

Title Where Do Women with HIV Fit in the Reproductive Justice Movement?

Presenters Claire Caldwell, Online Campaign Organizer for Reproductive Freedom, *The American Civil Liberties Union*; Emma Kaywin, Project Coordinator of Development and Communications, *Mount Sinai Institute for Advanced Medicine*

Track Our Bodies

Objective The purpose of this workshop is to involve women with HIV in the reproductive justice movement and empower them to engage in storytelling as a form of activism.

Methods The presenters will begin with a brief overview of the history of the reproductive justice movement in the United States. The presenters will then highlight the lack of stories of women with HIV within the larger reproductive justice narrative, and involve the audience in discussion and feedback.

In the second portion of the workshop, the presenters will propose and invite discussion of experiences of women with HIV that should be included in the reproductive justice story. The presenters will create space for people to share their stories, setting group agreements on participation (including use of “I” statements, introductions by name and pronoun preference, acknowledgment with and by the group of an intention of acceptance and non-judgment in the effort to learn through shared experiences and research) and soliciting feedback on other group agreements. Topics will include intimacy and sex (the use of PrEP with HIV negative partners), reproductive health (through both PrEP and sperm washing), and parenting/family creation (advances in the care of pregnant women).

The final section of the workshop will be a call to action through storytelling. The presenters will ask all participants to turn to their neighbors and share a story relevant to reproductive justice. Participants will be invited to share a personal story, a broader thought, or hold a comfortable silence. In the final 15 minutes of the workshop, the group as a whole will be invited to share their stories or thoughts about what they are inspired to do to make a difference as reproductive women.

Results The proposed workshop will result in the following learning objectives:

- Knowledge – participants will be able to compare how their experiences of living with HIV relate to the reproductive justice movement and how their lives are impacted by the dominant history of that movement.
- Empowerment – participants will be empowered on an individual level to reflect on and share their stories as a form of activism.
- Community-building – participants will be able to develop and strengthen community by sharing their stories and eliciting stories from peers and allies.

Conclusions The main conclusion to be drawn from the workshop is that sharing stories is a powerful medium for enriching dominant stories and raising awareness of varied reproductive experiences. It is the hope of the presenters that the workshop will support women with HIV in developing their voices and building a community that can be moved to action in support of their unique reproductive needs.