

The Law and Evidence on Self-Managed Abortion Virtual Panel Series

Panel 4: What is the future of self-managed abortion?



Abigail Aiken PhD, MPH, MD

Associate Professor of Public Affairs; Fellow of the Richter Chair in Global Health Policy, University of Texas at Austin

Abigail Aiken is an associate professor at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at UT Austin. Her research focuses on the impacts of laws and policies restricting access to abortion, including how and why people self-manage their own abortions outside the formal health care setting. She is currently the lead investigator on [Project SANA](#), a research project that examines self-managed abortion in the United States. She frequently testifies on reproductive health issues, and provided expert testimony to the Irish Parliament on the 2018 abortion referendum. She has consulted for the CDC, WHO and UN on various reproductive policy issues. She completed her M.D. at the University of Cambridge, her MPH at Harvard University, and her Ph.D. at The University of Texas at Austin.



Kinga Jelinska

Executive Director, Women Help Women

Kinga Jelinska is the co-founder and the executive director of [Women Help Women](#) (WHW). WHW is a feminist non-profit that runs a global online service providing counseling and access to abortion pills via post, works with more than 100 partner groups worldwide on community interventions and changes the norms and discourse around self-managed abortion. Kinga comes from Poland, where access to abortion is restricted and stigmatized. She is also a co-founder of the Abortion Dream Team in Poland, and the European feminist initiative Abortion Without Borders.



Farah Diaz-Tello, J.D.

Senior Counsel & Legal Director, If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice

Farah Diaz-Tello, J.D., is Senior Counsel & Legal Director for If/When/How, where she helps develop and execute litigation strategy, contributes legal analysis and drafting expertise to assist state and grassroots partners in reaching their policy goals, and provides legal information and training to reproductive rights, health, and justice activists. She is a frequent speaker and guest lecturer in activist and academic forums, and is sought by media for her insights. Farah continues and expands the work she began in 2016 at the SIA Legal Team, which joined forces with If/When/How in 2019. Prior to the SIA Legal Team, Farah worked at National Advocates for Pregnant Women, where she established and helmed programs in human rights and birth justice. Her publications for scholarly and popular press address criminalization of pregnancy outcomes, economic coercion in childbirth, obstetric violence, and reproductive issues in pop culture.

Farah is a graduate of the CUNY Law School, where she was a Haywood Burns Fellow in Civil and Human Rights, and in 2017 was selected by the Rockwood Leadership Institute for the Reproductive Rights, Health, and Justice fellowship.



Heidi Moseson, PhD, MPH

Senior Research Scientist, Ibis Reproductive Health

As a Senior Research Scientist at Ibis, Heidi (she/her) is an epidemiologist whose past and current research includes epidemiologic studies to improve methods and understanding in reproductive health research. Presently, Heidi's research focuses on evaluating safety and effectiveness of self-managed medication abortion in various contexts, measuring the impact of new abortion restrictions in the US, developing a more accurate clinical and research screening tool for transgender and nonbinary people, testing strategies to reduce under-reporting of sensitive experiences in surveys, and understanding the family planning needs and experiences of transgender and gender-expansive people. Heidi's methodologic expertise is in study design and implementation, measurement development and testing, and causal inference methods; she has authored over 45 peer-reviewed publications. Heidi received her undergraduate degree in Human Biology and International Relations from Stanford University; a Masters in Public Health (MPH) in Epidemiology & Biostatistics from the University of California, Berkeley; and a PhD in Epidemiology from the University of California, San Francisco.



Lucía Berro Pizarrossa

Associate and Post-doctoral Fellow, O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law, Georgetown University

Lucía Berro Pizarrossa is an associate and a post-doctoral fellow at the O'Neill Institute. In 2020, she was awarded the Rubicon grant by the Dutch Research Council to undertake a two-year research project on sexual and reproductive rights. In 2019, she received a prize from the Dutch Network Women Professors (LNVH) under the Distinguished Women Scientists Fund. She obtained an INSPIRE Grant from the European Union to develop part of her doctoral project at the Socio-Economic Right Project at the Dullah Omar Institute at the University of Western Cape in South Africa. Berro Pizarrossa has previously consulted on matters of sexual and reproductive rights for the UNICEF, United Nations Human Rights Committee members, Women Help Women, IPAS, and RSFU, among others.

Her work has been published in renowned peer-reviewed journals such as BMC International Health and Human Rights, Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters, and Harvard Health and Human Rights. Berro Pizarrossa holds a Ph.D. in international law from the University of Groningen, an MJur from the University of Oxford, and an LL.B. from the Universidad de la República in Uruguay. She also holds a post-graduate diploma in public policy design and a post-graduate diploma in women's rights from Universidad Austral, Argentina.



Patty Skuster, JD, MPP

Beck Chair in Law, Temple University Beasley School of Law
Fellow, Center for Public Health Law Research

Patty Skuster is the Beck Professor of Law at Temple University Beasley School of Law and a Fellow at the Center for Public Health Law Research. Her research focuses on the effects of abortion law on public health. Patty spent 15 years with the global NGO Ipas where she conducted research and advocacy on abortion as it relates to law, policy, and human rights. She has authored dozens of publications including guidebooks, briefing papers, trainings, articles, and reports on topics such as partnering with law enforcement, regulation of abortion, US foreign policy, and self-managed abortion. Patty has a JD and MPP from the University of Michigan and taught at Drexel University Kline School of Law and the MPH Program at the University of Pennsylvania.