faith messaging, reclaiming the Moral Majority, and building faith-based intersectional support for justice.
Presenters: Harry Knox, Deborah Small, and Rebecca Turner
Moderator: Lindsey Churchill
Room: A3

Workshop: Making Herstory: Women of Color Feminism for South OKC High School Students
The facilitators of Making Herstory will discuss how strategic, weekly facilitations with youth can build consciousness and the desire to organize in our respective communities. Through using Third World feminism, ethnic studies, and personal narratives, high school students in South OKC are able to build self, political, and social empowerment.
Presenters: Lena Khader, Anna Bauman, Angie Tran, Al, Gwyn, Melissa, Michelle, and Yadira
Room: B3

Workshop: Native American Women Addressing Injustice
In this workshop, members of the Native American Women’s Health Education Resource Center will provide an overview of their grassroots efforts to ensure access to Plan B One-Step Emergency Contraceptives (EC) for Native American women.
Presenters: Charon Asetoyer and Pam Kingfisher
Room: B6

11:30 - 12:45 PM  Break Out Session Two

Panel: Is having an abortion the same as slavery? Genocide? Murder? The Need for Accessible Answers and Organizing to Respond to this Defamation of Pregnant Women and Mothers
For too long, claims like these have been made with relatively little response from mainstream pro-choice organizations. This workshop will discuss these claims, what the differences are between abortion and these heinous crimes, and how to organize meaningful responses especially on campuses and through social media.
Presenters: Cynthia Greenlee, Valarie Lambert, Carol Mason, and Lynn Paltrow
Moderator: Sherri Irvin
Room: Forum Room
2015 Conference Schedule
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11:30 - 12:45pm  Break Out Session Two Continued

Panel: The Priorities Project
Members of the Center for Reproductive Rights and Ibis Reproductive Health will briefly present the Priorities Project research, share first hand experiences from the state roundtable event in Oklahoma, present best practices and resources for incorporating research into state advocacy efforts, and engage workshop participants in brainstorming and strategy planning for their own state work.
Presenters: Bridgit Burns, Fran Linken, and Annie Norman
Moderator: Megan Sibbett
Room: B5

Panel: Life Givers: Indigenous Perspectives on Reproductive Rights
Native American women, living both on and off the reservation, battle higher than average rates of teen pregnancy, inadequate health care, high drop out rates and elevated poverty rates. Historical trauma, colonization, and environmental and racial injustice play key roles in these struggles that impact the Life Givers of Indian Country.
Presenters: Sarah Adams-Cornell, Ashley McCray, Alecia Onzahwah, and Tosawi Saddler
Moderator: Ralph Beliveau
Room: Conference Room B

Workshop: Sharing Stories for Cultural Shifts
This workshop will explore the ways in which organizations use storytelling to move messages around stigmatized reproductive experiences, both politically and culturally, and prepare participants with ways in which they can support their storytellers to ensure they have a safe and empowering sharing experience.
Presenters: Roula Abi Samra and Renee Bracey Sherman
Room: B3

Workshop: Practical Support in the South
This workshop will be a panel discussion by several abortion funds from the South, as members of the National Network of Abortion Funds. These funds work to offer direct support (funding) and practical support (transportation, lodging and/or childcare) for people seeking abortion.
Presenters: Kellee Coleman, Laurie Bertram Roberts, Angie Hayes, and Adrienne Ortega
Room: B6

Panel: HIV/AIDS & Reproductive Justice
A discussion of ways environment, stigma, and community engagement affect organizing efforts around HIV prevention and treatment.
Presenters: Caitlin Campbell, Randolph Hubach, and Anthony Natale
Moderator: Julie Ehrhardt
Room: B4

Strategic Action Session: Money, Sex, & Power
The main theme of this session is to explore how philanthropy’s power dynamics operate within social justice funder models/strategies for reproductive justice. We will envision and share strategies to make stronger connections across and within reproductive justice issues, expose natural alliances, and highlight effective organizing models within our community.
Presenters: Ginger Hintz, Coya White Hat-Artichoker, and Rye Young
Room: A3
2015 Conference Schedule
Saturday, February 21, 2015

11:30 - 12:45pm  Break Out Session Two Continued

Workshop: Healthcare Not Handcuffs
The 2015 legislative season has only just begun, but a number of states are already proposing diabolically creative measures that would feed pregnant people into the prison industrial complex - setting precedent for what will happen to people who miscarry or self-induce abortions. This workshop will provide an opportunity for state and national activists to strategize, share triumphs and struggles, and expand the base of advocates calling for "Healthcare, Not Handcuffs."

Presenters: Farah Diaz-Tello and Cherisse Scott
Room: A5

Panel: Moving the Middle to Take Action on Abortion
The National Women’s Law Center (NWLC) ‘This Is Personal’ campaign worked closely with advocates in West Virginia, specifically West Virginia Free, after the state’s attorney general requested for comments on how to further restrict reproductive health in that state. ‘The This is Personal’ action alert produced nearly 8,000 comments directed at the attorney general in West Virginia. Panelists will further discuss the state and national partnerships behind this effective campaign.

Presenters: Kelli Garcia, Thao Nguyen, and Ciera Pennington
Moderator: Elyssa Faison
Room: B1

1:00 - 2:30 pm  Lunch at Couch Restaurants
Couch Restaurants is the large round building located one block north of the Forum Building across Fourth St. (see the map in the back)
Your lunch ticket is located inside your conference packet.

2:30 - 3:45 pm  Break Out Session Three

Panel: I'd like an Abortion Please: Provider Perspectives on Issues, Challenges, and the Future of Abortion Care
This panel helps demystify the insular world of abortion providers and helps activists and organizers understand what concerns they can help address. Presenters hope to open up a conversation between activists and providers about the best way to address challenges, as well as what the future of RJ and abortion care should look like.

Presenters: Julie Burkhart, Amy Hagstrom Miller, Brandie Haddan, and Tom Tvedten
Moderator: Susan Laird
Room: B4

Panel: Who Profits from Criminalizing Pregnant Women and Making them Subject to Civil Child Welfare Laws?
This panel will discuss trends in the US toward punishing pregnant women and new mothers, the arguments against it, and the question of who profits from these actions.

