UNMASKING ‘CHOICE’: Moving from Reproductive Rights to Reproductive Justice

Friday, March 31, 2017
1:30 – 3 p.m.
Givens Conference Room (120 Elmer Andersen Library)
West Bank campus

Free and open to the public

Live streaming available via our website

For more information provided by the University Libraries: z.umn.edu/criticalconversations

The 1973 Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision legalized the concept of ‘choice’ regarding abortion and other reproductive rights for women. However, many women of color find ‘choice’ to be problematic, charging that it actually ‘masks’ the discriminatory ways that public leaders and the legal system treat various women differently according to race, religion, economic status, and disability, among others. These diverse women are raising their voices and moving the discourse away from the pro- and anti-choice stalemate and toward the intersectional concept of reproductive ‘justice’ which Forward Together (formerly Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice) defines as the point “when all people have the economic, social and political power and resources to make healthy decisions about our bodies, sexuality and reproduction for ourselves, our families and our communities.” Join a conversation that offers an intersectional and human rights lens regarding important aspects of the ongoing struggle for reproductive freedom.

Panelists: Suzanna de Baca, Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, Planned Parenthood of the Heartland; Melissa Kwon, University of Minnesota Research Associate & Adjunct Faculty, Department of Asian American Studies, and Coordinator, National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF); Karen Law, Executive Director, Pro Choice Resources; Patina Park, Executive Director, MN Indian Women’s Resource Center.

Moderator: Heather Lou, Assistant Director, University of Minnesota Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence.

Learn more at diversity.umn.edu/criticalconversations, or contact Wendy Weimerskirch Plager at OEDed@umn.edu or 612-626-7387.

To request disability accommodations for this event, or to obtain this material in an alternate format, contact Ralph Blanco at rblanco@umn.edu or 612-625-8680.