

International Population and Family Health
E33.2383.001, Spring 2008
35 West 4th Street, Room 1080

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Office hour by appointment

Course Description

The course will examine health from both a Population and Human Rights perspective. It focuses on the impact international and cross-cultural reproductive health rights have on the health of women, men and children world-wide.

Objectives:

1. Examine health from a human rights and a population perspective
2. Identify general and specific ways that gender affects health status
3. Examine various reproductive health policies and issues and nationally and internationally
4. Examine policy that impacts maternal and child health
5. Identify secular changes in women's roles and status that affect family health

Course Requirements

1. Take-home mid-term exam

No more than one page (2 pages double spaced) of text for each question. Answers can be in note form rather than prose, but points must be fully and clearly explained. (references cited for each answer should be on a separate page.) 10 Points deducted for failure to proof or cite correctly. Hard copies must be in my box no later than 7:00 pm on March 15. Late exams will not be accepted without a totally convincing excuse.

2. The term paper and Presentation: Compare and contrast 2 countries and one health issue relevant to this class. (Examples unwanted pregnancies, maternal mortality, or death rates for children) State in two sentences or less why you have selected these two countries for comparison (i.e. what makes the comparison interesting). Describe how health status related to this issue has changed over the past few decades and policies or other factors have contributed to this change. Describe what you think are reasonable goals for improvement of health status over the next decade and the policies or interventions needed to effect this change. ***A good model for your paper on The Guttmacher Report both in terms of format and length.***

(start with the Shadow reports on various countries of the Center for Reproductive Rights as well as their Bibliography on Researching Reproductive Rights on the web)

A hard copy of the paper must be in my mailbox by May 7th.

Presentation:

The presentation should take no more than 10 minutes and the timing will be strictly adhered to and will be reflected in your presentation grade. About 5 minutes will be allowed for questions. Your Power Point slides must be emailed to me a day before your presentation so that they can be posted on Blackboard for other class members to review. All presentations will be evaluated by class members. These evaluations must be submitted by the end of class on May 7th.

3. Class participation.

By the 5:00 pm on the Monday before class, students must post on blackboard one issue or question that could provoke interesting class discussion on the topic to be covered in class. Some time will be left toward the end of each class to discuss some of these issues. Some of the questions posted may be selected for the mid-term exam.

Student Evaluation

Mid-term exam = 30%

Presentation = 20%

Final term-paper = 30%

Class Participation= 20%

Required Readings

1. Chavkin, Wendy and Ellen Chesler, Where Human Rights Begin, Rutgers University Press, 2005
2. White, AC, Merrick, TW, Yazbeck, A, Reproductive Health: The Missing Millennium Development Goal, The World Bank, Wahington, DC 2006
3. Much of the additional reading can be downloaded from the net. You may not have the time to read all that is suggested, but please do your best.

Schedule of Class Topics and Assigned Readings

Jan 23. Introduction.

Population versus Human Rights framework for Examining Population Health

Reading

1. Winckler, “*Maximizing the Impact of Cairo on China*” in Chavkin and Wesler
2. White, Chap. 1 & 2
3. <http://www.iisd.ca/Cairo/program/p07000.html>

Jan. 30: Definitions, Demographic Trends, Fertility Control & Disparities in Reproductive Health

Reading

1. “*Adding It Up*” <http://www.guttmacher.org/sections/index.php?page=reports>
2. *Maternal Health: Implications for Children and Adolescents*, fact sheet, IPAS web site
3. White Chap. 3 & 9

Feb. 6 : What’s the problem? Policy Responses to Population Increase or Population Decline

Reading

1. Chesnais, J., Fertility, Family, and Social Policy. *Population & Development Review*, 1996. 22(4): p. 729-739.
2. Castles, F., The World Turned Upside Down: Below Replacement Fertility, Changing Preferences and Family-friendly Public Policy in 21 OECD Countries. *Journal of European Social Policy*, 2003. 13(3): p. 209-227.
3. McDonald, P. *The "Toolbox" of Public Policies to Impact on Fertility - a Global View*. in *Low Fertility, Families, and Public Policies*. Sevilla. 2000.
4. Jones, Gavin & Leete, Richard (2002)
”*Asia's Family Planning Programs as Low Fertility Is Attained.*”
Studies in Family Planning 33 (1), 114-126. (web)
- 5...Hoodfar H, Assadpour S
”*The politics of population policy in the Islamic Republic of Iran*”
Studies in Family Planning 1 (1): 19-34 Mar 2000 (web)

