

**Reproductive  
Health  
in Sub-Saharan  
Africa**

**CHS 427  
Winter 2004  
UCLA School of Public Health**

**Instructor: Paula Tavrow, PhD**

**CHS 427**  
**Reproductive Health in Sub-Saharan Africa**  
**Winter 2004 (4 units)**  
**Monday & Wednesday 1:00-2:50, Room 71-257**

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Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 3-5 or by appointment

**Course description:** The purpose of this course is to provide graduate students with an in-depth understanding of the reproductive health challenges facing Sub-Saharan Africa and the main programs over the past two decades that have been designed to address them. The topics that will be included are: adolescent reproductive health, family planning services, sexually transmitted infections, sexuality and violence, female genital mutilation, abortion services, postabortion care, prevention of HIV/AIDS, and refugee reproductive health. Key conceptual and theoretical frameworks and controversies will be presented. Programs in various African countries to improve reproductive health will be analyzed and reasons for their effectiveness (or failure) will be synthesized.

**Required readings:** All readings will be found in the course reader unless otherwise noted. For students with a limited background in reproductive health, or for those wishing to have a reference text, the following book is recommended for purchase: Reproductive Health in Developing Countries: Expanding Dimensions, Building Solutions, edited by A. Tsui, J.N. Wasserheit, and J.G. Haaga, Washington, DC: National Academy Press, 1997.

**Paper:** Students will be expected to complete a 12-15 page term paper that uses 2-3 health, psychological, sociological or behavioral science theories to analyze a reproductive health program in Africa. Course readings with asterisks (\*) indicate programs that students can use as the basis of their papers. For an overview of health promotion theories, students should consult “**Theory at a Glance: A Guide for Health Promotion Practice**” at this website: [http://cancer.gov/templates/page\\_print.aspx?viewid=caa6c8cb-705d-498a-a5f4-fdc7ecdbdab6](http://cancer.gov/templates/page_print.aspx?viewid=caa6c8cb-705d-498a-a5f4-fdc7ecdbdab6)

**Grading:** It is important that students come to all class sessions, complete the assigned readings, and participate actively in the discussions/debates. The course will have a final exam based on the readings. Grades will be determined as follows:

Participation in classroom discussions	20%
In-class presentations	20%
Term paper analyzing a reproductive health program	30%
Final exam	30%

## Course Outline and Readings

### Mon 1/12: Introduction to the course

#### Political and socio-economic context for reproductive health in Africa

- No readings.

### Wed 1/14: Historical overview to reproductive health and rights in developing countries

- Ashford LS. New population policies: advancing women's health and rights. Population Bulletin 2001; 36(1): 3-43.

### Mon 1/19: Martin Luther King holiday (no class)

### Wed 1/21: Cultural context for reproductive health in Africa

- Caldwell JC, Caldwell P. The cultural context of high fertility in sub-Saharan Africa. Population and Development Review 1987 Sep;13(3):409-437.
- Adongo PB, Phillips JF, Kajihara B, Fayorsey C, Debpuur C, Binka FN. Cultural factors constraining the introduction of family planning among the Kassena-Nankana of northern Ghana. Social Science and Medicine 1997; 45 (12):1789-1804.

>>*Video on girls' education in Africa*

### Mon 1/26: Adolescent reproductive health: Issues and challenges

- Price N, Hawkins K. Young people's sexual and reproductive health: Towards a framework for action. In Managing Reproductive Life: Cross-Cultural Themes in Fertility and Sexuality. Ed. S. Tremayne. New York: Berghahn Books, 2001: 194-220.
- Ndubani P, Hojer B. Sexual behaviour and sexually transmitted diseases among young men in Zambia. Health Policy and Planning 2001 Mar;16(1):107-12.
- Otoide VO, Oronsaye F, Okonofua FE. Why Nigerian adolescents seek abortion rather than contraception: evidence from focus group discussions. International Family Planning Perspectives 2001; 27 (2): 77-81.

>>*Presentations of health and behavioral theories: Part 1*

### Wed 1/28: Adolescent reproductive health: Programs

- Fugelsang M. Lessons for life: past and present modes of sexuality education in Tanzanian society. Social Science and Medicine 1997; 44(8): 1245-1254.
- \*Irvin A. Taking steps of courage: teaching adolescents about sexuality and gender in Nigeria and Cameroun. New York: International Women's Health Coalition, 2000:1-30.

>>*Presentations of health and behavioral theories: Part 2*

### Mon 2/2: Family planning services: Access and quality issues

- Bertrand JT, Hardee K, Magnani RJ, Angle MA. Access, quality of care and medical barriers in family planning programs. International Fam. Planning Persp 1995 Jun;21(2):64-9, 74.
- Huezo C, Diaz S. Quality of care in family planning: clients' rights and providers' needs. Advances in Contraception 1993 Jun;9(2):129-39.
- Caldwell JC, Caldwell P. Africa: the new family planning frontier. Studies in Family Planning 2002 Mar;33(1):76-86.
- Gready M, Klugman B, et al. South African women's experiences of contraception and contraceptive services. In Beyond acceptability: User's perspectives on contraception, World Health Organization, 1997: 23-35.

