

**The Gender and Diversity Office of the Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence  
Presents an  
Intersectionality and Critical Diversity (ICDL) ZOOM Symposium**

***Intersectional Interrogations of Reproductive Health for  
Women from Africa and its Diasporas***

Friday 14 May 2021, 9 AM to 8 PM



**Organizers:**

**Dr. Christine Vogt-William**  
Gender and Diversity Office  
Africa Multiple Cluster

**Prof. Valentina Serreli**  
Arabic Linguistics



The symposium intends to critically explore the different intersectional realities of sexual and reproductive health among women from Africa and its diasporas. Reproductive health raises questions of women's rights with regard to how their bodies are circumscribed through biology and social expectations connected with reproductive activity and sexual relations. An additional component is the issue of reproductive rights for women – to make choices, to privacy, to be free from discrimination, to access health services, financial and social resources. A third and no less important component is that of reproductive justice, which works to organize individuals and communities to challenge power inequalities engendered through state and commercially controlled exploitations of women's bodies, sexuality and reproduction in managing racialized communities.

This event organised by the Africa Multiple Cluster's Gender and Diversity Office at the University of Bayreuth intends to draw attention to current studies that explore the ways in which gender, race, class and health intersect and how power differentials mark the representations of African women's bodies with regard to reproductive health.

If you are interested in attending, please contact us at [africamultiple-gdo@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:africamultiple-gdo@uni-bayreuth.de) to get the ZOOM link.

# PROGRAMME

09:00 – 9:30 AM

## Greetings

### Prof. Rüdiger Seesemann

Dean of Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence (AMC)

### Prof. Ute Fendler

Vice Dean of AMC

### Dr. Christine Vogt-William

GDO of AMC

09:30 – 10:30 AM

### Dr. Jenny Douglas

Dept. of Public Health, Open University, London and St. Anne's College, Oxford, UK

The fight for reproductive justice: the history and politics of black maternal health in the UK.

**Discussant: Dr. Christine Vogt-William**

11:00 - 12:00 noon

### Dr. Eunice Pallangyo

Aga Khan University School of Nursing and Midwifery, Tanzania

Contemplating on maternal deaths in low-income setting from intersectionality perspectives.

**Discussant: Dr. Serawit Debele**

12:30 – 13:30

### Prof. Esmeralda Mariano

Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), Mozambique

Becoming woman, being person between visible and invisible worlds.

**Discussant: Laura Guadagnano**

13:30 – 14:30 PM

## Lunch Break

14:30 – 16:00 PM

## Keynote Address

### Prof. Dorothy Roberts

University of Pennsylvania Law School, USA

Reproductive Justice: The Politics of Black Women's Health and Freedom.

**Discussant: Dr. Nikitta Adjirakor**

16:30 - 17:30 PM

### Ghadeer Ahmed, MA

American University in Cairo, Egypt

Abortion inaccessibility: Tales from Egypt.

**Discussant: Dikko Muhammad**

18:00 – 18:30 PM

## Final Event: Film Screening 'A Thousand Needles'

A documentary about the realities of women living with sexual and reproductive health issues like uterine fibroids and endometriosis. It follows the journey of one woman and the symptoms of chronic pelvic pain that affect her life.

### Directors:

Kelsi Brooks, Gwamaka Mwabuka

### Writers:

Nikitta Adjirakor, Sabrina Najib Zahor

### Stars:

Nikitta Adjirakor, Hansel Mandi, Adnan Firoz Sulemanjee

18:30 – 19:30 PM

All speakers and film maker in discussion.

**Chair:** Prof. Valentina Serelli

19:30 – 20:00 PM

## Closing Remarks