

# Activist Authors on Reproductive Justice; New Books that are Building an Intersectional Movement (transcript)

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00:00:04.972 --> 00:00:06.752

Amy Agigian (she/her): Hello, everybody!

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00:00:07.982 --> 00:00:29.062

Amy Agigian (she/her): I'm Amygian. I'm the executive director of our bodies ourselves. And I am so happy to welcome you here today to this webinar, our program being on activist authors on reproductive justice, a topic that could not be more timely or important right now.

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00:00:30.582 --> 00:00:48.811

Amy Agigian (she/her): of all the things you could be doing tonight. We are so glad that you're joining us and sharing space with us, as we learn from the authors of these 4 different but very much related books.

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00:00:49.362 --> 00:00:55.311

Amy Agigian (she/her): I want to give a land acknowledgement before we move on

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00:00:56.272 --> 00:01:11.901

Amy Agigian (she/her): our bodies ourselves acknowledges that Boston is located on the traditional unceded territory of indigenous people who have been brilliant stewards of the land and water for hundreds of generations.

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00:01:12.162 --> 00:01:14.662

Amy Agigian (she/her): being located in Boston.

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00:01:14.822 --> 00:01:35.162

Amy Agigian (she/her): Specifically the Massachusetts and Wampanoag 1st nations peoples along with particular recognition for the Pawtucket, Naponset, and Nipmuc peoples who have traveled, lived, worked, and cared for their lands in and around Boston for tens of thousands of years.

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00:01:35.442 --> 00:01:48.602

Amy Agigian (she/her): We extend respect and gratitude to all 1st nations, people who continue to live and steward in the cultural, spiritual, and educational customs of their ancestors.

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00:01:48.862 --> 00:01:55.731

Amy Agigian (she/her): We also acknowledge the overwhelming violence, physical, cultural, environmental.

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00:01:55.912 --> 00:01:58.772

Amy Agigian (she/her): spiritual, and, I would add, reproductive.

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00:01:59.012 --> 00:02:09.851

Amy Agigian (she/her): that has been inflicted by colonialism for over 400 years, and which continues to this day to profoundly affect the lives of indigenous peoples.

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00:02:10.192 --> 00:02:22.122

Amy Agigian (she/her): We express our deep respect and appreciation for Massachusetts women, men, children, and elders, both leaders and ordinary people.

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00:02:22.512 --> 00:02:35.242

Amy Agigian (she/her): We also know that a land acknowledgement is not enough, and we commit our bodies ourselves to honoring and lifting up indigenous voices and perspectives in all of our work.

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00:02:38.382 --> 00:02:43.842

Amy Agigian (she/her): So I want to mention that Laura Prieto

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00:02:43.962 --> 00:02:47.802

Amy Agigian (she/her): and Grace Cook will be moderating the discussion.

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00:02:48.202 --> 00:02:55.591

Amy Agigian (she/her): and Kaylee Wilson will introduce our activist authors next again, thank you so much for joining us.

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00:03:00.522 --> 00:03:08.981

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): Hi, everyone! My name is Kaylee Wilson. I am a recent graduate of Tufts University, and I had the privilege, this semester of working at our bodies ourselves as an intern.

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00:03:08.982 --> 00:03:33.961

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): I would love to introduce our authors today, so we'll start with Candace bon Terrio is a mother, lawyer, professor, author, speaker and social justice advocate working at the intersections of law policy, reproductive justice, racial justice, Lgbtqia plus liberation and economic justice. Currently she is a senior director of policy at the Black Women's Health Imperative, as well as an adjunct Professor of Sociology and

19

00:03:33.962 --> 00:03:36.182

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): Criminology at Howard University.

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00:03:36.302 --> 00:04:00.352

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): Candace, previously held positions at Demos, Columbia Law School Center for Gender and Sexuality Law planned Parenthood Federation of America, the National Lgbtq. Task Force and the American Civil Liberties Union. She's a member of the Board of Directors for Spark Reproductive Justice, now, and Reproductive Action Advisory Council, and she's written for the publications, including the Nation, the Advocate and Miss Magazine

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00:04:00.412 --> 00:04:11.691

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): Stanford University Press, published her accruing reproductive justice and invitation in 2024 Candace co-chairs, the our bodies, ourselves expert panel on abortion and contraception with Marlene freed, and Pamela Merritt.

22

00:04:12.322 --> 00:04:26.082

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): Carrie N. Baker is a scholar, lawyer, journalist, award winning author, activist, and activist, committed to elevating women's and reproductive rights issues. Currently the Sylvia Delugosh Bauman, chair of American Studies

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00:04:26.252 --> 00:04:46.862

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): and Chair for the program of study of Women, Gender and Sexuality. At Smith College she founded the 5 college certificate in reproductive health Rights and Justice tree Baker is also a Miss Magazine, contributing editor and co-chair of Miss Committee of Scholars. She's published 5 books since 2,007, including the women's movement against sexual harassment.

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00:04:46.902 --> 00:05:05.932

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): fighting the Us. Sex trade, gender, race, and politics, sexual harassment, history, cases and practice, public feminism from academy to community. And most recently abortion pills Us. History and politics. She's written for a body ourselves for many years, including the website's very popular essay on the history of abortion laws in the Us.

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00:05:06.502 --> 00:05:22.721

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): Loretta J. Ross is a celebrated activist with a long history of fighting against white supremacy as well as for human rights, women's rights and reproductive justice. Loretta Ross is the co-founder of sistersong, the organization that defined reproductive justice and strengthened black voices in the fight for reproductive liberties.

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00:05:22.882 --> 00:05:26.272

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): She's also been part of the our bodies of cells network. Throughout her life

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00:05:26.762 --> 00:05:33.722

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): Loretta has been featured in the New York Times, Huffington Post, Cbs. News and gave an incredible speech for the Tedx organization.