### **Wed 2/4: Family planning clinical services: programs to measure and improve quality**

- Bertrand J, Sullivan T. Quick investigation of quality (QIQ): Monitoring quality of care in clinic-based family planning programs. MEASURE Evaluation Bulletin, 2001, No. 1: 1-4.
- McCarrier M, Moyo I, Williams T. Quick investigation of quality (QIQ) in SEATS-supported family planning clinics in Zimbabwe. MEASURE Evaluation Bulletin, 2001, No. 1: 17-19.
- \*Dohle MB, Mielke E, Wambwa G, Rukonge A. Empowering frontline staff to improve the quality of family planning services: a case study of Tanzania. In Responding to Cairo: Case Studies of Changing Practice in Reproductive Health and Family Planning. Eds. N. Haberland and D. Measham. New York: Population Council, 2002: 114-130.
- \*Bossyns P, Miyé H., vLerberghe W. Supply-level measures to increase uptake of family planning services in Niger: the effectiveness of improving responsiveness. Tropical Medicine and International Health 2002 Apr; 7 (4): 383-390.

#### **>>Presentations of programs**

### **Mon 2/9: Integrating sexually transmitted infection prevention: Issues and programs**

- Fonck K et al (digest). Despite symptoms, many Kenyans delay treatment for STDs, have unsafe sex. International Family Planning Perspectives 2001; 27 (4):1-2.
- Haberland N, Maggwa BN, Elias C, Measham D. Pitfalls and possibilities: managing RTIs in family planning and general reproductive health services. In Responding to Cairo: Case Studies of Changing Practice in Reproductive Health and Family Planning. Eds. N. Haberland and D. Measham. New York: Population Council, 2002: 292-317.
- Caldwell JC, Caldwell P. Is integration the answer for Africa? International Family Planning Perspectives 2002 Jun; 28(2): 108-110.
- \*Adeokun L, Mantell JE, Weiss E, Delano GE, Jagha T, Olatoregun J, Udo D, Akinso S, Weiss E. Promoting dual protection in family planning clinics in Ibadan, Nigeria. International Family Planning Perspectives 2002; 28 (2): 87-95.

### **Wed 2/11: Family planning : community-based approaches and male involvement**

- \*Luck M, Jarju E, Nell MD, George MO. Mobilizing demand for contraception in rural Gambia. Studies in Family Planning, Dec 2000;31(4): 325-335.
- \*Terefe A, Larson CP. Modern contraception use in Ethiopia: does involving husbands make a difference? American Journal of Public Health 1993 Nov;83(11):1567-71.
- \*Kaler A, Watkins SC. Disobedient distributors: street-level bureaucrats and would-be patrons in community-based family planning programs in rural Kenya. Studies in Family Planning 2001; 32(3): 254-269.

>>*Presentations of programs*

**Mon 2/16: President's Day holiday (no class)**

**Wed 2/18: Post-abortion care**

- Corbett MR, Turner KL. Essential elements of post-abortion care: Origins, evolution and future directions. International Family Planning Perspectives 2003 Sep; 29(3): 106-111.
- Solo J, Billings DL, Aloo-Obunga C, Ominde A, Makumi M. Creating linkages between incomplete abortion treatment and family planning services in Kenya. Studies in Family Planning 1999 Mar; 30(1):17-27.
- \*Billings DL, Ankrah V, Baird TL, Taylor JE, Ababio KPP, Ntow S. Midwives and comprehensive postabortion care in Ghana. In Postabortion Care: Lessons from Operations Research. Eds. D. Huntington, NJ Piet-Pelon. New York: Population Council, 1999: 141-158.

*Optional:* Salter C, Johnson HB, Hengen N. Care for postabortion complications: saving women's lives. Population Reports, Series L, No. 10. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Population Information Program, June 1993: 1-30. (Read on the web at: <http://www.jhuccp.org/pr/110edsum.stm>)

>>*Presentation of program*

**Mon 2/23: Abortion services: legal and illicit (Zambia case study)**

- Castle MA, Likwa R, Whittaker M. Observations on abortion in Zambia. Studies in Family Planning 1990 Jul-Aug;21(4):231-5.
- \*Bradley J, Sikazwe N, Healy J. Improving abortion care in Zambia. Studies in Family Planning 1991 Nov-Dec;22(6):391-4.
- Koster-oyekan W. Why resort to illegal abortion in Zambia? Findings of a community-based study in Western Province. Social Science and Medicine 1998 May; 46(10):1303-12.
- Elul B, Hajiri S, Ngoc N, Ellertson C, Ben Slama C, Pearlman E, Winikoff B. Can women in less-developed countries use a simplified medical abortion regimen? Lancet 2001; 357:1402-1405.

**Wed 2/25: Promoting sexual health and preventing violence: issues**

- Moore K, Helzner J. What's sex got to do with it? Challenges for incorporating sexuality into family planning programs. New York: Population Council, 1996: 6-24.
- Afrol News. Legal status of homosexuality in Africa. Dec. 17, 2002: 1-4.
- Jama A. Soulmates: The price of being gay in Somalia. Afrol News, Jan. 5, 2004: 1-3.
- Rajani R, Kudrati M. The varieties of sexual experience of the street children of Mwanza, Tanzania. In Learning about Sexuality: a Practical Beginning. Eds. S. Zeidenstein and K. Moore. New York: The Population Council, 1996: 301-323.
- Hindin MJ. Understanding women's attitudes towards wife beating in Zimbabwe. Bulletin of the World Health Organization 2003; 81(7): 501-508.