Presenters: Sue Ellen Braunlin, Farah Diaz-Tello, Cherisse Scott, and Deborah Small
Moderator: Jackie Farley
Room: A3
Break Out Session Three Continued

**Strategic Action Session: Youth Advocacy in the Deep South: A Winning Strategy**

Often, we don’t include youth at the table when crafting policy strategy and advocacy efforts. And yet, adults are working to “improve” policies that affect young people’s lives without their input or ideas. In this session, youth advocates will share their strategies and stories of mobilizing young people to improve sex education in the Deep South. Best practices, lessons learned, and challenges will be discussed.

**Presenters:** Briana Dixon, Gregory Gabbert, Breial M. Kennedy, and Diana Rhodes

**Room:** B3

**Workshop: Queering Reproductive Justice**

Bodily autonomy and sexual freedom are central tenets in both LGBTQ and reproductive justice movements. So why do these movements so often operate outside of each other? In this workshop, participants will learn about the reproductive justice framework and learn some ways in which both reproductive justice and LGBTQ organizations are using it to do advocacy work that merges the two while remaining within their missions.

**Presenters:** Yucca Westrup, Raquel Ortega, and Oluwakemi Oso

**Room:** Conference Room B

**Workshop: How to Effectively Communicate with Legislators & Other Impossible Tasks**

The purpose of the workshop will be to provide tools and share real world experiences when talking to legislators. We will present on best practices and strategies regarding legislative work. This workshop will be broad enough for all attendees to take back to their respective states.

**Presenters:** Tamya Cox and Emily Virgin

**Room:** A5

**Workshop: Embracing Uncertainty & Possibility: Offering Support Across the Pregnancy Spectrum and Beyond**

How comfortable are you in discussing and supporting all pregnancy options? This workshop will introduce the Backline model of providing unconditional and judgment-free support across the full spectrum of experiences with pregnancy, parenting, abortion, and adoption. Through interactive exercises and discussion, participants will learn about current practices and how to make a quality referral, explore our values and biases, and share skills and tools for supporting people in all their reproductive decisions, feelings, and experiences.

**Presenters:** Shelly Dodson and Rachel Ronquillo Gray

**Room:** B5

**Panel: Organizing the Rising American Electorate**

This workshop will share statistics of the RAE (unmarried women, people of color, and people under 30) and explore strategies and challenges for organizing with young women and women of color. Leaders are from RJ organizations that represent black women, Latina women, and multicultural organizing in four Midwestern and Southern states.

**Presenters:** Elizabeth Estrada, Charmaine Lang, Teresa Purcell, and Rebecca Turner

**Moderator:** John Covaleskie

**Room:** B6
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4:00 - 5:15pm    Break Out Session Four

Panel: Pregnancy & Prison in Appalachia
Fighting for reproductive justice in Appalachia demands an attention to longstanding cultural misconceptions of place and people. In addition to the content of the panel matching the concerns of the conference, these papers will help conference-goers think critically about racialization in terms of whiteness.

Presenters: Allison Adair, Alex Adams, Emily Kolf, and Carol Mason
Commentator: Lynn Paltrow
Moderator: Clemencia Rodriguez
Room: B6

Workshop: Know Your Roots: RJ 101
Participants will gain background information and basic knowledge about the reproductive justice movement.

Presenters: Charmaine Lang
Room: A3

Panel: Cross-Movement Collaborations: Immigration and Reproductive Justice
Attacks on reproductive rights in red states disproportionately impact women who stand at the intersection of multiple forms of oppression. Our presentation discusses the impact of using a human rights framework to mobilize communities, facilitate cross-movement collaboration, and generate momentum for policy change that incorporates an intersectional analysis.

Presenters: Elizabeth Estrada, Judith Huerta, Shrivana Jorawar, and Karla Torres
Moderator: Mirelsie Velazquez
Room: B5

Workshop: Perceptions vs. People: Get PC with the RGV
This workshop will focus on the Rio Grande Valley. Issues such as immigration reform and a strong Catholic presence in the area will be discussed. Participants will gain a better understanding of the RGV and how to positively contribute to the work currently being done related to reproductive justice.

Presenters: Becca Arjona, Melissa Arjona, and Samantha Herrera
Room: B1

Panel: Healthcare Access & Reproductive Justice
Panelists from Ibis Reproductive Health, Oklahoma Policy Institute, and Jane’s Due Process will talk about healthcare in red states and the ways gender, race, and poverty impact one’s access to proper care. Issues related to reproductive justice such as judicial bypass, Medicaid expansion, and public policy regarding oral contraceptives will be discussed.

Presenters: Carly Putnam, Emily Rooke-Ley, and Britt Wahlin
Moderator: Lisa Frey
Room: B3

Strategic Action Session: Accidental Activists: Starting and Sustaining Yes All Daughters
This session discusses the recent activism against sexual assault at Norman High School that resulted in important policy changes.

Presenters: Stacey Wright, Grace Babb, Sophia Babb, Danielle Brown, Dylan Mellgren, and Christina Owen
Moderator: Jill Irvine
Room: A5
2015 Conference Schedule
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4:00 - 5:15pm  Break Out Session Four Continued

Panel: Adoption & Reproductive Justice
This panel will focus on the issue of adoption in Indian Country, specifically the ethical and legal ramifications of the process. Social justice issues such as indigeneity, reproductive justice, racial justice, and human trafficking are some of the topics this all-native identifying panel of experts will address. The audience will walk away with a greater understanding of the ethics behind the adoption of native children.

Presenters: Nicky Michael, Darcia Parton-Scoon, Johnna Payne-Hurt, and Angel Smith
Moderator: Ashley McCray
Room: B4

Panel: Trans* Health Matters
This panel will be a combination of research and lived experiences. Researchers from the Kentucky Trans* Health Project will detail findings of their research and give tips for using the information to inform and educate healthcare providers about the trans community and barriers that trans individuals face, and members of the FTM support group Brothers will talk about their experiences accessing healthcare.

Presenters: Jhalak Dholakia, Daniel Dukes, Ricky Hill, Shea Magee, and Lindsay Snow
Moderator: Lisa Funnell
Room: Conference Room B

Workshop: Fight The Power: How to Thrive When Admin Isn’t On Your Side
Organizing for reproductive justice while on a conservative campus can often be a hostile environment. When your school’s administration does not have your back, this is not only isolating, but makes it more difficult to accomplish even the smallest of actions. This workshop will feature tips on how to work around administrative red tape to accomplish your goals.

