

The Politics of Reproduction
Ant M269P/Psy M280
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Spring, 2000
Wed 9-11:50
1201 Hershey Hall
Office hrs. Wed. 12-2 in 2105 Hershey and by appt.
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Course Description

This seminar will examine the various ways that power, as it is structured and enacted in everyday activities, shapes human reproductive behavior. Drawing on case materials from a variety of cultures, we will study how competing interests within households, communities, states and institutions influence reproductive arrangements in society.

Requirements

1. The seminar's texts are:

Ginsburg, Faye D. and Rayna Rapp, eds.

1995 *Conceiving the New World Order*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Glenn, Evelyn Nakano, Grace Chang, and Linda Rennie Forcey, eds.

1994 *Mothering: Ideology, Experience, and Agency*. NY: Routledge.

Morell, Carolyn M.

1994 *Unwomanly Conduct: The Challenges of Intentional Childlessness*. NY: Routledge.

Simonds, Wendy

1996 *Abortion at Work: Ideology and Practice in a Feminist Clinic*. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

The books are on reserve at the Research Library and may be purchased from the Health Sciences Bookstore, 13-126 CHS (tel 5-7721). Additional readings have been compiled into a reading packet available at Westwood Copies, 1001 Gayley, Suite 104., tel. 310/208-3233.

2. Class sessions will consist of a group discussion based on a book, book chapters, or articles. You are required to attend each class having read the assigned readings and being ready to discuss them. **Please also come to class with a one to two paragraph abstract of each selection.** Although individual abstracts will not be graded, they are to be handed in at the end of each class and will count toward your final grade.

Each abstract should be a succinct statement of the content of the reading, the questions it raised for you, and issues you would like discussed; you may comment critically on the reading if you wish. You may want to include in the abstract your thoughts on how the reading relates to research you've done, other interests you have, or other readings for the course. The length of each abstract will undoubtedly vary according to how engaging you found the selection.

Please also rate each reading on a scale of A - F on two criteria: how much you learned from the selection; how much you enjoyed reading it.

3. You are also required to prepare a research paper of approximately 20 pages. Topics should be drawn from the broad issues that orient the seminar. The paper may be based on field research, bibliographic work, or both. I prefer that the paper to be part of one of your ongoing research interests, if possible. Your paper should be typed, double spaced, and *have left and right margins no less than 1"*. It should be proofread and corrected prior to submission. Use the style of the *American Anthropologist* or the *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* for footnotes and references.

Please submit a one-paragraph description of your paper topic by **April 19**. Papers are due in class **June 7**. I would be happy to review and comment upon your paper=s first draft. If you have it to me by May 24 I will return it by May 31.

4. Grading

Abstracts and class discussion	40%
Term paper	60%

I will give an Incomplete (I) only under truly exceptional circumstances. Late papers will be downgraded.

My office hours are Wednesdays, 12-2 and by appointment. Because I live far from campus, I am typically there only two or three days each week. I urge you not to hesitate to call me at home (949/494-5756) or email me (browner@ucla.edu) if I may be of assistance. Email tends to be the better way to contact me.

Syllabus

April 5 **Introduction: overview of basic concepts and issues. Theoretical perspectives on the politics of reproduction. Discussion of course requirements and instructor=s and students= expectations.**

Recommended

Ginsburg, Faye and Rayna Rapp

1991 The Politics of Reproduction. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 20:311-343.

1995 Introduction: Conceiving the New World Order. *In* Ginsburg and Rapp.

1999 Relocating Reproduction, Generating Culture. Paper presented at Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Chicago, IL.

Greenhalgh, Susan

1990 Toward a Political Economy of Fertility: Anthropological Contributions. *Population and Development Review* 16:85-106.

Rothman, Barbara Katz

1987 Reproduction. *In* *Analyzing Gender: A Handbook of Social Science Research*, Beth B. Hess and Myra Marx Ferree, eds. Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publishers.

April 12 **The Politics of Birth/Control and Stratified Reproduction**

Required

Chapters by Anagnost, Fraser, O'Neill and Kaufert, Colen, Mullings, and Ward *in* Ginsburg and Rapp.

Recommended

Anagnost, Ann

1997 The Child and National Transcendence in China. *In* *Constructing China: The Interaction of Culture and Economics*, Kenneth G. Lieberthal, et al. eds. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press.

Daniels, Cynthia R.

1997 Between Fathers and Fetuses: The Social Construction of Male Reproduction and the Politics of Fetal Harm. *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 22:579-616.

Ginsburg, Faye D.

- 1998 *Contested Lives: The Abortion Debate in an American Community*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Greenhalgh, Susan and Jiali Li

- 1995 Engendering Reproductive Policy and Practice in Peasant China: For a Feminist Demography of Reproduction. *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 20:601-41.

Georges, Eugenia

- 1996 Abortion Policy and Politics in Greece. *Social Science and Medicine* 42:509-520.

Hartmann, Betsy

- 1995 *Reproductive Rights and Wrongs: The Global Politics of Population Control*. Boston: South End Press.