**Mon 3/1: Promoting sexual health and preventing violence: programs**

- Heise L, Ellsberg M and Gottemoeller M. Ending violence against women. Population Reports, Series L, No. 11. Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, December 1999: 1-44.
- \*Sutherland A, Sakala F. Using visual techniques to initiate discussions on gender violence in Zambia. In Realizing Rights: Transforming Approaches to Sexual and Reproductive Well-Being, ed. by A. Cornwall and A. Welbourn, London: Zed Books, 2002:84-95.
- \*Michau LS, Naker D, Swahlele Z. Mobilizing communities to end violence against women in Tanzania. In Responding to Cairo: Case Studies of Changing Practice in Reproductive Health and Family Planning. Eds. N. Haberland and D. Measham. New York: Population Council, 2002: 415-33.

*>>Presentations of programs*

**Wed 3/3: Promoting sexual health and preventing violence among refugees**

- Busza J, Lush L. Planning reproductive health in conflict: a conceptual framework. Social Science and Medicine 1999 Jul;49(2):155-71.
- \*Human Rights Watch. Seeking Protection: Addressing Sexual and Domestic Violence in Tanzania's Refugee Camps. New York: Human Rights Watch, 2000: 14-50.

*>>Presentation of program*

### **Mon 3/8: Female genital mutilation: controversies**

- Raymond L, Mohamud A, Ali N. Female genital mutilation—The facts. 12 pages. PATH organization website (<http://www.path.org/files/FGM-The-Facts.htm>), 12/4/02.
- Leonard L. Female circumcision in southern Chad: origins, meaning, and current practice. Social Science and Medicine 1996 Jul;43(2):255-63.
- Shell-Duncan B. The medicalization of female "circumcision": harm reduction or promotion of a dangerous practice? Social Science and Medicine 2001 Apr; 52(7):1013-28.

*>>Video on female genital mutilation*

### **Wed 3/10: Female genital mutilation: programs**

- Toubia NF, Sharief EH. Female genital mutilation: have we made progress? International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics 2003 82: 251-261.
- Mohamed HA. Somali circumciser shares her FGM experience and views. Awaken 2003 Sep 7 (2): 6-8.
- Kwama, K. Why two sisters took their father to court. Sunday Standard (Kenya), December 8-14, 2002: 1-4.
- \* Mohamud A, Radeny S, Yinger N, Kittony Z, Ringheim K. Protecting and empowering girls: confronting the roots of female genital cutting in Kenya. In Responding to Cairo: Case Studies of Changing Practice in Reproductive Health and Family Planning. Eds. N. Haberland and D. Measham. New York: Population Council, 2002: 434-58.

*>>Presentations of programs*

### **Mon 3/15: AIDS: theories and evidence about transmission**

- Caldwell JC. Rethinking the African AIDS epidemic. *Population and Development Review* 2000 Mar;26(1):117-35.
- Gausset Q. AIDS and cultural practices in Africa: the case of the Tonga (Zambia). *Social Science and Medicine* 2001 Feb;52(4):509-18.
- Lagaa M, Schwärlander B, Pisanic E, Sowd PSS, Car M. To stem HIV in Africa, prevent transmission to young women. *AIDS* 2001;15:931-934.
- Heise L, Elias C. Transforming AIDS prevention to meet women's needs: a focus on developing countries. *Social Science and Medicine* 1995, 40 (7): 931-43.

### **Wed 3/17: AIDS prevention: programmatic developments**

- The Alan Guttmacher Institute. A, B and C in Uganda: Roles of abstinence, monogamy and condom use in HIV decline. Executive Summary. 4pp. New York: Alan Guttmacher Institute, 2003.
- \*Kipp W, Kabagambe G, Konde-Lule J. Low impact of a community-wide HIV testing and counseling program on sexual behavior in rural Uganda. *AIDS Education and Prevention* 2001; 13(3): 279-289.
- Zellner SL. Condom use and the accuracy of AIDS knowledge in Cote d'Ivoire. *International Family Planning Perspectives* 2003 Mar; 29(1): 41-47.
- \*Shaw M. Before we were sleeping but now we are awake: the Stepping Stones workshop programme in the Gambia. In *Realizing Rights: Transforming Approaches to Sexual and Reproductive Well-Being*, ed. by A. Cornwall and A. Welbourn, London: Zed Books, 2002: 128-140.
- Smith A, Howson J. Safely through the night: a review of behaviour change in the context of HIV/AIDS in Africa. In *Realizing Rights: Transforming Approaches to Sexual and Reproductive Well-Being*, ed. by A. Cornwall and A. Welbourn, London: Zed Books, 2002:141-153.

*>>Presentations of programs*

**Tue 3/22: Final Exam 11:30-2:30**