Presenters: Katherine Gwynn, Christy Medrano, Raquel Ortega, Oluwakemi Oso, and Laura Reid
Room: Forum Room

5:30 - 6:30 pm  Closing: Eesha Pandit

and

Awards
Carol Mason Award
Staying Rooted Award
Spreading Your Roots Award

Forum Room
What is a safer space? A safer space allows for members of the group to feel comfortable expressing themselves without fear of harassment or ridicule. That being said, a safer space is not necessarily a free-for-all. No space can be 100% safe, but we can promote an environment of accommodation, respect, and accountability.

It is important to use language that is respectful and inclusive. Please avoid using racist, sexist, cissexist, homophobic, classist, and ableist ("lame," "crazy," and "ret**ded"), and other offensive language.

Refraining from making assumptions about gender or pronouns is part of creating a safer space. We invite everyone to list their pronouns on their nametags!

As advocates for survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence, it is important that we not make jokes that are triggering to survivors. This includes (but is not limited to) rape jokes, using rape as a synonym for something that is not rape (I "raped" that test, that video game "raped" me), and other jokes that make light of the danger that people in IPV situations face ("I ran into a door"). To avoid triggering survivors, we should strive to steer clear of violent rhetoric whenever possible. Preparing people before discussing triggering content is an incredibly helpful way to accommodate survivors.

Part of a safer space is recognizing that people can and should be held accountable for their words and actions. Remaining conscious of social location and privilege is vital in spaces where many folks have been excluded or dismissed in conversation about reproductive justice. Often, that means many of us will need to prioritize listening.

We recognize the need for every person to have access to facilities that are safe for personal needs. There are two family restrooms available for any person to use in McCarter Hall. There are also gender neutral restrooms with and without urinals in the CCE Administrative Building. Directions to these restrooms are shown on the last page of your program, and we encourage you to ask one of the volunteers or conference organizers for any help you may need locating them.

The conference organizers have taken several steps to ensure the security of everyone attending our conference. There is a chance that a disruptive presence might gather around the conference site. While we respect the need for folks to react to this sort of thing in their own way, we propose a collective front of refusal to engage any protestors of this conference. It can be argued that reserving our energy for the conference so that we may listen, share, and plan attentively is the most strategic plan. Please reach out to a conference organizer if you feel unsafe or want to bring up concerns at any time.
Andrea Smith is Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies and Media & Cultural Studies at UC Riverside. Her publications include: ‘Native Americans and the Christian Right’; ‘The Gendered Politics of Unlikely Alliances and Conquest’; ‘Sexual Violence and American Indian Genocide’. She is also the co-editor of Theorizing Native Studies and Native Studies Keywords, the editor of The Revolution Will Not Be Funded: Beyond the Nonprofit Industrial Complex, and co-editor of The Color of Violence, The Incite! Anthology. She is also a co-founder of Incite! Women of Color Against Violence and the Boarding School Healing Coalition. She authored the United Nations Report on Indigenous Peoples and Boarding Schools. She also has a J.D. from UC Irvine and is currently a Skadden Fellow focusing on disability law.

Eesha Pandit is a Houston-based writer, activist and freelance consultant. Her writing can be found at Crunk Feminist Collective, Feministig, Salon, The Nation, RH Reality Check, Feministe, In These Times, and Bitch Magazine. She has also appeared on numerous TV news outlets including CNN, HLN, MSNBC, and Grit TV with Laura Flanders. Eesha has a B.A. from Mount Holyoke College and an M.A. from the University of Chicago. She currently serves as Program Consultant with ConwayStrategic where she works on issue advocacy and communications strategy for a wide range of progressive causes. She also serves as co-president of board of directors for the National Network of Abortion Funds.

Previously Eesha served as Executive Director of Men Stopping Violence, a social change organization dedicated to ending men’s violence against women. She’s also served as Women’s Rights Manager at Breakthrough, a global human rights organization. At Breakthrough, Eesha worked on the Bell Bajao! (Ring the Bell!) Campaign that asks men and boys to take action, get involved, and help end violence against women. Previously, Eesha served as Director of Advocacy at Raising Women’s Voices (RWV). RWV is a national initiative working to make sure women’s voices are heard and women’s concerns are addressed as policymakers put the new health reform law into action. At RWV, Eesha coordinated a national field network of 22 state-based regional coordinators working to include women’s health access in local, state and national policy efforts. Eesha has also served as Associate Director of Programs at the Civil Liberties and Public Policy Program at Hampshire College, the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University, and Amnesty International USA’s Women’s Rights Program.
Meet Our Presenters

Roula Abi Samra, MPH, works with the Sea Change Program to manage the Untold Stories Project, which engages communities in conversations about reproductive experiences that often remain hidden or silenced. She grew up in Louisiana, studied and worked in Georgia, and currently resides in California but still considers the Southeast home. She has spent her career working in reproductive health research, education, and service provision, with a particular focus on abortion care. Now her work with Sea Change supports people in sharing their stories and listening to those of others, connecting with one another and changing culture together.

Allison Adair is a Sociology doctoral student at the University of Kentucky where she studies Feminist Criminology, focusing on violence against women and sex trafficking. Her current research analyzes how anti-trafficking organizations frame the problem of sex trafficking and in turn contribute to popular constructions of the social categories of trafficking victims, traffickers, and sex buyers. Her dissertation will focus on international comparisons of trafficking victim rehabilitation centers, particularly innovative strategies for survivor reintegration into communities. She is new to the field of reproductive justice and is thrilled to be expanding her knowledge of this area at Take Root.

Melissa Arjona currently teaches Developmental English at South Texas College. She’s a Chicana feminist and book blogger who’s passionate about reproductive justice, libraries, and baked goods. You can find her online as @feministtexican.

Becca Arjona is a recent graduate of UTPA with a bachelors in Rehabilitative Services with a Concentration in Addictions Studies. She is a 26 year old Chicana feminist and saxophone player for a politically driven ska band. She founded the Aspiring Substance Abuse Professionals (ASAP) for her university’s rehabilitation department in hopes of maximizing prevention strategies in her community.

Charon Asetoyer is a member of the Comanche Nation and the Executive Director and Founder of the Native American Community Board (1985) and the Native American Women’s Health Education Resource Center (1998) on the Yankton Sioux Reservation. Charon was appointed and confirmed by President of the United States to serve on the National Advisory Council for HHS; advisory committee member for the Center for Constitutional Rights, Women and People of Color (The AIDS Project, NY), and the Center for Women’s Policy Studies Women AIDS Project. Awards include “Woman Of Vision Award,” and United Nations Distinguished Services Award as well.