Pillsbury, Barbara

- 1990 The Politics of Family Planning: Sterilization and Human Rights in Bangladesh. *In* *Births and Power: Social Change and the Politics of Reproduction*. W. Penn Handwerker, ed., pp. 165-196. Boulder: Westview.

Rylko-Bauer, Barbara and Patricia Antonello, eds.

- 1996 Symposium: Abortion from a Crosscultural Perspective. *Social Science and Medicine* 42:479-560.

Sargent, Carolyn and Michael Harris

- 1992 Gender Ideology, Childrearing, and Child Health in Jamaica. *American Ethnologist* 19:523-537.

Simonelli, Jeanne M.

- 1990 The Politics of Below-Replacement Fertility: Policy and Power in Hungary. *In* *Births and Power: Social Change and the Politics of Reproduction*. W. Penn Handwerker, ed., pp. 100-112. Boulder: Westview.

April 19 Rethinking Demography, Biology, and Social Policy

Required

Chapters by Morsy, Schneider and Schneider, Pearce, Das, Kligman, Stephens *in* Ginsburg and Rapp

Recommended

Cain, Mead

- 1988 The Material Consequences of Reproductive Failure in Rural South Asia. *In* A Home Divided: Women and Income in the Third World. Daisy Dwyer and Judith Bruce, eds., pp. 20-38. Stanford: Stanford University Press.

Bledsoe, Caroline

- 1990 The Politics of Children: Fosterage and the Social Management of Fertility Among the Mende of Sierra Leone. *In* Births and Power: Social Change and the Politics of Reproduction. W. Penn Handwerker, ed., pp. 81-100. Boulder: Westview.
- 1990 The Politics of AIDS, Condoms, and Heterosexual Relations in Africa. Recent Evidence from the Local Print Media. *In* Births and Power: Social Change and the Politics of Reproduction. W. Penn Handwerker, ed., pp. 197-223. Boulder: Westview.

Greenhalgh, Susan, ed.

- 1995 *Situating Fertility: Anthropology and Demographic Inquiry*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Kligman, Gail

- 1998 *The Politics of Duplicity: Controlling Reproduction in Ceausescu's Romania*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Silliman, Jael and Ynestra King, eds.

- 1999 *Dangerous Intersections: Feminist Perspectives on Population, Environment, and Development*. Boston: South End Press.

April 26 **Constructing and Interpreting Infertility.** Melissa Pashigian, Dept. of Anthropology, UCLA. Guest speaker

Required

Cussins, Charis M.

- 1998 Ontological Choreography: Agency for Women Patients in an Infertility Clinic. *In* Differences in Medicine: Unraveling Practices, Techniques, and Bodies, Marc Berg and Annemarie Mol, eds. Durham and London: Duke University Press.

Feldman-Savelsberg, Pamela

- 1994 Plundered Kitchens and Empty Wombs: Fear of Infertility in the Cameroonian Grasslands. *Social Science and Medicine* 39:463-474.

Handwerker, Lisa

- 1995 The Hen that Can't Lay an Egg: Conceptions of Female Infertility in Modern China. In *Deviant Bodies: Critical Perspectives on Difference in Science and Popular Culture*, Jennifer Terry and Jacqueline Urla, eds. Bloomington and Indianapolis: Indiana University Press.

Pashigian, Melissa J.

- Conceiving the Happy Family: Infertility and Marital Politics in Northern Vietnam. In *Interpreting Infertility: Childlessness, Gender and New Reproductive Technology in Global Perspective*, M. C. Inhorn and F. van Balen, eds. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Recommended

Franklin, Sarah

- 1990 □ Deconstructing Desperateness: □ The Social Construction of Infertility in Popular Representations of New Reproductive Technologies. In *The New Reproductive Technologies*, Maureen McNeil et al., eds. New York: Macmillan.

Gerson, Deborah

- 1989 Infertility and the Construction of Desperation. *Socialist Review* 19:45-64.

Inhorn, Marcia

- 1994 *Quest for Conception: Infertility and Egyptian Medical Traditions*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.
- 1996 *Infertility and Patriarchy: The Cultural Politics of Gender and Family Life in Egypt*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Neff, Deborah L.

- 1994 The Social Construction of Infertility: The Case of the Matrilineal Nāyars in South India. *Social Science and Medicine* 39:475-485.

Sandelowski, Margarete

- 1991 Compelled to Try: The Never-Enough Quality of Conceptive Technology. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 5:29-47.

May 3 Dead Mothers and Injured Wives: Maternal Mortality and Childbirth Injury in the Developing World. Lewis Wall, Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Guest speaker

Required

Thaddeus S. and Maine Deborah

1994 Too Far Too Walk: Maternal Mortality in Context; *Social Science and Medicine* 38:1091-1110.

Wall, Lewis L.

1998 Dead Mothers and Injured Wives: The Social Context of Maternal Morbidity and Mortality among the Hausa of Northern Nigeria. *Studies in Family Planning* 29:341-359.

Arrowsmith S, Hamlin EC, and Wall LL.

