

Poverty & Reproductive Justice: When Choice is a Privilege, Not a Right

Presented by AU Law Students for Reproductive Justice & The Women and the Law Program

Monday, March 23, 2015

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM, 6th floor Student Lounges

Washington College of Law, 4801 Massachusetts Avenue, NW

Reproductive self-determination is significantly compromised for the 18 million women currently living in poverty in the United States. Women living in poverty are less likely to obtain important reproductive health care due to lack of access and inability to afford these critical services. In rural areas, women may live hundreds of miles away from the nearest clinic and are required to take days off of work, find childcare, and scrape together funds just to obtain safe and legal reproductive health services. Communities of color are disproportionately impacted by lack of access to vital prenatal care and, as such, experience alarmingly high maternal and infant mortality rates. Panelists will delve into the ways the current legal framework is failing women, how to address the gaps caused by lack of funding, barriers to government programs, and restrictive state reproductive health care laws.

3:00- 3:30pm— Welcome Remarks and Keynote Address

- Welcoming Remarks: **Carlie Armstrong**, President, AU Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Keynote Address: **Linda Blount**, President and CEO, Black Women's Health Imperative

3:30- 4:30pm— Evaluating the Policy Landscape: Hurdles to Overcome and Opportunities for Change

Moderator: **Daniela Kraiem**, Associate Director, Women and the Law Program

- **Lisa Brown**, General Counsel & Senior Policy Director, National Abortion Federation
- **Sarah Lipton Lubet**, Director, Reproductive Health Programs, National Partnership for Women & Families
- **Aram Schvey**, Senior Policy Counsel, Center for Reproductive Rights

4:30- 4:45pm— Break

4:45- 5:30pm— Advocating for Reproductive Justice: Addressing Shortfalls and Empowering Communities

Moderator: **Angie McCarthy**, Program Coordinator, Women and the Law Program

- **Jeryl Hayes**, Domestic Policy Analyst, Advocates for Youth
- **Kimberly Inez McGuire**, Director of Public Affairs, National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health
- **Heidi Williamson**, Senior Policy Analyst, Center for American Progress

5:30— Closing Remarks and Reception

- Closing Remarks: **Brooke Hofhenke**, AU Law Students for Reproductive Justice

***1.5 CLE credits will be applied as requested – Cost of CLE is \$55**

Registration is free but required – please go to www.wcl.american.edu/secle/registration

For further information, contact: Office of Special Events & Continuing Legal Education,
202.274.4075 or secle@wcl.american.edu