

Reproductive  
Justice 101  
Training

Take-Away  
Slides



# Core Reproductive Justice Principles

## Every woman and individual has the human right to:

1. Decide if and when they will have a baby and the conditions under which they will give birth, adopt or parent
2. Decide if they will not have a baby and their options for preventing or ending a pregnancy
3. Parent the children they already have with the necessary social supports in safe environments and healthy communities, and without fear of violence from individuals or the government
4. Bodily Autonomy free from all forms of Reproductive Oppression
5. \*The right to express sexuality and spirituality without violence or shame
6. A quality of life and sustainability before and beyond the ability to give birth or parent

# Why do we need a RJ framework?

1. Broaden the scope of women's reproductive and sexual health issues
1. To connect reproductive health and rights issues to other issues that impact the lives of people
2. To apply a lens of Intersectionality as a method to describe and address ways in which oppressive institutions (race, class, gender, religion, socio-economic status, etc.) are interconnected and cannot be examined nor eradicated separately from one another [social determinants of health]
3. To develop new ways of thinking, strategizing, organizing and to create new alliances that respect and promote the leadership, experiences and visions of women and girls of color.
4. To define Sexual Rights in a U.S. context including the rights of all people.
5. By defining our common problem as Reproductive Oppression we can develop a more inclusive and catalytic vision of how to move forward.

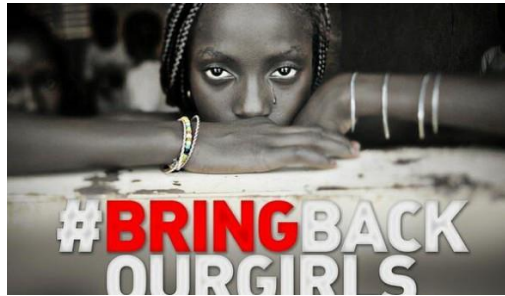
# What is Reproductive Oppression?

TRAGIC PRO-ABORTION "LOGIC"

**“For many Black women,**

abortions are as much an *act of love* as bringing a child into this world and raising it could ever be.”

—Cherisse Scott (pictured), CEO of pro-abortion SisterReach



The **control** and **exploitation** of women, girls, and individuals through our bodies, sexuality, labor, **fertility** and **reproduction** in violation of our human rights



# Our Bodies, Our Lives

- ▶ The decision to cease using a long-acting method should be made by each individual with support from health professional without judgment or obstacles.
- ▶ Enthusiasm for LARCs should not distract from ongoing need to support other policies and programs that address the full scope of healthy sexuality.
- ▶ All providers, advocates, and legislators need to intentionally address implicit bias at their institutions and practices.





## WOC Vision for Reproductive Justice:

- Reproductive justice will be achieved when Indigenous women, individuals and women of color have the power to:
- protect and advance our human rights;
- determine the number and spacing of our children;
- protect our bodily integrity;
- protect our right to parent our children;
- improve the quality of the environment in which we live;
- obtain the necessary social supports to live healthy lives in healthy families, and in safe and sustainable communities.

# Further Reading (part 1)

- Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organize for Reproductive Justice by Jael Silliman, Marlene Gerber-Fried, Loretta Ross and Elena Gutierrez
- Pregnancy and Power by Rickie Solinger
- Killing the Black Body by Dorothy Roberts
- Women of Color and the Reproductive Rights Movement by Jennifer Nelson
- Reproductive Justice by Loretta Ross/Rickie Solinger
- Radical Reproductive Justice: Foundations, Theory, Practice, Critique by Loretta Ross, et al.
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- Collins, P.A.(2004). Black Sexual Politics, African Americans, gender and the new racism. New York: Rutledge. p.374.
- Reproductive Injustice: Racism, Pregnancy, and Premature Birth by Dana Ain-Davis

# Further Reading (part 2)

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