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00:05:33.902 --> 00:05:40.921

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): She was recently inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame, and she continues to pave the way for those involved in in the reproductive justice movement.

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00:05:41.042 --> 00:05:57.872

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): Her money books include calling in how to start making change with those you would rather cancel reproductive justice and introduction, undivided rights, women of color organized for reproductive justice, and a new book coming out this fall, abortion and reproductive justice and essential resistance, co-authored with Marlene freed.

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00:05:58.212 --> 00:06:27.322

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): and finally Marlene freed is a longtime reproductive rights activist, scholar and contributor to several editions of our bodies. Ourselves. She was the founding President of the National Network for Abortion funds and Abortion Rights Fund of Western Massachusetts. Marlene, freed, has continued to commit her life's work to activism for abortion, access and reproductive justice. Currently, she is a Professor Emerita at Hampshire College Board, member and senior faculty advisor to collective power for Reproductive Justice, and on the Board of Women help women.

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00:06:27.482 --> 00:06:33.852

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): She's edited many publications on Reproductive Justice, including from abortion to reproductive freedom, transforming a movement

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00:06:34.182 --> 00:06:45.191

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): she co-authored the book. Undivided Rights Women of Color, organized reproductive justice and abortion and reproductive justice, an essential guide to resistance with the writer J. Ross, which will be released this fall.

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00:06:45.342 --> 00:06:52.732

Kaylee Wilson (she/her): She co-chairs the Albardius, ourselves expert panel on abortion and contraception with Pamela Merritt and Candace Bond. Therio.

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00:06:57.222 --> 00:07:14.912

Laura Prieto: Thank you so much, Kaylee, for the introductions. Hello, everyone. I am Laura Prieto. I am the program director for our bodies ourselves, and it is my great pleasure to be here in this room with you. We appreciate, as as Amy said, you spending your time with us.

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00:07:15.002 --> 00:07:22.281

Laura Prieto: and with this fantastic panel. We'd like to start by spotlighting each of the books that

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00:07:22.312 --> 00:07:32.402

Laura Prieto: these 4 recent books, one actually upcoming, that these authors are here to talk about today, and we decided to go in order of publication.

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00:07:32.402 --> 00:07:54.042

Laura Prieto: So, starting with Carrie Baker, each author will talk about their book for just a few minutes, and then we will turn to some discussion together, as we'll remind you in the chat. Please put your questions in the Q. And a. And we will have a good section of the time together to answer your questions as well, Carrie.

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00:07:54.622 --> 00:08:24.322

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Thank you so much, everyone. It's great to be here tonight. So I'm here to talk about this recent book which came out in December. It's published open access with Amherst College Press, which means you can just go to the website of Amherst College Press. You can read it online. You can download it to your computer or your device, you can even listen to it. There's a recording. You can also buy it. But it's there. And I did that because

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00:08:24.402 --> 00:08:34.271

Carrie N Baker, she/her: I didn't want my book behind a paywall. I wanted it out there so people could read it. Anybody, not just people in an academic setting. But activists.

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00:08:34.802 --> 00:08:38.891

Carrie N Baker, she/her: people who use abortion pills, policymakers.

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00:08:38.992 --> 00:08:52.432

Carrie N Baker, she/her: It grew out of my reporting for Ms. Magazine. I started covering Abortion Pills in 2018, and did it pretty intensely. And then, shortly after, Dobbs.

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00:08:53.112 --> 00:09:01.381

Carrie N Baker, she/her: anti-abortion doctors, and randomly, a dentist, filed a lawsuit in Amarillo, Texas.

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00:09:01.922 --> 00:09:10.842

Carrie N Baker, she/her: arguing that abortion pills were dangerous, and that FDA. Approval of abortion pills had been rushed through in the 19 nineties

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00:09:10.952 --> 00:09:15.031

Carrie N Baker, she/her: through the approval process without adequate evidence showing their safety.

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00:09:15.212 --> 00:09:28.872

Carrie N Baker, she/her: I knew that the pills were safe, and that that was false. I wasn't as sure about the history. So I went into the Scholarship and tried to find the history of Abortion pills, and there wasn't 1. So I decided to write it.

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00:09:29.162 --> 00:09:38.322

Carrie N Baker, she/her: And I had already been interviewing activists, people who had used pills, policymakers, researchers.

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00:09:38.502 --> 00:09:55.331

Carrie N Baker, she/her: providers of health care. And so I went further, and I interviewed over 80 people for the book. I did archival research. I did legal research. And so it really is the story that sort of

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00:09:55.332 --> 00:10:23.251

Carrie N Baker, she/her: intense battle to get pills on the market, and then to try to make them more accessible because the anti-abortion movement tried to block them from coming to the United States. They were 1st called Ru. 486. You old timers will remember that. And then finally it got approved in 2,000, but the FDA was so scared by the anti-abortion movement that they put all kinds of belts and suspenders around the pills, so they were very hard to get.

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00:10:23.422 --> 00:10:31.732

Carrie N Baker, she/her: And when in countries around Europe about, you know, 70 80% of abortions were done with pills. Here in the United States it was like 20%,

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00:10:31.972 --> 00:10:46.022

Carrie N Baker, she/her: because it was so tightly restricted. And it was during the pandemic that the medications began. It began to really loosen

up shortly before the pandemic and during the pandemic, with the advent of telehealth and telehealth abortion.