1996 Obstructed Labor Injury Complex: Obstetric Fistula Formation and the Multifaceted Morbidity of Maternal Birth Trauma in the Developing World; *Obstetrical and Gynecological Survey* 51:568-574.

May 10 Abortion Politics in the U.S. and their Consequences for U. S. Abortion Providers

Required

Simonds, Wendy

1996 Abortion at Work: Ideology and Practice in a Feminist Clinic. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press.

Recommended

Joffe, Carole

1995 Doctors of Conscience: The Struggle to Provide Abortion Before and After Roe v. Wade. New York: Beacon.

Lazarus, Ellen S.

1997 Politicizing Abortion: Personal Morality and Professional Responsibility of Residents Training in the United States. *Social Science and Medicine* 44:1417-1425.

May 17 Maternal Ideologies and Power

Required

Chapters by Collins, Wong, Christian, Kaplan, Rothman *in* Glenn, et al.

Recommended

Barker, K. K.

1998 Ship Upon a Stormy Sea: The Medicalization of Pregnancy. *Social Science and Medicine* 47:1067-1076.

Clarke, Adele

1998 Disciplining Reproduction: American Life Sciences and □ The Problems of Sex. □ Berkeley: University of California Press.

Conklin, Beth and Lynn Morgan

1996 Babies, Bodies and the Production of Personhood in North America and a Native Amazonian Society. *Ethos* 24:657-694.

Davis-Floyd, Robbie

1992 Birth as an American Rite of Passage. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Franklin, Sarah and Helena Ragon□, eds.

1998 Reproducing Reproduction: Kinship, Power, and Technological Innovation. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Guy, Donna J.

1997 Mothers Alive and Dead: Multiple Concepts of Mothering in Buenos Aires. *In* Sex and Sexuality in Latin America, Daniel Balderston and Donna J. Guy, eds., pp. 155-172. New York: New York University Press.

Layne, Linda

1990 Motherhood Lost: Cultural Dimensions of Miscarriage and Stillbirth in America. *Women and Health* 16:75-104.

Modell, J.

1994 Kinship with Strangers: Adoption and Interpretations of Kinship in American Culture. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Ram, Kalpana and Margaret Jolly, eds.

1998 Maternities and Modernities: Colonial and Postcolonial Experiences in Asia and the Pacific. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Strathern, Marilyn

1992 Reproducing the Future: Anthropology, Kinship and the New Reproductive Technologies. New York: Routledge.

May 24 The Politics of Mothering

Required

Chapters by Boris, Nelson, Segura, Shaw, Solinger, Lewin *in* Glenn et al. and Lewin *in* Ginsburg and Rapp

Recommended

Davis-Floyd, Robbie and Carolyn Sargent, eds.

1997 Childbirth and Authoritative Knowledge. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Edwards, Diana S.

1999 The Social Control of Illegitimacy Through Adoption. *Human Organization* 58:387-396.

Edwards, Jeanette, Sarah Franklin, et al.

1993 Kinship in the Context of the New Reproductive Technologies. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

Franklin, Sarah

1997 Embodied Progress: A Cultural Account of Assisted Reproduction. London: Routledge.

Petechsky, Rosalind P.

1990 Abortion and Woman=s Choice: The State, Sexuality, and Reproductive Freedom. Boston: Northeastern Press.

Ragon□, Helena

1994 Surrogate Motherhood: Conception from the Heart. Boulder, CO: Westview.

Solinger, Rickie

1994 Wake Up Little Suzie: Singer Pregnancy and Race Before Roe v. Wade. New York: Routledge.

Tsing, Anna Lowenhaupt

- 1990 *Monster Stories: Women Charged with Perinatal Endangerment. In Uncertain Terms: Negotiating Gender in American Culture.* Faye Ginsburg and Anna Lowenhaupt Tsing, eds., pp. 282-299. Boston: Beacon Press.

May 31 The Politics of Non-Motherhood

Required

Morell, Carolyn M.

- 1994 *Unwomanly Conduct: The Challenges of Intentional Childlessness.* NY: Routledge.

Recommended

Peck, Ellen and Judith Senderowitz, eds.

- 1974 *Pronatalism: The Myth of Mom and Apple Pie.* New York: Thomas Y. Crowell.

May, Elaine Tyler

- 1997 *Barren in the Promised Land: Childless Americans and the Pursuit of Happiness.* Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Reti, Irene, eds.

- 1992 *Childless by Choice: A Feminist Anthology.* Santa Cruz, CA: HerBooks.

June 7 Situating Women=s Reproductive Activities. C. H. Browner, lecture and discussion

Required

Browner, C. H.

- 1982 *Female Altruism Reconsidered: The Virgin Mary as Economic Woman. American Ethnologist* 9:61-75.

Browner, C. H. and Sandra T. Perdue

- 1988 *Women=s Secrets: Bases for Reproductive and Social Autonomy in a Mexican Community. American Ethnologist* 15:84-97.

Browner, C. H. and Nancy Press

- 1995 *The Normalization of Prenatal Diagnostic Screening in Ginsburg and Rapp*