Laurie Bertram Roberts is a grassroots feminist activist, speaker, writer, and full spectrum doula in Jackson, Mississippi. She is currently Regional Director of Mid-South NOW and President of Mississippi NOW. She is a founding and current board member of the Mississippi Reproductive Freedom Fund. She came to reproductive justice work through her lived experiences as a young black, low income, disabled, queer, mother of 7. Much of her work focuses on finding ways to remove barriers people experience accessing reproductive healthcare and sexual health education. You can find her on twitter @smartstatistic.

Renee Bracey Sherman is a reproductive justice activist who shares her abortion story to fight the stigma. Renee is a writer with Echoing Ida, a Black women’s writing collective named after Ida B. Wells which highlights health disparities. Renee’s work has been featured on BBC Radio World Newshour, EBONY, Salon, RH Reality Check, and Feministing.com. Previously, Renee worked with LGBT and allied youth as they shared their stories to California policymakers to pass landmark legislation. Renee is a graduate student at Cornell University pursuing a Master’s in Public Administration. She currently sits on the board of NARAL Pro-Choice America Foundation.
Meet Our Presenters

Julie Burkhart, Founder and CEO of Trust Women and South Wind Women’s Center in Wichita, KS. She has over 20 years of experience in reproductive justice. She began her career in reproductive justice while attending college. She went on to manage political campaigns candidates and Washington State Democrats. Ms. Burkhart worked side-by-side with Dr. George Tiller for seven years as spokesperson for the clinic and CEO of ProKanDo (PAC). In 2013, Ms. Burkhart opened Wichita’s only abortion providing facility since the assassination of Dr. Tiller in 2009, and the only facility for a 200 mile radius. Currently she is pursuing a second clinic in Oklahoma.

Bridgit Burns is a Project Manager at Ibis Reproductive Health, where she contributes to a variety of research projects, including studying access to health care in states that heavily restrict abortion and exploring the reproductive health needs and experiences of women in the US military. Bridgit has worked in a range of public health settings and has training and experience in research design, database development, and survey administration. Bridgit holds a Master of Public Health in Reproductive and Family Health from Columbia University and a Bachelor of Science in Human Biology, Health, and Society from Cornell University.

Caitlin Campbell works at Expressions Community Center- a unique HIV prevention and care collaboration. After graduating from OU Women’s and Gender Studies, Caitlin worked as the Program Coordinator at the Center for Social Justice where she helped plan the Take Root conference in 2012. Caitlin then moved to Berlin, Germany where she completed her master’s degree in public health and worked with sex workers on a participatory evaluation of their peer-led HIV prevention project. She is glad to be back in Oklahoma working in the HIV prevention and services community.

Leah Clyburn currently serves as the Outreach Coordinator for Faith Aloud. For 7 years, Leah provided counseling, advocating, as well as provided medical care and support at Planned Parenthood. She has also worked for women’s health specialists within some of the top rated hospitals in the St. Louis area. Leah has received community organizing training from Camp Wellstone, Groundswell Fund, and SisterSong. She focuses in community, base, and relationship building, as well as education. Her personal and professional experiences have enabled her to effectively advocate for RJ at the local, state, and federal levels.

Tamya Cox grew up in Des Moines Iowa and moved to Tulsa when she was 15. Cox graduated from Oklahoma State University with a B.A. in journalism and minor in French. After being admitted to the bar, Cox worked for the American Civil Liberties Union of Oklahoma as the first legislative counsel. Cox is currently the staff attorney and lobbyist for Planned Parenthood of the Heartland. Committed to civil rights and civil liberties, Cox has traveled across the state speaking to communities regarding issues that directly impact their lives.

DeMarco K Davidson has been a leader since his youth in St. Louis, MO. He graduated from the Univ. of MO-Rolla where he earned a BS in Engineering Management in 2006. Davidson was recognized by his alma-mater alumni for his work in the inner-city of St. Louis as a Field Organizer for President Obama. For the past 6 years, he has been closely working with the Kappa League, a leadership development program for high school students. Davidson is working on his Master in Divinity at Eden Theological Seminary. Through Eden, he works with Faith Aloud as a contextual education student.

Jhalak Dholakia is a third-year medical student at the University of Louisville working with the Kentucky Health Justice Network on LGBT outreach and advocacy, as well as family planning and abortion access. Her research and clinical interests focus on historically under-served demographics within the US healthcare system. Personal experiences as an Indian-American, and an anthropology academic background, inform her perspective that socio-cultural factors are central determinants of health and drive her intent to decrease the silo effects of healthcare and academia. She is also currently developing an LGBT-affirming curriculum model for medical student outreach clinics.
Meet Our Presenters

Farah Diaz-Tello, Staff Attorney at NAPW, is a graduate of the City University of New York School of Law, where she was a Haywood Burns Fellow in Civil and Human Rights. Her work at NAPW has focused on the rights to medical decision-making and birthing with dignity, and on bringing human rights home through use of the international human rights framework. A proud Texan, she is an alumna of the University of Texas at Austin and the mother of three small children.

Briana Dixon is a junior at Spelman College in Atlanta Georgia where she majors in Sociology. She currently lives in Ocean Springs Mississippi. She is a part of the Young Women of Color Leadership Council and the Millennials of Color Bureau at Advocates for Youth. She annually participates in the Saving Our Sisters Teen Pregnancy Summit in her community and does various activist work online. She enjoys video-blogging, writing, and advocating with social media.

Shelly Dodson joined Backline in 2007 as a volunteer on the Talkline and worked as our Portland-based Program Manager from 2010–2012. She received her B.S. in Community Health Education from Portland State University and her past work includes experience as an antiviolence advocate, doula, midwife, and support to folks with disabilities. A native of Southern Indiana, Shelly is based in Bloomington, IN and also heads up outreach and training in the Midwest.

Elizabeth Estrada serves as the National Field Coordinator at the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health. Previously, she served as a Florida Field Coordinator at the NLIRH Florida Latina Advocacy Network, where she organized to raise the voices of Latinas in Florida for policy change at all levels of government on issues that impact their lives, women’s health care and other social justice issues. Elizabeth engages in movement-building for reproductive justice, develops community leadership, builds relationships with key stakeholders, partners, and elected officials, and assists in campaign development and implementation.