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00:10:46.202 --> 00:11:13.081

Carrie N Baker, she/her: and then ironically, with Dobbs, the Dobbs decision, which really clamped down on access. So people had to be creative and find new ways. So the book charts, the creative, determined, and courageous people who found new avenues, new ways for people to access these pills, and despite Dobbs, abortion has gone up about 20% since. When

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00:11:13.132 --> 00:11:36.692

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Trump 1st got elected in 2017, when there were about 830,000 abortions to today or last year, there were 1,038,000 abortions. So abortion has gone up over 20% in the last 8 years, largely due to abortion pills. There are other factors, too, but despite Dobbs, more people are accessing abortion today than

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00:11:36.692 --> 00:11:53.071

Carrie N Baker, she/her: in over a decade. And so this book explains how that happened. Of course it's an ongoing story, and so I continue to report on this for Ms. Magazine. But this is a great place to start to understand what's going on today with abortion pills. Thank you.

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00:11:57.982 --> 00:12:22.411

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): Hi! I'm going to go next. Hi, everyone! My name is Candace Bonterio. I use she and her pronouns, and this is my book with all of the tabs, because they teach it in my class. And this is queer and reproductive justice and invitation, and just a little bit of why I wrote this book. It took me 6 years to write this book. I'll start there, and I have been doing queering, reproductive justice work

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00:12:22.412 --> 00:12:29.201

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): for a long time, and it wasn't written down. There was no history about it. There was no

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00:12:29.202 --> 00:12:34.811

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): writing and recording about it. For me. It's really important to record movement work.

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00:12:34.932 --> 00:12:41.452

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): otherwise it gets lost and we move on. So for me it was really important to write down

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00:12:42.012 --> 00:13:11.801

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): work that was really being done at the Federal level at the state level at the local level. So queer reproductive justice is not a concept that I created. I created a framework in order to explain it in an academic setting and a way for folks to expound upon it. But it's an invitation to join a space of activists and advocates who are doing this work in real time today, and have long been doing this work. And so the book is a movement building book

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00:13:11.802 --> 00:13:36.791

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): 1st and foremost, and in order to represent that it's not just me talking. It's not just me giving my thesis and my theories and my point of view. It's a book that includes a lot of different voices and diverse organizations, individuals who I do really intensive movement perspectives with. So I have folks from the National Latina Institute for reproductive health. I have folks.

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00:13:36.792 --> 00:14:00.951

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): I am not an expert on gender affirming care. So I did a very intensive interview with Whitman Walker. Health, because they are the experts on gender affirming care. And so for me it was important to lift up voices of folks who have been doing this work for a long time, and I also ask a lot of questions because I don't have the answers to all of these questions. There's a lot of work that still needs to be done. But for me this was the.

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00:14:00.952 --> 00:14:29.051

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): This is an introduction. This is an invitation to a really rich and robust set of work with some really really amazing people that are doing this work. And it really runs the gamut I wasn't able to cover every topic that I wanted to cover. But it does a really good job, in my opinion, of kind of surveying the land and doing a landscape analysis of what kind of work is happening. So I will stop there. But I look forward to hearing from everyone else tonight.

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00:14:32.582 --> 00:14:33.342

Loretta J. Ross: Yes.

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00:14:33.452 --> 00:14:36.501

Loretta J. Ross: Well, my name's Loretta Ross, as you've heard.

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00:14:36.712 --> 00:14:40.351

Loretta J. Ross: I'm a professor, an associate professor at Smith College.

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00:14:40.692 --> 00:14:48.092

Loretta J. Ross: and one of the 2 books I'm going to be talking about tonight is one that was just published in February

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00:14:48.342 --> 00:14:54.442

Loretta J. Ross: call calling in how to start making change with those you'd rather cancel.

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00:14:54.792 --> 00:15:01.812

Loretta J. Ross: And I wrote this book because I was extremely frustrated with the call out Cancel culture.

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00:15:02.182 --> 00:15:07.202

Loretta J. Ross: I felt that it was weakening the movement for human rights.

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00:15:07.302 --> 00:15:14.002

Loretta J. Ross: that it was, in fact, pushing away the very people we needed to build power

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00:15:14.242 --> 00:15:23.342

Loretta J. Ross: to stop this march towards fascism that's happening globally, but particularly in the United States.

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00:15:23.622 --> 00:15:29.022

Loretta J. Ross: And so I wanted to analyze the patterns of call out and

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00:15:29.942 --> 00:15:32.292

Loretta J. Ross: help people learn what they could do

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00:15:32.442 --> 00:15:43.552

Loretta J. Ross: to transition from a calling out culture into a calling in culture, and so I invented a continuum

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00:15:43.662 --> 00:15:51.841

Loretta J. Ross: which is about calling people out, canceling them, calling them in, calling on them to do better, and calling it off.

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00:15:52.742 --> 00:15:58.132

Loretta J. Ross: And then I teach techniques both online, because I have an online class.

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00:15:58.972 --> 00:16:02.481

Loretta J. Ross: Looking at this as well, you can find it easily

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00:16:02.622 --> 00:16:10.662

Loretta J. Ross: through my name. But this is what I do. It's about building the power of the human rights movement

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00:16:11.072 --> 00:16:14.771

Loretta J. Ross: and stop turning our worst attacks on each other.

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00:16:15.532 --> 00:16:21.132

Loretta J. Ross: But to do a proper threat assessment and make sure we're focused on the enemies

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00:16:21.492 --> 00:16:25.721

Loretta J. Ross: of freedom, justice, human rights, and democracy.

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00:16:26.132 --> 00:16:30.192

Loretta J. Ross: So I'll stop there and turn it over to my co-author.

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00:16:36.842 --> 00:16:38.092

Marlene Fried, she/her: Hi, everyone!

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00:16:38.942 --> 00:16:40.422

Marlene Fried, she/her: Can you hear me? Okay.

