



THE  
GRADUATE  
INSTITUTE  
GENEVA

GLOBAL  
HEALTH  
CENTRE

# COVID-19 AND SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS: CRISIS OR OPPORTUNITY?

30 June 2020 | 15:00 – 16:00

WEBINAR

**BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS**

## LORETTA ROSS

Visiting Associate Professor, Program for the Study of Women and Gender, Smith College; Lorussta Consulting LLC



Loretta J. Ross is a human and women's rights activist who co-founded and served as National Coordinator of the *SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective*, a network that organises women of colour in the reproductive justice movement. She is one of the creators of the term *Reproductive Justice* which envelops human rights and social justice into one movement. In 2004, she served as National Co-Director of the March for Women's Lives in Washington DC. It became the largest protest march in US history with more than one million participants. She is the co-author

of *Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organize for Reproductive Justice* and author of *The Color of Choice* chapter in *Incite! Women of Color Against Violence*. She has also written extensively on the history of African American women and reproductive justice activism. Her latest co-edited book is *Radical Reproductive Justice: Foundations, Theory, Practice and Critique*.

## VENKATRAMAN CHANDRA-MOULI

Scientist, Addressing Vulnerable Populations Unit, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research Department, WHO



Venkatraman Chandra-Mouli works on Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) in the World Health Organization's Department of Reproductive Health and Research which includes the UNDP / UNFPA / UNICEF / WHO / World Bank Human Reproductive Programme. His work includes building the evidence base on ASRH, and supporting countries to translate this evidence into action through well-conceived and well-managed policies and programmes. His experience in generating knowledge and taking knowledge to action is global in scope and spans over 25 years.

## PAOLA DAHER

Senior Global Advocacy Advisor, Center for Reproductive Rights



Paola Daher is Senior Global Advocacy Advisor at the Center for Reproductive Rights in Geneva. She joined the Centre in 2014 and is responsible for advancing international human rights norms pertaining to sexual and reproductive rights at the Human Rights Council and with international human rights mechanisms. She worked with the Collective for Research and Training on Development – Action in Beirut and the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies in Geneva, where her human

rights work focused on the Middle East/North Africa region. She received her BA from the Graduate Institute for International Studies in Geneva and her LLM from the Geneva Academy for human rights and humanitarian law.

## MODERATOR

### NICOLE BOURBONNAIS

Associate Professor of International History, The Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies



Nicole Bourbonnais is an Associate Professor of International History at the Graduate Institute in Geneva. Her research explores the intersections between the private sphere (gender relations, sex, reproduction, and the family), national/international politics, and transnational activism. Her first book, *Birth Control in the Decolonizing Caribbean: Reproductive Politics and Practice on Four Islands, 1930-1970* traces how birth control campaigns in Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados, and Bermuda were shaped concurrently by colonialism, nationalism, social activism, and working class women's efforts to control their reproductive lives. Her next major project, *The Gospel of Birth Control: Prophets, Patients, and the Global Family Planning Movement* uses intermediary actors – the fieldworkers, doctors, and nurses sent out by international organisations and the local colleagues they worked with – as a vector to connect global and local histories of family planning. She is also interested in the links between anti-racist and feminist activism in the early twentieth century and the history of maternal and child health. She received her BA from the University of British Columbia (Vancouver) and MA/PhD in History from the University of Pittsburgh. She teaches courses and supervises theses on the subjects of reproductive politics, social history, the history of gender/sexuality, transnational activism, Latin American and Caribbean history, and the history of public health and medicine.

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