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*Cover image: Eugene Gordon, Women's March for Equality in New York City, 1970. New-York Historical Society.*

**THE DIANE AND ADAM E. MAX CONFERENCE IN WOMEN'S HISTORY**  
**Reproductive Rights in Historical Context**

Sunday March 5, 2017

Robert H. Smith Auditorium, New-York Historical Society

9:00 **Welcome**

**Louise Mirrer**, President and CEO, New-York Historical Society

9:15 **Keynote Address**

**Jill Lepore**, David Woods Kemper '41 Professor of American History,  
Harvard University

10:00 **The Legacy of Margaret Sanger: Planned Parenthood  
at 100**

One hundred years ago, Margaret Sanger went to jail for opening America's first birth control clinic. What can we learn from her controversial career to help guide us through today's challenges to reproductive justice?

**Moderator:**

**Ellen Chesler**, Senior Fellow, Roosevelt Institute

**Panelists:**

**Adam Cohen**, Journalist and author of *Imbeciles: The Supreme Court, American Eugenics and the Sterilization of Carrie Buck* (2016)

**Linda Gordon**, University Professor of the Humanities, NYU

**Iris Lopez**, Sociology Department Chair, Professor, and Co-Director of Latin American and Latino Studies, City College of New York

11:15 **Disciplining Reproduction: Political and Legal Battles**

This panel will explore the country's long and agonized history of women's right to control their bodies. Moving beyond individuals and institutions, panelists will focus on the historical impact of the law on questions of reproductive justice.

**Moderator:**

**Linda Greenhouse**

Joseph Goldstein Lecturer in Law and Knight Distinguished Journalist-in-Residence, Yale Law School

**Panelists:**

**Irin Carmon**, MSNBC national reporter and co-author of *Notorious R.B.G.: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*

**James Mohr**, Distinguished Professor of History and Philip H. Knight Professor of Social Sciences, University of Oregon

**Dorothy Roberts**, George A. Weiss University Professor of Law and Sociology, and Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Professor of Civil Rights, University of Pennsylvania

**Carol Sanger**, Barbara Aronstein Black Professor of Law, Columbia Law School

12:15 **Lunch Break** (on your own)

**AFTERNOON SESSIONS**

1:45 **Launch of “Women Have Always Worked” Massive Open Online Course**

**Valerie Paley**, Chief Historian and Director, Center for Women’s History, New-York Historical Society

**Alice Kessler-Harris**, R. Gordon Hoxie Professor of American History Emerita, Columbia University

Columbia University and the Center for Women’s History at the New-York Historical Society are pleased to launch first part of the Women Have Always Worked MOOC (massive open online course) on the edX platform. Both parts of the course are free and open to all. Led by Alice Kessler-Harris, it is the first full-length MOOC on the history of women in America and introduces students to historians’ work to uncover the place of women and gender in America’s past.

2:00 **Planning Families: The History and Future of Reproduction**

Who gets to make a family—and how? Panelists will consider the ethical, legal, and scientific consequences of the different ways to have children, from in vitro fertilization to surrogacy, adoption, and beyond.

**Moderator:**

**Andrea Tone**, Professor of History and Canada Research Chair in the Social History of Medicine, McGill University

**Panelists:**

**Michele Bratcher Goodwin**, Chancellor’s Professor of Law and Director, Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy, University of California, Irvine School of Law

**Loretta Ross**, Co-founder and National Coordinator of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective.

**Rickie Solinger**, Independent historian and author of *Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race before Roe v Wade* (1992)

3:30 **Closing Remarks**

**Valerie Paley**, Chief Historian and Director, Center for Women’s History, New-York Historical Society

*Program subject to change*

**Irin Carmon** is a journalist and the co-author of the New York Times bestseller *Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* (2015). Described by The New York Times as being "known for her smarts and feminist bona fides," Carmon has been a national reporter at MSNBC and NBC News, as well as a staff writer at Salon.com and Jezebel.com, covering gender, reproductive rights, and the law. She is a distinguished fellow at the Athena Center for Leadership Studies at Barnard College, and has been a visiting fellow at the Program for the Study of Reproductive Justice at Yale Law School.