Feb. 13: Gender and Health

Reading

1. Chavkin and Chessler, “ Not Culture but Gender: Reconceptualizing Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting
2. de Bruyn, Maria, *Violence, pregnancy and abortion; Issues of women’s rights and public health*, 2nd Edition, Chapel Hill, NC, IPAS, 2003
3. Center for Reproductive Rights, Report on “*Female Genital Mutilation: A Matter of Human Rights*” (on the web)
4. Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, *Reproductive Rights 2000: Moving Forward*. CRLP, New York, 2003 Chapter 6. <http://www.crlp.org/pdf/rr2k-1.pdf>
5. *Forced sexual relations among married young women in developing countries*" (2004) <http://popcouncil.org> (PDF)
6. Medical Research Council Report, “*Every six hours a woman is killed by her intimate partner*” June 2004, <http://www.mrc.co.za>
7. Keijzer, “*Sexual-Reproductive Health and Rights: What About Men?*” in Chavkin and Chesler
8. *In Their Own Right: Addressing the Sexual and Reproductive Health Needs of Men Worldwide*, Guttmacher Institute March 2003 (web)
9. Sonfreid, Alan, *Meeting the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Men Worldwide*, The Guttmacher Report, no. 1, March 2004 (web)
- 10 Sonfreid, Alan, *Looking at Men’s Reproductive Health Needs*, The Guttmacher Report, vol. 5, no. 2, May 2002 (web)
11. *Millennium Project*, chap. 5
12. White Chap 6-8
- 13.. Imam, “*Women’s Reproductive and Sexual Rights and the Offense of Zina in Muslim Laws in Nigeria* in chavkin & Chessler

Feb 20 Birth control and abortion

Beverly Winikoff, MD, MPH, President, Gynuity Health Projects

Reading

1. Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, *Reproductive Rights 2000: Moving Forward*. CRLP, New York, 2003 Chapter <http://www.crlp.org/pdf/rr2k-1.pdf>

2. Ortiz-Ortega, “The Politics of Abortion in Mexico: The Paradox of Doble Discurso” In Chavkin & Chesler

Feb. 27. Access to Contraception and Abortion in the US

Rachel Jones, Senior Research Associate, The Guttmacher Institute.

Reading

1. L. Finer and S. Henshaw “Disparities in Rates of Abortion” Posted on Blackboard
2. “Contraception” , AGI Brief Posted on Blackboard
3. L. Finer et al. “Reasons for Abortion” Posted on Blackboard
4. Sonfield, “The Reproductive Health Needs of Men” Posted on Blackboard

Recommended readings on abortion policy in the US

1. "Abstinence-Only-Until-Marriage Sex Education Censors Vital Health Care Information, Jeopardizing Teenagers' Health" ACLU, Reproductive Freedom Project
2. The Federal Abortion Ban, Center for Reproductive Rights:
http://www.crlp.org/crt_pba.html.
3. The reproductive rights of low-income women.
<http://www.aclu.org/printer/printer.php>
4. "Laws Restricting Teenagers' Access to Abortion" ACLU, Reproductive Freedom Project
5. "Preventing Pregnancy After Rape: Emergency Care Facilities Put Women at Risk" ACLU, Reproductive Freedom Project
6. "Religious Refusals and Reproductive Rights: Executive Summary" , ACLU, Reproductive Freedom Project

March 5: Examining partner-level characteristics as they influence women’s reproductive decision making.

Farzana Kapadia, Ph.D. Ellertson Fellow in Reproductive Health, The Guttmacher Institute

Readings

Zabin LS, Huggins GR, Emerson MR, Cullins VE. Partner effects on a woman's intention to conceive: 'not with this partner'. Fam Plann Perspect. 2000;32:39-45.