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00:16:41.140 --> 00:16:46.162

Marlene Fried, she/her: Thanks everyone, and especially to Laura, Grace, Amy, and

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00:16:46.282 --> 00:17:05.872

Marlene Fried, she/her: Kaylee for making this happen. And it's just a thrill to be here with my activist colleagues on the screen, co-conspirator activist authors. I think we would all put activists before author in trying to explain who we are and what we do in the world.

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00:17:06.503 --> 00:17:14.581

Marlene Fried, she/her: The. And I would like to say that even though the book is not here physically, yet today it went to the presses

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00:17:14.712 --> 00:17:22.052

Marlene Fried, she/her: and you can order it at 30% off from the University of California Press. And you can also, of course, buy it on

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00:17:22.222 --> 00:17:32.251

Marlene Fried, she/her: places like Amazon. The book is part of a series reproductive justice, a new vision for the 21st century, which is from the University of California.

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00:17:32.402 --> 00:17:50.932

Marlene Fried, she/her: Why this book? This is a question that I took so seriously at the beginning of the project. Why, another book about abortion, and in order to to even begin to do the project. I had to in some ways justify it to myself.

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00:17:51.122 --> 00:17:57.552

Marlene Fried, she/her: and if you ever go to a bookstore and just look under the A's. You'll see why it was a question for me.

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00:17:57.722 --> 00:17:58.655

Marlene Fried, she/her: So

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00:18:01.152 --> 00:18:12.682

Marlene Fried, she/her: in in for for us, I think me and Loretta, writing about abortion in a reproductive justice frame is documenting the work

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00:18:12.922 --> 00:18:22.372

Marlene Fried, she/her: that we and so many people have been doing for a very long time, and in that way it's a kind of a logical progression from undivided rights.

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00:18:22.712 --> 00:18:42.432

Marlene Fried, she/her: And I think one of the things that we learned from doing undivided rights like you, Candace, and like you, Carrie, with the untold stories that people need to know, and feeling an obligation to document it in some way, and what we were very struck by

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00:18:42.552 --> 00:19:07.271

Marlene Fried, she/her: in undivided rights is when we would do book events. People actually felt like having being in a book meant that what you were doing was real, which was, you know, kind of like mind blowing to us, but in fact, truth. So we thought about introducing reproductive justice to new generations, even though we are constantly in it.

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00:19:07.862 --> 00:19:11.511

Marlene Fried, she/her: Most people don't really know what it is.

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00:19:11.652 --> 00:19:15.601

Marlene Fried, she/her: It's, you know, it's it's a framework. It's concept. It's a movement.

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00:19:15.732 --> 00:19:44.532

Marlene Fried, she/her: But I think for people outside. Even people inside our movement don't really have a grasp of it. And of course, for

so many years the work on abortion was done in the framework of choice, and I feel like that's constantly something that we are resisting or trying to help. People understand that if you put a justice lens on abortion, you come out in a very different place.

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00:19:46.082 --> 00:19:55.442

Marlene Fried, she/her: It tells a different story, bringing a justice lens to abortion, tells a different story, and also puts different stories in the foreground.

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00:19:56.032 --> 00:20:22.011

Marlene Fried, she/her: and in many ways. This is not a book about abortion, because abortion rights itself. The battle is not really actually just about abortion. And so for people to understand that, and to be equipped to resist the anti-abortion forces is to really be able to connect all the things that the battle is about and bring those to bear.

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00:20:22.662 --> 00:20:34.501

Marlene Fried, she/her: It's grounded in black feminist theory, and it centers the right to have children and families which really is, about whose childbearing is permissible, and whose is not

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00:20:34.712 --> 00:20:38.711

Marlene Fried, she/her: so. Both sides of the reproductive coin, inextricably linked

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00:20:39.122 --> 00:21:06.521

Marlene Fried, she/her: abortion and reproductive justice, tells a radical history of abortion. Politics, led by women of color, who always understood this, and in that way the most vulnerable people are put in the center of it. Race and white supremacy are at the center of it. Resistance to oppression is at the center. So intersectionality is not really just an abstract concept. It defines and describes the lived. Experience of the most vulnerable people.

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00:21:07.832 --> 00:21:14.132

Marlene Fried, she/her: Reproductive, justice-focused advocacy is essential for a liberatory future.

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00:21:14.472 --> 00:21:36.261

Marlene Fried, she/her: It enables us to break the isolation of people and movements, and of the Us. Bring the Us into a global perspective. The Us. Movement for reproduction for so long has been kind of distinct, kept itself apart, didn't learn. But of course, reproductive justice. Abortion pills came to us from the global South.

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00:21:36.372 --> 00:21:39.752

Marlene Fried, she/her: Not invent. Everything was not invented here.

107

00:21:41.652 --> 00:21:58.262

Marlene Fried, she/her: reproductive justice. Who is the book for that was my other question, who's the book? It's meant to be an introduction, but it is not simplistic. So it introduces the core concepts needed to understand and meet this movement.

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00:21:59.062 --> 00:22:03.461

Marlene Fried, she/her: So like Candace, it was important to bring

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00:22:03.722 --> 00:22:09.851

Marlene Fried, she/her: people who are actually doing the work to lift them up. People who are working in the trenches.

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00:22:10.502 --> 00:22:23.952

Marlene Fried, she/her: It's a book for. So actually, it's a book for everyone in that way, in the sense that is actually inclusive, that it's important that no communities be left out of the abortion story and the abortion history.

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00:22:24.182 --> 00:22:37.871

Marlene Fried, she/her: And it's for everyone in the sense that it's the only way to win perpetuating disconnection of people and movements is actually a losing proposition and going forward. We just can't keep doing that.