**Ellen Chesler**, Ph.D. is a Senior Fellow at the Roosevelt Institute, the longtime partner to the Roosevelt Library in Hyde Park, which has recently established a presence in New York City as a progressive public policy and leadership development center. She is author of the *Woman of Valor: Margaret Sanger and the Birth Control Movement in America*, 1992, 2007; co-editor with Wendy Chavkin, M.D. of *Where Human Rights Begin: Health, Sexuality and Women in the New Millennium*, 2005; and co-editor with Terry McGovern of *Women and Girls Rising: Progress and resistance around the world*, 2015. She has written numerous essays and articles in academic and policy anthologies and for major newspapers, periodicals and blogs, and is at work on a new book about the history of women's rights as fundamental human rights. She worked for many years in philanthropy, most recently as a program director at the Open Society Foundation, and early in her career, in government, as chief of staff to New York City Council President Carol Bellamy. She has taught history and public policy at Hunter College/CUNY and Barnard College. She is an honors graduate of Vassar College and holds a Ph.D. in American history from Columbia University.

**Adam Cohen**, a former member of the *New York Times* editorial board and a former senior writer for *Time* magazine, is a journalist and lawyer. He is the author of four books: *Imbeciles: The Supreme Court, American Eugenics, and the Sterilization of Carrie Buck*, *Nothing to Fear: FDR's Inner Circle and the Making of Modern America*, *The Perfect Store: Inside eBay*, and *American Pharaoh: Richard J. Daley: His Battle for Chicago and the Nation*. He is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, where he was president of the *Harvard Law Review*.

**Michele Goodwin** is a Chancellor's Professor of Law at the University of California, Irvine with appointments in several departments, including the School of Law and the Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies. She is the founder and director of the Center for Biotechnology and Global Health Policy at UC Irvine and its internationally acclaimed Reproductive Justice Initiative. Her publications include five books and over 70 articles and book chapters on law's regulation of the human body, including civil and criminal regulation of pregnancy and reproduction, reproductive technologies, and human trafficking among other topics. Her recent works appear in the *Harvard Law Review*, *California Law Review*, *Georgetown Law Review*, *Texas Law Review*, and *Northwestern Law Review*. As well, her political and social commentary has appeared in

the New York Times, LA Times, Christian Science Monitor, Chicago Sun Times, Washington Post, and Houston Chronicle among others and is regularly featured in the Huffington Post. She has been a featured guest on HBO's Vice, NPR, To The Contrary, Point Taken, Radio Times with Marty Moss-Coane, On Point with Tom Ashbrook, and other news venues. Her forthcoming book, *Policing The Womb*, is due out in 2017.

**Linda Gordon** is University Professor of Humanities and History at New York University. For the first part of her career, she wrote about the historical roots of social policy debates in the US, publishing three prize-winning books in a row: *The Moral Property of Women*, the history of birth-control politics; *Heroes of Their Own Lives*, about family violence; and *Pitied But Not Entitled: Single Mothers and the History of Welfare*. She then turned to narrative and her book *The Great Arizona Orphan Abduction*, 1999, about a vigilante action against Mexican-Americans, won the Bancroft prize for best book in US history. Her biography of photographer *Dorothea Lange*, 2009, also won the Bancroft, making her one of three authors ever to win it twice. She discovered 800 never-published Lange photographs of the internment of Japanese-Americans during WWII, impounded by the Army because they were critical of the internment, and published them as *Impounded: Dorothea Lange and Japanese Americans in World War II*. Her most recent book is *Feminism Unfinished: A Short Surprising History of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century Women's Movements*. She has now written a book about the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s, which will be published later in 2017.