Gregory Gabbert is a graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham with a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience (2012) and his MPH (2014). Greg started his activism work as a founding member of the Alabama Alliance for Healthy Youth (AA4HY), a youth-focused grassroots movement devoted to sexual/reproductive issues. In this role, he worked to eliminate barriers preventing collaboration in the public health and activist spheres. Currently, Greg is working with the San Antonio AIDS Foundation. As he gains more experience in public health, he hopes to leverage his passion for social justice and activism in order to develop innovative solutions and bring real change to public policy issues.

Kelli Garcia currently serves as Senior Counsel at the National Women’s Law Center where she works on state reproductive health advocacy. Kelli’s oversees the Center’s efforts to protect women’s access to reproductive health services when religiously affiliated hospitals seek to merge or buyout secular hospitals and medical practices. Kelli’s also works on efforts opposing harmful practices in crisis pregnancy centers, and provides technical support to state advocates working to protect access to reproductive health care. Kelli also served as counsel at NWLC where she worked on health care reform implementation and anti-discrimination in health care.

Brandie Haddan is clinic director for Reproductive Services of Tulsa, a clinic that has been serving Oklahoma since 1973. Ms. Haddan has been in the medical field for over 20 years beginning her career in reproductive care in 2004 after answering an ad in the paper. She started as a nursing assistant, went on to attend nursing school graduating with honors becoming an LPN. Reproductive care is her passion it is not just what she does, it is a part of who she is. Her 10 years of dedicated service has encompassed patient care, clinic operations and patient advocacy.
Meet Our Presenters

Samantha Herrera is a 22 year old Xicana Feminist, and Rio Grande Valley native. Studies English (Borders Concentration) at the University of Texas-Pan American. Actively volunteers at clinics and with organizations surrounding Reproductive Justice. Passionate about Reproductive Health access, intersectional feminism and the Rio Grande Valley, Texas.

Ginger Hintz, Program Manager at the Women Donors Network (WDN), hails from the prairies of South Dakota. She has lived in slightly less rural OH, a few months in OR, lived four days in Wichita, KS, returned to OH, moved out west to Seattle, WA, and is currently settling in Oakland, CA. Ginger credits her move to Cleveland, OH, where she was a pro-choice escort through rain, snow and shine, as the place where she cut her first reproductive justice tooth.

Randolph Hubach is an assistant professor at Oklahoma State University. He received his MPH from California State University-Fullerton and PhD from Indiana University. His research focuses on psychological correlates (e.g., loneliness, depression, anxiety) of human sexual behavior, specifically among sexual minorities, emergent adults, and marginalized communities. Dr. Hubach has previously worked for regional health departments developing sexual health and mental health programs, receiving federal funds to explore sexual behavior among varied populations.

Judith Huerta is an undocumented immigrant who has lived in the US since she was two-years old. She graduated from Putnam City High School in 2008 and Oklahoma City University in 2012. She is the co-affiliate of the Oklahoma City chapter of DREAM Act Oklahoma who advocates for immigrant rights, and is currently working as a Parent/Community Specialist for Oklahoma City Public Schools.

Connie Johnson Recently retired after 33-years of service in the State Senate, Johnson is Oklahoma’s first woman and Black person to win a major party US Senate nomination. Her work on health/mental health/human services and criminal justice issues disproportionately affecting the poor, women and children preceded Jon Stuart’s Daily Show "Bro. Choice" skit on her women’s reproductive health rights advocacy, which helped defeat Oklahoma’s "Personhood" Bill. Johnson’s Master’s thesis on "The Needs of Women Returning From Prison" and her educational focus on ending the failed "War on Drugs" led to significant policy change. A native Oklahoman, mother of three and grandmother, Johnson graduated with honors from OKC’s Frederick A. Douglass High, the University of Pennsylvania, and Langston University’s Master’s in Rehabilitation Counseling.

Breial M. Kennedy is a second-year/sophomore at Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana. Breial is a political science major and plans attend law school following graduation. With her degree, Breial would like to continue her advocacy work here in Louisiana to be an effective voice for her generation’s needs. She is also an active member of two organizations, American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) and Institute for Women and Ethnic Studies (IWES).

Lena Khader is a Taiwanese-Palestinian American born and raised in south OKC. She and her former students formed Making Herstory, a created safe space for WOC high school students and allies to learn about and discuss feminism, ethnic studies, and how their personal narratives can be used as a form of empowerment to becoming socially and politically conscious beings of society. Making Herstory members created a social media campaign around police brutality and raised $250 for the Luis Rodriguez family.

Pam Kingfisher is a Cherokee woman born to the bird clan, who lives and works on her grandmother’s allotment land in N.E. Oklahoma, growing organic food and working to preserve and utilize medicinal plants. Pamela worked for the Indian Health Service for 14 years, and has been a consultant to the nonprofit field for the past 16 years. Awards include 1990 U.S. Surgeon General’s Award for Outstanding Performance, Indian Health Service, Public Health Service, Washington DC.; Ingrid Washinawatok El-Issa Award for Community Activism. Pam has led groups of Indigenous women to UN World Conferences. She was the director of IWN.
Meet Our Presenters

Emily Kolf is a first year PhD candidate at the University of Kentucky, studying English literature. Her research background is in women’s literature and southern literature. Her honors thesis centered on memory and motherhood in southern American literature. This background in depictions of motherhood led to her interest in the topic of reproductive justice and the ways in which justice is not always served. She, along with the other members of the panel, will explore several cases of Appalachian women who have been incarcerated due to circumstances of their pregnancy.

Valarie Lambert completed her undergrad at the University of Oklahoma in Women’s and Gender Studies, and is currently working on her Masters in Human Relations. She is a single mother of a 16 year old daughter, Natalee. Lambert is an activist for women’s rights, and an advocate for the end of violence against women. Natalee is an activist as well and last year when a very aggressive anti-woman, anti-abortion group set up camp outside of her school, she went to her mother. The Lambert Ladies organized a counter protest against them to combat the bullying nature of the group.

Charmaine Lang’s interest in Black women’s agency and liberation led her to work with the Reproductive Justice Collective, first as a summer intern, and currently as the Program Manager. She is a fourth year doctoral student at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee in the Department of Africology. She is simultaneously working on her certificate in Women’s Studies. Her research interests include Black women’s authored literature, and the ways women practice stress management and self-care. While an avid reader, she also loves traveling and dancing.