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00:22:38.002 --> 00:22:54.322

Marlene Fried, she/her: And it's for everyone in the sense of being necessary for resistance, meeting the tsunami of attacks that we're all facing in all these different areas requires all of our courage, optimism, and imagination.

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00:22:54.892 --> 00:23:00.722

Marlene Fried, she/her: So I and and I see each of our books as a call to action.

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00:23:01.162 --> 00:23:09.651

Marlene Fried, she/her: So we're a fierce, indigenous activist, Cora White, at Artichoker, who has now passed

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00:23:10.281 --> 00:23:12.942

Marlene Fried, she/her: a part of the Rosebud Sioux tribe

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00:23:14.172 --> 00:23:27.351

Marlene Fried, she/her: called all of us to action. She asked us, What are you willing to do? What are you willing? What am I willing to do in this movement? And she asked us to ask that of ourselves.

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00:23:27.552 --> 00:23:29.782

Marlene Fried, she/her: and we're going to all have to answer it

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00:23:30.202 --> 00:23:32.902

Marlene Fried, she/her: and given what's going on so?

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00:23:33.652 --> 00:23:37.721

Marlene Fried, she/her: that that in a nutshell is abortion and reproductive justice.

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00:23:37.992 --> 00:23:38.962

Marlene Fried, she/her: Thank you.

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00:23:42.632 --> 00:23:57.301

Laura Prieto: Thank you all so much. Again, we're welcoming questions from the audience throughout. They could be about individual books or for individual activist authors, not as much author activists as activist authors

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00:23:58.162 --> 00:24:09.971

Laura Prieto: to start us off. I'd have a few questions, and I'd like to start with the moment that we're in right now, and and ask to what extent each of your books

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00:24:10.382 --> 00:24:27.802

Laura Prieto: our responses to the Dobbs decision, whether the Dobbs decision changed your thinking and your action as well as the context of your book. I mean, Marlene. You just touched on this idea of how the framework of choice

124

00:24:28.122 --> 00:24:50.042

Laura Prieto: has become a framework of justice, at least for the 4 of you and the work that you do. I don't know if that's related to the Dobbs moment or the Dobbs decision, but anything you would like to say about the relationship between your work and your book in particular to our Post Dobbs climate. Now.

125

00:24:52.262 --> 00:24:59.602

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Well, I could start, if that's okay. So absolutely.

126

00:25:00.052 --> 00:25:14.932

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Dobbs, you know it. What? But as I mentioned earlier, what really inspired it was a lawsuit filed shortly after Dobbs trying to restrict abortion pills or remove them from the market entirely.

127

00:25:15.062 --> 00:25:18.792

Carrie N Baker, she/her: But the need for a board, I mean, really.

128

00:25:19.372 --> 00:25:31.642

Carrie N Baker, she/her: even though Dobbs happened in 2022 access had been drastically dwindling, beginning in 1992 with the Casey decision

129

00:25:32.102 --> 00:26:01.071

Carrie N Baker, she/her: in 1992, the number of abortions, peaked at 1.6 million, and then progressively dropped year after year because of trap laws and restrictions and everything that was, you know, the hyper

medicalization of abortion, and by, as I mentioned January of 27 by 2017, the 1st year of Trump's, you know, 1st administration. It had plummeted to 830,000. It basically been cut in half.

130

00:26:01.422 --> 00:26:17.831

Carrie N Baker, she/her: And you know, even before that when Texas tried to and succeeded in shutting down half the clinics in the State. After Wendy Davis, with her tennis shoes and catheter, tried to block that legislation. Many of you may remember that

131

00:26:18.022 --> 00:26:29.991

Carrie N Baker, she/her: the movement became very aware that we were going to lose Roe, and that we already had lost access, and so the movement to try to increase access to pills

132

00:26:30.082 --> 00:26:52.582

Carrie N Baker, she/her: and put pills in people's hands, to move it outside of the medical system, to give people access, no matter where they live, affordably and easily. That really got turbocharged around 2014, 2013 to 14, the year after Dobbs. I mean, after that Texas, you know, Wendy Davis thing.

133

00:26:52.632 --> 00:27:06.842

Carrie N Baker, she/her: And so, while Dobbs, I think, really Turbo charged this movement. It had been building for over a decade, because everybody deep in the movement knew very clearly that access was gone long before it was

134

00:27:06.992 --> 00:27:35.612

Carrie N Baker, she/her: technically gone with Dobbs and abortion bans, and it was a good thing that activists started so early because by the time Dobbs happened folks were ready. Folks hit the ground running. They'd already been running. They had already developed telehealth during the pandemic. They had already begun the process of developing these community networks that are now sharing pills for free in bans, in restricted states, all across the United States

135

00:27:35.612 --> 00:27:50.231

Carrie N Baker, she/her: strategies, as Marlene mentioned earlier from the global South right? And those ties. I document those close ties in the book and the ways in which there was a lot of back and forth, and a lot of

136

00:27:50.232 --> 00:28:14.951

Carrie N Baker, she/her: sharing ideas and strategies, and even the networks themselves, I mean Los Libras came up into the United States and helped create a Los Libras Us. And served tens of thousands of people in the time after Texas, banned in September of 21, which was over about a year before Dobbs, and then, of course, with Dobbs. And so

137

00:28:15.022 --> 00:28:40.811

Carrie N Baker, she/her: I think, while Dobbs was significant. What I found as I delved into this movement is that folks had been working that access had been lost long before Dobbs and folks had been working in determined, creative and courageous ways to create alternative channels for people to get abortion pills even in the face of further and further restrictions.

138

00:28:47.382 --> 00:28:56.281

Loretta J. Ross: I think I would argue that the Hyde Amendment of 1976 was our Dobbs

139

00:28:56.962 --> 00:29:00.311

Loretta J. Ross: for low income women, women in the military

140

00:29:00.452 --> 00:29:06.092

Loretta J. Ross: women on in, you know, native American reservations and things like that.