Evans A. The influence of significant others on Australian teenagers' decisions about pregnancy resolution. Fam Plann Perspect. 2001;33:224-230.

Miller WB. The relationship between childbearing motivations and attitude toward abortion among married men and women. *Fam Plann Perspect*. 1994;26:165-168

March 12: mid-term exam No Class

March 19: Spring Break

March 26: Whither Global Maternal Health

Helen de Pinho, MBBCh, FCCH, MBA, Helibrunn Department of Population and Family Health, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University,

Reading

1. Summary of the Millennium Project & chaps. 1-3

[-http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/TF4Childandmaternalhealth.pdf](http://www.unmillenniumproject.org/documents/TF4Childandmaternalhealth.pdf)

2. Summary of findings and chapter 10 of the UNFPA publication *Investing in people* - can be downloaded from the following site:

<http://www.unfpa.org/publications/detail.cfm?ID=179&filterListType=>

3. Summary policy brief from “Adding it up” (Guttmacher Institute)

4. De Pinho, Helen, “*Towards the ‘Right’ Reforms: The impact of health sector reforms on sexual and reproductive health*” *Development*, 2005, 48(4), (61-68) on Blackboard

5. White Chaps. 11-17

6. The Lancet series on Maternal Health

April 2: Child & Adolescent I health

1. White. Chap. 5 & 8

2. *Intersecting health risks: Adolescents, unwanted pregnancies, abortion and AIDS*, IPAS web site

3. *Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights*, IPAS web site

4. "Laws Restricting Teenagers' Access to Abortion" ACLU, Reproductive Freedom Project

5. *Children, youth and unsafe abortion*, (IPSA web site)

6.. IWHC factsheet: *Child Marriage* (IWHC web site)

April 9: The Impact of Family and Neighborhood Environment on children's development in the US

Lori Levine, Queens Assistant Commissioner
Child Welfare Programs, Division of Child Protection
NYC Administration for Children's Services

1. <http://www.policyforchildren.org/slkbio.html> web site for the Center for Children and Families which discusses current research
2. www.nccp.org Columbia University's National Center for Children in Poverty, provides good fact sheets and background for some current issues

Shonkoff, Jack and Deborah A Phillips, Editors, *From Neurons to Neighborhoods: The Science of Early Childhood Development*. (2000) Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

Booth, Alan and Crouter, Ann C, *Does It Take A Village: Community Effects on Children, Adolescents, and Families*. (2001) London: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Brooks-Gunn, Jeanne, Duncan, Greg J and J. Lawrence Aber, Editors, *Neighborhood Poverty, Volume I, Context and Consequences for Children*. (1997) New York: Russell Sage Foundation.

Hawkins, J. David, Richard F. Catalano, and Janet Y. Miller, "Risk and Protective Factors for Alcohol and Other Drug Problems in Adolescence and Early Adulthood: Implications for Substance Abuse Prevention" (1992), *Psychological Bulletin*, Volume 112. No.1 pp.64-105.

April 16: HIV/AIDS in South Africa
HIV/IDS Prevention in the Gambia

Reading

1. Health Systems Trust, *South African Health Review, 2004*, chap 14, <http://www.hst.org.za/generic/29>
2. South Africa and HIV/AIDS (Helpful list of additional resources) <http://www.avert.org/aidssouthafrica.htm>
3. . Medical Research Council Report, *What are the leading causes of death of South African children.*, Dec. 2003 (web = mrc.co.za)
4. Richey, Lisa Ann, *Uganda: HIV/AIDS and Reproductive Health*, in Chavkin and Chesler

April 23-May 7 Student presentations

Resources

A few of the many Web sites for resources

Journals:

International Women's Health Coalition
Family Planning Perspectives
International Family Planning Perspectives
Reproductive Health Matters
Social Science and Medicine
Health Policy and Planning
Jr. of Adolescent Health
Reproductive Health
Studies in Family Planning

Web of Science (journal articles)
Center for Reproductive Rights
The Guttmacher Institute
ACLU, Reproductive Freedom
Project

IPAS

IWHC.org