Shayla Lawrence, MPH has worked in maternal and child health for seven years, and has a special interest in health disparities and social determinants of health. She became interested in birthing issues via an anthropology course entitled ‘Culture, Human Sexuality, and Childbirth’ at the University of Memphis. Lawrence was a delegate to the CHANGE Healthy Future Action Summit in 2014 and has presented on Memphis’ infant mortality rates at Ignite Memphis and on culturally competent MCH service provision at the TAMIT/TAPIT joint conference. She is chair of Healthy and Free Tennessee’s Birthing Rights Working Group and also volunteers with other reproductive and infant health initiatives.

Fran Linken, as Manager of Policy and Advocacy Research, is responsible for ensuring that the Center’s U.S. policy, advocacy, and litigation work is informed and guided by relevant public health and social science research. She also serves as a point of contact between the Center and the broader research community. Fran was Associate Director of Public Affairs at Planned Parenthood MarMonte prior to pursuing an MPH in reproductive health at Columbia’s Mailman School. During her studies, Fran consulted with the Texas Policy Evaluation Project at UT Austin conducting qualitative research on barriers to reproductive health care in the state.

Indra Lusero has been a teacher, a performance artist, a doula, a wall-paper hanger, a non-profit manager, and a counselor at law (among other things). This interdisciplinary approach is part of what makes Indra a Social Midwife (a term coined by Civil Rights leader and longtime Denver, Colorado activist Vincent Harding to describe people who help give birth to a new way). As a genderqueer parent with a diverse family of people from all over the world, Indra is committed to building “a world in which all worlds fit.”

Carol Mason is professor of Gender and Women’s Studies at University of Kentucky and board member of National Advocates for Pregnant Women. She is author of Killing for Life: The Apocalyptic Narrative of Pro-life Politics (Cornell U Press) and Oklahomo: Lessons in Unqueering America, coming this fall from SUNY Press.

Waylon McDonald is a 22 year old native of Cincinnati, OH. He obtained his undergrad degrees in African/ African American Studies and Women’s & Gender Studies. He moved to St. Louis to organize with the Service Employee International Union (SEIU). Currently, Waylon works at the Organization for Black Struggle as a Field Organizer in Metropolitan St. Louis City on the campaign to pass an effective Civilian Oversight Board. In addition, he is working on electoral politics to increase the progressive representation, of the Board of Aldermen.
Christy Medrano is a 4th year student at the University of North Texas, currently serving as
president of the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance chapter on campus. After losing access
to reproductive healthcare when the Texas legislature defunded Planned Parenthood in 2011,
Christy is committed to pursuing a career in public policy and seeing that her home community
restores the services and potential for healing that have been previously devastated. She
strives to bring young people of color into the reproductive justice movement, and to strike fear
into the hearts of local anti-choice activists.

Pamela Merritt is the Communications Director for Progress Missouri. In 2011, Pamela served as
the Online New Media Manager for the Mississippians for Healthy Families Campaign that
successfully defeated an anti-choice ‘personhood’ ballot initiative in Mississippi. Merritt started
writing about progressive issues on her personal blog, AngryBlackBitch.com, in 2005 and she
hasn’t logged off since. In 2008, Pamela was named one of the world’s 50 most powerful
bloggers by the Guardian. Pamela has been a staff writer for RH Reality Check, a contributor to
Feministing.com, and her writing has been published in the Chicago Sun-Times, the Guardian,
and Salon.

Anthony P. Natale, MSW, PhD is Assistant Director and Associate Professor in the Anne and
Henry Zarrow School of Social Work. His interests focus on health disparities, particularly at-risk
communities impacted by HIV/AIDS.

Thao Nguyen is the Director of Outreach at the National Women’s Law Center. She oversees
the outreach efforts for the Center’s work on women’s health and judicial nominations. She is
also the campaign director of This Is Personal, the Center’s reproductive health campaign for
young women. Previously, she managed the policy and advocacy work at different HIV/AIDS
and environmental organizations. She received her undergraduate degree in English from the
University of California, Irvine and a graduate degree in Human Rights Law from the School of
Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Yudith Nieto was born in Mexico and grew up in the fence-line refining community of
Manchester in Houston, TX. Out of necessity to help protect her community, Yudith became a
part of the environmental justice movement. Yudith works with Texas Environmental Justice
Advocacy Services and has also collaborated with other environmental, immigration, LGBTQ
and social justice groups. Yudith works with other youth to build an inter-generational
movement to learn how the Chican@, Mexican American, and Indigenous cultures are
intrinsically linked to the struggle of environmental justice, through culture, art, music and
poetry.

Annie Norman is a public health graduate student at The University of Oklahoma Health
Sciences Center, an Oklahoma City-based organizer/advocate for reproductive justice, and a
rural Oklahoman at heart. Most recently Annie interned with Ibis Reproductive Health assisting
in a joint research project (Evaluating Priorities) with the Center for Reproductive Rights. Before
graduate school, she worked as an organizer for Planned Parenthood of the Heartland in Tulsa,
a field staffer on an Oklahoma Congressional campaign, and an Education Coordinator for
Planned Parenthood of Central Texas in Waco. She also served in the Peace Corps from
2008-2010, working on community development projects and sexual health in Tierra Blanca de
Cartago, Costa Rica.

Raquel Ortega is a queer Xicana from the Southwest dedicated to uplifting the voices of young
people and others who have been historically disenfranchised. As a progressive activist she is
dependently committed to empowering the next generation of young leaders through mentorship
and cross movement building. She is currently the Field Coordinator at URGE: Unite for
Reproductive and Gender Equity in Washington, DC where she works with young people
across the country to organize around issues of gender and reproductive justice on their
campuses & in their communities.
Meet Our Presenters

Oluwakemi (Kemi) Oso is a Southwestern feminist born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona. She joined URGE in May 2014 after completing her Bachelor of Arts degree in Gender & Women’s Studies from the University of Arizona. She is excited to use her experience organizing in a red state as she assists students in the Southeastern region. In her spare time, you can catch Kemi with her nose in a book, or tweeting about her newest TV addiction. Follow her @madamepsych0sis.