141

00:29:06.352 --> 00:29:16.512

Loretta J. Ross: And so with the hide and its affirmation by the Supreme Court in 1977 vulnerable women

142

00:29:16.742 --> 00:29:20.711

Loretta J. Ross: always felt that we couldn't depend on the Supreme Court

143

00:29:21.302 --> 00:29:24.961

Loretta J. Ross: for the protection of our human rights.

144

00:29:25.762 --> 00:29:34.131

Loretta J. Ross: And so Dobbs just became more of the same rather than something totally unexpected.

145

00:29:35.402 --> 00:29:39.531

Loretta J. Ross: Given the way that the Supreme Court had been intentionally packed

146

00:29:39.972 --> 00:29:48.692

Loretta J. Ross: by people who are manipulating the abortion debate for their own political purposes. And, by the way, that's 1 of the points that

147

00:29:48.872 --> 00:29:54.821

Loretta J. Ross: Marlene and I tried to write that while it seems like it's only about abortion.

148

00:29:55.062 --> 00:30:00.422

Loretta J. Ross: the manipulation of women's fertility always is part of a bigger scheme

149

00:30:00.722 --> 00:30:06.411

Loretta J. Ross: around, reinforcing the dominance of white supremacy

150

00:30:06.712 --> 00:30:18.272

Loretta J. Ross: and depressing the fertility of those of people who are unwanted, and so Dobbs, for many women of color.

151

00:30:19.042 --> 00:30:26.672

Loretta J. Ross: It was basically saying, Okay, now, everybody's gonna be treated as badly as we're being treated historically.

152

00:30:27.172 --> 00:30:31.552

Loretta J. Ross: And I just want to point that out. And one other thing, Carrie

153

00:30:32.062 --> 00:30:35.831

Loretta J. Ross: Webster, which happened in 1989,

154

00:30:36.562 --> 00:30:40.181

Loretta J. Ross: which, even before Casey in 1992,

155

00:30:40.682 --> 00:30:46.521

Loretta J. Ross: was what animated black women to write the we remember brochure

156

00:30:47.222 --> 00:30:51.932

Loretta J. Ross: and to put out a call for black women and black women's organizations

157

00:30:52.282 --> 00:30:56.221

Loretta J. Ross: to organize in defense of abortion rights. So

158

00:30:56.542 --> 00:31:00.631

Loretta J. Ross: again, everybody has their own when and where I enter story.

159

00:31:01.162 --> 00:31:06.722

Loretta J. Ross: But the point is that manipulation of women's fertility

160

00:31:07.182 --> 00:31:12.781

Loretta J. Ross: is a project of every empire from ancient times to now.

161

00:31:13.632 --> 00:31:16.911

Loretta J. Ross: and of course there's no reason for women

162

00:31:18.092 --> 00:31:25.901

Loretta J. Ross: or people people capable of getting pregnant to even put up with that. And that's what our stories of resistance

163

00:31:26.222 --> 00:31:28.402

Loretta J. Ross: are tempting to document.

164

00:31:30.402 --> 00:31:32.201

Candace Bond-Therriault (she/hers): Oh, go ahead! Marlene!

165

00:31:32.202 --> 00:31:33.171

Marlene Fried, she/her: No, you go!

166

00:31:34.232 --> 00:31:52.452

Candace Bond-Therriault (she/hers): I was just. I completely agree with that, and I appreciate you bringing up the Hyde Amendment. That was incredibly important, particularly for black women in the South, and for me the Dobbs decision for Lgbtq folks. It was again more of the same. I don't think that

167

00:31:52.572 --> 00:31:57.521

Candace Bond-Therriault (she/hers): it was a surprise to the queer movement, to the queer, reproductive justice movement.

168

00:31:58.112 --> 00:32:16.541

Candace Bond-Therriault (she/hers): For a long time people were saying, row is the floor row is the floor. It's not, you know. It's not where we want to be, anyway. But for a lot of queer people, particularly queer people of color like we didn't even have a floor like we were in the we weren't even considered at all. We weren't even in the same geography as the reproductive choice movement.

169

00:32:16.732 --> 00:32:32.042

Candace Bond-Therriault (she/hers): and we were fighting to get into those walls, into the house. And so, for the queer movement, the queer liberation space, Dobbs was just more of the same. But what was, I think most important.

170

00:32:33.012 --> 00:32:57.761

Candace Bond-Therriault (she/hers): One of the things that was very important about the Dobbs decision is not the actual decision itself, but Clarence Thomas's concurrence opinion where he named the other cases that we should reconsider, which all spoke about, which looked to Griswold and

contraceptive access, and of course, to Lawrence V. Texas, and Obergefell V. Hodges.

171

00:32:57.772 --> 00:33:08.332

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): and those are the 2 landmark Supreme Court decisions that have to do with enabling same-sex marriage and just same-sex consensual sex. And so

172

00:33:08.382 --> 00:33:09.272

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): I've

173

00:33:09.342 --> 00:33:34.312

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): I'm a big Netflix person. So I just binge watched the residence Shonda Rhimes's new show with Uzo adobe, and it's so good it's so good. But to me the Dobbs decision. And Clarence Thomas's concurrence was like the blink. And if you know what, if you've seen the show, you know what I mean, it's like the blink. That's the tell. That's what we are waiting like we knew. That's what how they were thinking. We knew. That's what they were planning.

174

00:33:34.552 --> 00:33:41.591

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): But now it's in writing now it's there, and so people can't say any longer to the queer community.