**Linda Greenhouse** is the Joseph Goldstein Lecturer in Law and Knight Distinguished Journalist-in-Residence at Yale Law School. She assumed this position in 2009 after a 40-year career at the New York Times, including 30 years covering the United States Supreme Court. She currently writes a bi-weekly op-ed column for the Times web site on the Court and law. She received numerous journalism awards for her reporting, including a Pulitzer Prize in 1998. She has written widely about reproductive freedom, including a biography of Justice Harry A. Blackmun, *Becoming Justice Blackmun*; and *Before Roe v. Wade: Voices That Shaped the Abortion Debate Before the Supreme Court's Ruling* (with Reva B. Siegel), a collection of primary-source documents now available at <http://documents.law.yale.edu/before-roe>. Her most recent book is *The Burger Court and the Rise of the Judicial Right* (with Michael J. Graetz).

**Jill Lepore** is the David Woods Kemper '41 Professor of American History at Harvard University and a staff writer at *The New Yorker*, where she writes about American history, politics, technology, and law. Her books include *The Name of War* (1998), winner of the Bancroft Prize; *New York Burning* (2005), a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize; *Book of Ages* (2013), a finalist for the National Book Award; and *The Secret History of Wonder Woman* (2014), winner of the American History Book Prize. She is currently writing a history of the United States.

**James C. Mohr** is College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of History and Philip H. Knight Professor of Social Sciences at the University of Oregon. The author or editor of nine books and many articles, Mohr has published widely on medico-legal matters, including *Abortion in America: the Origins and Evolution of National Policy, 1800-1900* (1978); "Iowa's Abortion Battles of the Late 1960s and Early 1970s" (in *Annals of Iowa* 1989); *Doctors and the Law: Medical Jurisprudence in Nineteenth-Century America* (1993); "The Paradoxical Advance and Embattled Retreat of the 'Unsound Mind': Evidence of Insanity and the Adjudication of Wills in Nineteenth-Century America" (in *Historical Reflections* 1998); "American Medical Malpractice Litigation in Historical Perspective" (in *JAMA* 2000); and *Licensed to Practice: the Supreme Court Defines the American Medical Profession* (2013). He has testified twice before the Judiciary Committee of the United States Senate as an expert witness on the history of abortion law, and he was among the principal drafters of the "Historians' Brief" in the 1989 *Webster* case before the Supreme Court, an amicus curiae filing endorsed by over 400 other historians. His *Abortion in America* was once read into the Congressional Record, page by page, as the central component of a successful filibuster against pending restrictions on reproductive rights.

**Dorothy Roberts** is the 14th Penn Integrates Knowledge Professor and George A. Weiss University Professor of Law & Sociology at University of Pennsylvania, with joint appointments in the Departments of Africana Studies and Sociology and the Law School, where she is the inaugural Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Professor of Civil Rights. She is also Founding Director of the Penn Program on Race, Science & Society. An internationally recognized scholar, public intellectual, and social justice advocate, Roberts has written and lectured extensively on the interplay of race and gender in legal issues and has been a leader in transforming thinking on reproductive health, child welfare, and bioethics. She is author of *Killing the Black Body: Race, Reproduction, and the Meaning of Liberty* (Random House/Pantheon, 1997; Twentieth Anniversary Edition, Vintage 2017), *Shattered Bonds: The Color of Child Welfare* (Basic Books/Civitas, 2002), and *Fatal Invention: How Science, Politics, and Big Business Re-create Race in the Twenty-First Century* (New Press, 2011) and more than 100 articles and book chapters, as well as co-editor of six books on constitutional law and gender. Recent recognitions of her work include the Society of Family Planning 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award and American Psychiatric Association 2015 Solomon Carter Fuller Award.

**Loretta J. Ross** is a co-founder of SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective, and co-created the theory of Reproductive Justice. She has appeared on CNN and in *The New York Times*, *Time Magazine*, *The Los Angeles Times*, and *USA Today* on women's issues, hate groups, and human rights.