Lynn M. Paltrow, J.D., is the Founder and Executive Director of National Advocates for Pregnant Women ("NAPW"), an organization that seeks to ensure the civil and human rights of all women focusing particularly on pregnant women and those most vulnerable to state control and punishment – low-income women, women of color, and drug-using women. She is a Gemini and mother of twins.

Nikia Paulette is a native of East Saint Louis, Illinois just across the river from St. Louis, Missouri. She grew up in a large family of fourteen. She holds a Bachelors degree in Business Finance from University of Missouri-Saint Louis. Nikia completed the Wellstone Organizing training in 2014. She has spent the last 10 years with the Organization for Black Struggle (OBS) in various roles. She currently co-anchors an OBS program called Sistahs Talkin’ Back dedicated to political empowerment of black women. Paulette is also a member of the Leadership Council Board for OBS. She is mother to a six-year old daughter and wife of a small business owner.

Victor Puertas is originally from Peru, is a member of the Yagua nation (one of the major indigenous nations of the Peruvian Amazon), and has been living in the U.S. for several years. His organizing work started with fighting for migrant rights that led him to connecting this with land and water defense for indigenous sovereignty as part of anti-colonial struggle/climate justice. Organizing around these issues gave him a better understanding of the real meaning of climate justice and the interconnection of different struggles from migrant justice to anti-racist action, from reproductive justice to land defense, from women’s rights to indigenous autonomy, the interconnection of all this and many more is very important to engage when doing this work.

Carly Putnam joined OK Policy as a full-time policy analyst in January of 2014. A Kansas City native, Carly graduated from the University of Tulsa in December 2013 with a BA in Sociology and Women’s and Gender Studies. She was a leader in several TU organizations active in feminist, LGBTQ, and anti-racist education and advocacy. She is a graduate of the National Education of Women (NEW) Leadership Institute, edited the campus newspaper, tutored students at Will Rogers High School, and interned with Planned Parenthood. Her work at OK Policy focuses on healthcare, poverty, inequality, and race and gender.

Laura Reid Howdy, my name is Laura, and I am a junior psychology major from Frankfurt, Germany. I am an intersectional feminist and Vice President and President pro-temp of the student organization Aggies for Reproductive Justice (Pro-Choice Aggies) at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. As someone who is working towards a career in counseling and activism, I believe my unique background and my work as a student leader within a culture resistant to reproductive health discussions and advancement both contribute to my multicultural perspective regarding reproductive justice.

Diana Thu-Thao Rhodes is the Associate Director of State Policy & Partnerships at Advocates for Youth, where she oversees state/local policy strategy, advocacy and mobilization efforts with state-based partners on a range of reproductive and sexual health/rights issues. Diana has been working in social justice movements for nearly a decade, at the grassroots and grasstops levels, primarily around policies/issues that affect women, youth, communities of color, and the LGTBQ community. She holds an M.A. from George Washington University in Public Policy and Women’s Studies, and has a B.A. from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in Sociology and Women’s Studies.
Meet Our Presenters

Rachel Ronquillo Gray is the Program Manager with the Backline Hoosier team. Rachel first joined Backline in April 2014 as a volunteer Talkline Advocate. Born and raised in rural Nevada, she earned her MFA at Indiana University and strives to bring activism and art together through her work at Backline and in her own writing. She has been a teen peer sex educator, a campus activist at her undergrad, a writing instructor at IU, and a literacy program leader for girls. Rachel has a deep love for reproductive justice and building places of support for people in all of their unique and complex experiences.

Emily Rooke-Ley is a reproductive justice advocate currently working with Jane’s Due Process in Austin, TX. She first became involved with reproductive justice issues in high school when she served on Planned Parenthood’s Youth Action Council. Emily founded the Vox: Voices for Planned Parenthood chapter at Skidmore College, from which she graduated from in May. During the 2013 special sessions, she interned with NARAL Pro-Choice Texas, where just days into the introduction of the omnibus anti-choice bill, she found herself pregnant and needing an abortion. Emily’s subsequent experience navigating pregnancy termination in Texas solidified her commitment to the movement.

Cherisse Scott is an emerging young Reproductive Justice leader. Ms. Scott has worked as an educator, advocate and activist in Reproductive Justice for 10 years. Her work began in Chicago at Black Women for Reproductive Justice where she served on the board of directors and later worked as Health Educator/Campaigns Coordinator for the organization. In 2011, she founded SisterReach, currently the only Reproductive Justice organization in the state of Tennessee focused on empowering women and girls of color, poor and rural women with a strategy of education, faith, advocacy and policy.

Martha Skeeters was born and raised in East Texas and has lived in Oklahoma for over 30 years. Her commitment to reproductive justice stems from her observations and experiences growing up in a poor white family in the racially segregated South, being loved by the folks at her local Southern Baptist Church and being taught to worship her star athlete brother and others like him. She came of age and was mightily influenced by the second wave of the women’s movement, the civil rights movement and the anti-war movement. She earned two degrees from the University of North Texas and holds a Ph.D. in history from The University of Texas.

Deborah Peterson Small is the Executive Director of Break the Chains, a research and advocacy organization committed to addressing the disproportionate impact of punitive drug policies on poor communities of color. Break the Chains was founded in the belief that community activism and advocacy is an essential component of progressive policy reform. Break the Chains works to engage families and community leaders in promoting alternatives to the failed “war on drugs” by adopting public health approaches to substance abuse and crime. Break the Chains is a voice for those affected most by drug policies but often unheard in policy debates.

Lindsay Snow is a third year medical student at the University of Louisville School of Medicine. She is a second lieutenant in the Air Force and interested in a career in Emergency Medicine. Her undergraduate degree is in photography. She lives in Louisville with her husband, two morbidly obese cats, and a goofy pitbull. Her activities and interests include but are not limited to: knitting rectangles, photography, nachos, dismantling the patriarchy and understanding intersectionality, tattoos, mimosas, puns, and Lord of the Rings.

Karla Torres As Human Rights Fellow at the Center for Reproductive Rights, Karla works on all aspects of U.S. human rights work, including the groundbreaking report on the health care crisis in the Rio Grande Valley, Nuestro Texas. Previously, she was Assistant Director of the New Delhi–based Human Rights Law Network’s Reproductive Rights Initiative managing a national advocacy project to improve the reproductive and sexual health rights of children, adolescents, and women in India. Karla earned her law degree from American University’s Washington College of Law and holds a master’s degree in international affairs from American University’s School of International Service.
Meet Our Presenters

**Rebecca Turner** has been the Executive Director of Faith Aloud since 2001. The mission of Faith Aloud is: Guided by faith and rooted in community, Faith Aloud engages people to create a just society in which healthy sexual, reproductive, and parenting choices are freely made. Rev. Turner has been honored as the Resident Theologian for Reproductive Justice at Judson Memorial Church in NYC, one of 13 Religious Women to Watch by the Center for American Progress, and Person of the Year by the Abortion Care Network.