175

00:33:41.702 --> 00:33:53.131

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): Your rights are not tied with reproductive rights. It's in black and white. It's from the Supreme Court like we have been telling you this for decades. And he blinked.

176

00:33:53.322 --> 00:34:19.912

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): He said it. And so for me that concurrence is just another leveling down of activism and shows how much work we really need to be doing together as a larger movement in order to include queer folks trans folks gender nonconforming folks in this work, because all of our rights, of course, are tied up together. But that writing for me, he blinked. And I just

177

00:34:20.152 --> 00:34:27.672

Candace Bond-Therriault (she/hers): that? Was it. That was the tell that to to go to funders, to go to other people in movement spaces to be like this is where the work is.

178

00:34:29.792 --> 00:34:39.801

Marlene Fried, she/her: Yeah, thank you for that. I also love that show. I would say that in some ways Dobbs was the wake-up call

179

00:34:40.012 --> 00:34:57.982

Marlene Fried, she/her: to cisgendered white, middle and upper middle class people in that sense. That's what Loretta is saying about Hobbes. Hyde came earlier, and people of color and all vulnerable people weren't getting their needs met. And now

180

00:34:58.142 --> 00:35:07.312

Marlene Fried, she/her: it's it's for everybody. So but I would say the arc of our book is much is actually longer. And I. We

181

00:35:07.452 --> 00:35:22.021

Marlene Fried, she/her: we started this project during the 1st Trump administration, and we were concerned that an overwhelming number of white women voted for trump, and it kind of freaked us out.

182

00:35:22.202 --> 00:35:44.441

Marlene Fried, she/her: and we felt that people actually did not understand what their reproductive rights were about. So we in all humility decided to write this book so that we would be part of the process of preventing a second trump administration. Now, I'm not saying we can't take credit

183

00:35:44.912 --> 00:35:55.591

Marlene Fried, she/her: for the for the fact that it didn't happen in 2020, but I also don't want to take it blamed for his win in 2024.

184

00:35:55.772 --> 00:36:19.531

Marlene Fried, she/her: But this question made me think I'm about to be 80. All of my arcs are very long. They go back a very long way, and I hope they'll go for a very long way into the future. But for us, writing this book was really about helping people understand

185

00:36:20.142 --> 00:36:27.632

Marlene Fried, she/her: the kind of connections that vulnerable people have understood for a really long time.

186

00:36:32.082 --> 00:36:51.281

Laura Prieto: When when we were planning this event I asked each of you what questions you wanted to ask each other, and I felt like I got variations on a theme from all of all of you. So I I think you really want to talk about this, and our audience wants to hear it, too, which is

187

00:36:51.282 --> 00:37:02.611

Laura Prieto: questions about like, what do we do now? What do we do with this information? What do we do with these frameworks. What strategies, lessons, and practical advice

188

00:37:02.842 --> 00:37:21.051

Laura Prieto: are most useful now, as we all strive to counter the rollbacks of our reproductive health rights, and reproductive justice to confront fascism and white supremacy. You know. What? What would you distill from your own thinking and and writing about this.

189

00:37:22.692 --> 00:37:30.671

Carrie N Baker, she/her: So I would say, we have to think outside the box. It's a new world

190

00:37:30.782 --> 00:37:48.111

Carrie N Baker, she/her: at so many levels. As far as you know. Law, you know, like there's nothing normal in the world that trump is creating. And we have historically, I think, in so many ways been so reactive and been so focused on

191

00:37:49.392 --> 00:37:56.351

Carrie N Baker, she/her: being rule abiding, I mean, I really was shocked in my research on my book. How

192

00:37:57.062 --> 00:38:10.011

Carrie N Baker, she/her: many people in the abortion rights movement and reproductive rights movement were like, Well, is that allowed? Can we do

that? Oh, is that wise? Oh, wait! But we might be somebody might not like that, you know, like the niceness

193

00:38:10.232 --> 00:38:15.962

Carrie N Baker, she/her: kind of drove me crazy, I was, and and if anybody sort of did anything like

194

00:38:16.422 --> 00:38:19.981

Carrie N Baker, she/her: not by the rules like we called each other out.

195

00:38:20.132 --> 00:38:46.552

Carrie N Baker, she/her: and I think there's a you know, like the other side throws spaghetti at the wall and sees what sticks we like. Wait until we're invited to put a strand of spaghetti on the wall, and even then we do it hesitantly. I mean, I'm mixing lots of metaphors here. But the point being. We have got to start thinking outside the box and allowing each other to think outside the box and not policing each other so much. I think that we need to not just be defensive. We need to be offensive.

196

00:38:46.552 --> 00:39:04.232

Carrie N Baker, she/her: We need to not just be thinking, oh, how can we protect what little we have left. We need to just blow the whole thing out of the water and think in new and creative ways. And that's what I saw happening in the abortion pill movement like like provider shield laws. I mean, Kaylee, you did your research project on that. I mean, this was like

197

00:39:04.822 --> 00:39:15.472

Carrie N Baker, she/her: thinking outside the box, thinking, oh, well, why can't a New York Provider mail pills to somebody in Texas? And there was so much pushback, especially from mainstream reproductive rights

198

00:39:15.502 --> 00:39:35.312

Carrie N Baker, she/her: organizations in New York State when the legisl, when folks were pushing for this legislation. They're like, Oh, that's dangerous for doctors. Oh, that's dangerous for that! Oh, we might somebody might come after. And it's like we're beyond that. We've got to just start, you know, and I realize it takes privilege to be able to do that, you know, but but it really, I mean.

