Feminist Lecture Series Fall 2014

Presented by the Women’s & Gender Studies Department
All lectures are free and open to all
Thursdays 12-12:50pm Stevenson 1002

8/28 ~ Verity “Eliminating Sexual Assault Through Education”
Verity works to eliminate all forms of violence, with a special focus on sexual assault and abuse. Sexual assault is an unacceptable and unconscionable form of oppression, which is destructive to the lives of survivors, their families, and friends. Verity facilitates healing and promotes the prevention of violence by providing counseling, advocacy, intervention, and education in our communities.

9/11 ~ Black Women’s Media Project “African American Women Promoting Positive Mental Health”
The Black Women’s Media Project (BWMP) serves the needs of African American women through a range of programs addressing overcoming mental health challenges and helping to shift the stigma and silence that occurs in Black communities regarding mental health issues. BWMP facilitates "Be Still" retreats focusing on stress-reduction/relaxation and practices that support good mental health.

9/25 ~ Women’s Health Specialists “What Does Feminist Health Care Look Like?”
A feminist women’s health center, Santa Rosa Women's Health Specialists, is dedicated to providing women-controlled health care. Their philosophy is to promote positive images of women and provide clients with a new perspective of their bodies and health.

10/16 ~ Sherry Caldwell “Breastfeeding: Bringing Back Tradition” and “Prevention and Treatment of Diabetes in Indian Country”
Sonoma County Indian Health Project provides health care for all Indians of Sonoma County in a manner that is sensitive to the culture and traditions of the local Indian Tribes. This presentation covers two important health projects: 1) The Native Breastfeeding Council—whose vision is a return to the tradition of breastfeeding for emotional, spiritual and physical health and 2) Healthy Traditions—a wellness program focusing on managing diabetes.

10/23 ~ Alexandra Kelner “Beyond Condoms and Contraception: Sexuality Education and Social Change”
Sexual health encompasses much more than just the prevention of disease and unintended pregnancy. Issues of pleasure, autonomy, interpersonal relationships, and young people’s connections with larger social constructs are often ignored in the classroom. Alliance Medical Center’s Comprehensive Sexuality Education seeks to address these gaps to account for the variation of lived sexual experiences of youth and to further youth empowerment towards health and wellness.

11/6 ~ Yong Chan Miller “Adoption Justice: Transnational/Transracial Adoption and the Reproductive Justice Movement”
In a movement that is dominated by an abortion vs. parenting discourse, adoption is often sidelined and therefore not well understood. Adoption is a complex and important issue involving birth mothers and first families, adoptees, adoptive families, communities, and governments. Examining adoption practice through a reproductive justice lens requires us to ask tough questions and seek alternative answers.

11/13 ~ Marti MacGibbon “Survivor Resilience: Overcoming Human Trafficking, Trauma and Addiction”
Empowered survivor and advocate Marti MacGibbon will deliver an upbeat, energetic and often humorous talk, touching upon her riveting and powerful personal comeback story, and providing insights into building resilience, overcoming adversity and challenges, and staying inspired. She is the author of Never Give in to Fear: Laughing All the Way Up from Rock Bottom.

12/4 ~ Dr. Xóchitl Castañeda “Migration and Health: A US-Mexico Binational Perspective”
The goal of the lecture is to strengthen student’s knowledge and understanding of immigration, health and disease at the community and population level. Addressing the health needs of immigrants in social and culturally appropriate ways is critically important for creating an inclusive, cost-effective health care system and a more equitable society. Effective public health policies, interventions and population-based preventive programs are important tools for promoting healthy behaviors and reducing risk factors for adverse health outcomes in this vulnerable population.

The Feminist Lecture Series is made possible by the Women & Gender Studies Department and the SSU Instructionally Related Activities Program.

Questions? Contact Professor Lena McQuade, WGS, (707)-664-2950 mcquade@sonoma.edu