**Emily Virgin** is a Democratic member of the Oklahoma House of Representative. Elected in 2011, Virgin represents the 44th District of Oklahoma, which includes Cleveland county and the city of Norman. Virgin’s alma mater is the University of Oklahoma where she studied law.

**Britt Wahlin** is the director of development and communications at Ibis Reproductive Health, an international research organization that aims to improve women’s reproductive autonomy, choices, and health. Previously, Britt spearheaded campaigns, which used film to inspire action on critical social and policy issues, for the organization Active Voice. She has worked with organizations that advance women’s and girls’ rights since college and holds Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees from Stanford University. She is a writer and a baker and has considered places ranging from San Francisco to Boston to Burma home. She resides in Norman with her husband and two daughters.

**Yucca Bianca Westrup** is a chicano queerdo fronterista from South Texas. They are the Co-Founder of Cicada Collective and are currently aiding low/no/fixed-income and uninsured communities access health care in Houston. They are a full spectrum doula in training, future ceramist, climb nerd, and strive to bridge the gaps between environmental and reproductive justice.

**Karen Yang** As a Taiwanese American, Karen Yang is happy to say she is “Not Your Model Minority”- for her, #blacklivesmatter, and by extension, all lives matter. Her work as Development Coordinator for Faith Aloud seeks to sustain Faith Aloud’s commitment to building power in local communities and uplifting faith voices for reproductive justice. Her graduate studies toward a Master of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis and a Master of Divinity at Eden Theological Seminary have allowed her to understand how social work, ministry, and activism are inextricably tied together.

**Rye Young** is the Director of Third Wave Fund which works to build a feminist and queer grassroots philanthropy movement to support youth-led grassroots organizing at the level of systemic change. Third Wave supports organizations predominantly led by young women of color, low-income women, trans and gender nonconforming youth. He is a member of Jews for Racial and Economic Justice, and serves on the Board of the New York Abortion Access Fund. Rye graduated from Bard College and is a trans, queer, poly, Jew living in Brooklyn, NY. In another life, Rye is also a chef.
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The Women’s and Gender Studies Program at OU is an interdisciplinary program that seeks to enhance students’ knowledge of gender roles and gender relations across cultures and history. Women’s and Genders Studies courses investigate the intersection of gender and such diverse phenomena as politics, religion, society, economics, war, communication, music, art, family life, and popular culture. Our 68 faculty members come from numerous departments across the university.

Women’s and Gender Studies students learn a variety of marketable skills including critical thinking, writing, public speaking, organization, conflict resolution, diversity training and project design. The interdisciplinary and global perspective students gain in the Women’s and Gender Studies Program will enable them to achieve their highest potential in their chosen field of study and as a citizens of the global community. Women’s and Gender studies majors will be well-prepared and sought after for work in for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, social help agencies, human rights advocacy, victim’s advocacy as well as graduate study in law, medicine, human relations, education, business, information science, communication, fine arts, public health or academic research.

The OU Women’s and Gender Studies Program

Center for Social Justice

The Center for Social Justice is an initiative of the Women’s Studies Program to promote gender justice, equality, tolerance, and human rights through local and global engagement. As a discipline, Women and Gender Studies critically examines how institutions and social organizations seem natural are often structured to hide and perpetuate gender, class, and racial inequality. The Center adopts a feminist perspective, recognizing that while questions of social justice concern all human beings, women and children are harmed disproportionally when it comes to the allocation of political power and economic resources.

Our programs include the Social Justice Minor, Activist-in-Residence Program, Engaged Research, Internships, Service Learning, Social Justice Awards, Social Justice Events, and Activism.

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“I have trouble with just the whole topic of abortion. It’s not something I’m fond of or agree with. But Provide presented it in a way where I realized it’s not my body and, in the position I’m in, I have to be sensitive to my clients’ needs. And the trainer reminded us that everyone has biases, it’s all in how you handle the situation.”

- A health care provider on the impact of receiving our Referrals Training
Congratulations to the University of Oklahoma’s Women’s and Gender Studies Program and the Center for Social Justice.

With respect, admiration, and appreciation.

National Advocates for Pregnant Women

NAPW
Women Donors Network is a community of progressive women who multiply their energy, their strategic savvy, and their philanthropic dollars to build a more just and fair world.

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Almost **HALF** of women needing abortions need assistance paying for the cost.

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The Carr Center for Reproductive Justice at NYU School of Law honors the Organizers, Speakers, Participants and Sponsors of the Fifth Annual Take Root Conference.

It is here that change is made!

We look forward enthusiastically to supporting your efforts. Thanks to each and every one of you!

CARR CENTER
for Reproductive Justice
at NYU School of Law

For more information about the Carr Center for Reproductive Justice, please visit our site at:

http://www.law.nyu.edu/centers/reproductivejustice

Ibis Reproductive Health

Ibis Reproductive Health is an international nonprofit organization with a mission to improve women's reproductive autonomy, choices, and health worldwide. Our core activity is clinical and social science research on issues receiving inadequate attention in other research settings and where gaps in the evidence exist. Our agenda is driven by women's priorities and focuses on increasing access to safe abortion, expanding contraceptive access and choices, and integrating HIV and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services. We partner with advocates and other stakeholders who use our research to improve policies and delivery of services in countries around the world.


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OUR VISION: THE 3RS
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Advocates for Youth champions efforts that help young people make informed and responsible decisions about their reproductive and sexual health. Advocates believes it can best serve the field by boldly advocates for a more positive and realistic approach to adolescent sexual health. Advocates focuses its work on young people ages 14-25 in the U.S. and around the globe.

Congrats on another great Take Root conference!
Gender Neutral Restrooms

McCarter Hall:
2 Single stall Gender Neutral Restrooms located on the basement level with elevator access.

CCE Admin:
Gender Neutral Restrooms with and without urinals located on the basement level and second floor with no elevator access.
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