**Carol Sanger** is the Barbara Aronstein Black Professor of Law at Columbia Law School where she teaches Contracts, Family Law, and research seminars concerning women's reproductive and familial lives. These include "Meanings of Motherhood: Legal and Historical Perspectives" (co-taught with Alice Kessler-Harris) and "Abortion: Law in Context." Prof. Sanger's scholarship has focused on how law influences family formation, particularly in relationships between mothers and children, in such areas as immigration, custody, and adoption. Her new book about the role abortion plays in American culture and in women's lives, *About Abortion: Terminating Pregnancy in Twenty-First-Century America*, will be published at the end of this month by Harvard University Press. Sanger's 2012 article, *The Birth of Death: Stillborn Birth Certificates and the Problem for Law* won a prize for "exemplary legal writing" from the journal *Green Bag*. Sanger is also the senior editor of a leading law school casebook, *Contracts: Cases and Materials* (8th ed., 2013).

**Rickie Solinger** is a historian and a curator. She is the author or editor of eleven books about reproductive politics and satellite subjects, including *Wake Up Little Susie: Single Pregnancy and Race before Roe v. Wade* (1992, 2000), *Pregnancy and Power: A Short History of Reproductive Politics in America* (2005, 2018), and *Beggars and Choosers: How the Politics of Choice Shapes Adoption, Abortion, and Welfare in the United States* (2002). With Loretta Ross, she is the author of *Reproductive Justice: An Introduction* (2017). Solinger is the senior editor of a new book series "Reproductive Justice: A New Vision for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" at the University of California Press. Her exhibitions have traveled to over 150 college and university galleries, aiming to interrupt the curriculum. Shows include "Interrupted Life: Incarcerated Mothers in the United States," which opened inside a California women's prison.

**Dr. Andrea Tone**, PhD, holds the Canada Research Chair in the Social History of Medicine at McGill University, where she has joint appointments in the Faculties of Medicine and Arts. Her scholarship studies the histories of women and health, sexuality, and psychiatry, particularly the intersection of patient experience and formal mechanisms and institutions of power. Her five books include *Devices and Desires: A History of Contraceptives in America*. She is presently working on two book-length projects: a history of the CIA and Cold War Psychiatry, funded by her CRC and a Canadian Institutes of Health Research open operating grant, and a co-edited anthology on masculinity and medicine in modern America. An advocate of public history, she serves on the Board of Directors of several museum and centers, has organized oral history initiatives, and enjoys speaking to disparate audiences -- from sex therapists to high school students. Her work has been featured on ABC News, CBC, PBS, the History Channel, the *New York Times* and National Public Radio. In 2011 she received the American Psychiatric Association's Benjamin Rush Award for her contributions to the history of psychiatry.

**The Center for Women’s History at the New-York Historical Society** is a groundbreaking initiative to explore and celebrate women’s central role in shaping our country and our culture. The Center, opening in spring 2017, will be the **first institution in the nation** within the walls of a museum dedicated to this essential subject, and will be unique in its size, scope, and inclusive spirit.

**The Center for Women’s History has four overarching goals:**

1) Invigorate the presentation and study of American history by disrupting conventional narratives and incorporating the crucial role played by women of every race, class, age, and background, in every era. The Center for Women’s History will:

- Develop the first-ever comprehensive, multimedia women’s history curriculum for K-12 schools across the country.
- Share cutting-edge academic scholarship with a broad general audience.
- Convene conversations that bring a historical perspective to activities within the worlds of entertainment, culture, public policy, and business.

2) Establish women’s history as an essential approach to understanding the past for all people.

3) Draw on the lessons of the past to illuminate urgent present-day challenges facing American women of all backgrounds, including reproductive justice, workplace equality, healthcare, education, gender-based discrimination and violence, and more.

4) Emerge as the preeminent center for all public discussions--live and online-- related to women’s history.

Part gallery, part archive, part engine for learning, and above all a national platform, the Center for Women’s History will anchor the beautifully redesigned fourth floor of New-York Historical’s landmark Central Park West home.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.nyhistory.org/womens-history](http://www.nyhistory.org/womens-history)

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