199

00:39:35.392 --> 00:39:42.351

Carrie N Baker, she/her: you know, it's not like this hasn't been happening for years, I mean, like sharing abortion Pills has been happening in immigrant communities for

200

00:39:42.352 --> 00:40:06.361

Carrie N Baker, she/her: decades, I mean, I traced it back to like shortly after. You know, women in Brazil figured out that misoprostol alone, I mean, it was like the early nineties here in the United States, and immigrant communities were sharing Miso. So it's like this is what people who are excluded from the medical system have been doing for years, and the thing is, it's completely safe. But we're all so worried. And and so, I mean, obviously.

201

00:40:06.362 --> 00:40:21.942

Carrie N Baker, she/her: you know, use it. The pills are safe. What happens if you end up at a hospital and you get criminalized, I mean. So I'm not saying this is easy, but I just my point being that we need to think creatively. We need to be courageous. We need to think outside the box

202

00:40:21.942 --> 00:40:32.741

Carrie N Baker, she/her: and and not go by the playbooks that we've had forever to come up with new plays to come up with new ways of thinking about things, and

203

00:40:32.742 --> 00:41:02.191

Carrie N Baker, she/her: you know, and, like Loretta is always talking about human rights. I mean, you know, these are our human rights that they are taking away, and we need to harp on that. We need to repeat that we need to have moral indignation about what they're doing rather than just being good girls and trying to like travel halfway across the country to get the care we need, you know, to comply with the laws or whatever I mean. They're they're going to criminalize us, no matter what. So we need to take care of each other. We need to work outside the system.

204

00:41:02.544 --> 00:41:07.122

Carrie N Baker, she/her: I don't know. That's what I learned from researching this book is that

205

00:41:07.502 --> 00:41:12.122

Carrie N Baker, she/her: we need to be willing to push the boundaries.

206

00:41:17.472 --> 00:41:19.082

Marlene Fried, she/her: In. In some ways

207

00:41:19.962 --> 00:41:29.352

Marlene Fried, she/her: I feel one of the things I learned was the old, our bodies ourselves wisdom, feminist wisdom, which is the importance of taking

208

00:41:29.672 --> 00:41:59.442

Marlene Fried, she/her: what you need and putting the tools in the hands of the people who need them and use them. And that's what the abortion pill movement is about. It's what the Aids Action people did when they were not being allowed to bring drugs into the country. So I think what you're saying, Carrie about courage, imagination, and persistence is sort of incredibly important for the resistance.

209

00:41:59.612 --> 00:42:09.492

Marlene Fried, she/her: But of course we're not all equally situated. I mean these, just like the barriers don't fall the same on everybody.

210

00:42:09.492 --> 00:42:30.711

Marlene Fried, she/her: The criminalization doesn't fall the same. So it's partly a matter of figuring out who can and who can't, and protecting each other and doing this in a collective way in a community base. I mean, if you think about the abortion pill movement, it's very community based. That's what networks are.

211

00:42:30.712 --> 00:42:31.692

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Absolutely.

212

00:42:31.692 --> 00:42:47.411

Marlene Fried, she/her: It's and I think about the abortion funds in the same way. It's exactly they started even some of them before Roe, because it was very clear that the law was not going to make abortion

213

00:42:47.582 --> 00:43:04.382

Marlene Fried, she/her: accessible to everyone. It's just been clear from the beginning. And the Hyde Amendment, just like, yeah, put it in everyone's face. And so community-based solutions, basically people saying, Okay, the government's not going to do it. We'll do it.

214

00:43:04.552 --> 00:43:20.282

Marlene Fried, she/her: And it's not really a great substitute, you know, it should be funded by the Government because there's you can't exactly raise enough, but you can do a lot. So for me, that message of

215

00:43:20.792 --> 00:43:23.702

Marlene Fried, she/her: taking what you need.

216

00:43:23.802 --> 00:43:43.302

Marlene Fried, she/her: making sure that and teaching it to everybody, and so that other people know many people still don't know about the abortion pills. They don't know what they are. They're scared of them. A lot of the work that the anti-abortion movement does is to fuel. The fear, you know, is abortion really dangerous.

217

00:43:43.372 --> 00:44:03.452

Marlene Fried, she/her: You know our vaccines really dangerous. So I think that we have a lot to counter in the work that we need to do, and continuing, which is partly why I think it's so very important that obs continues to be a source not just of information, evidence-based.

218

00:44:03.632 --> 00:44:08.272

Marlene Fried, she/her: but information from a feminist perspective. It's not Webmd.

219

00:44:09.472 --> 00:44:12.771

Marlene Fried, she/her: It's our feminist web. Md.

220

00:44:18.172 --> 00:44:27.311

Loretta J. Ross: This moment reminds me of when Carol Downer started the Feminist Women's Health movement.

221

00:44:27.672 --> 00:44:33.432

Loretta J. Ross: where we had to learn how to use speculums and examine our own cervixes

222

00:44:33.582 --> 00:44:35.892

Loretta J. Ross: and stuff. And the thing that

223

00:44:36.662 --> 00:44:39.152

Loretta J. Ross: we know as black women is that

224

00:44:39.662 --> 00:44:43.312

Loretta J. Ross: the systems were never designed to include us.

225

00:44:43.552 --> 00:44:47.932

Loretta J. Ross: maybe to experiment on us, but not to serve us.

226

00:44:48.412 --> 00:44:53.542

Loretta J. Ross: And so we're going to have to return back to those kitchen tables, we

227

00:44:53.752 --> 00:44:59.621

Loretta J. Ross: sharing information with each other, looking out for each other in the community.

228

00:44:59.852 --> 00:45:04.052

Loretta J. Ross: because there may be no fixing this broke system

229

00:45:04.322 --> 00:45:07.711

Loretta J. Ross: to deliver the healthcare that we deserve and need.

230

00:45:08.282 --> 00:45:13.342

Loretta J. Ross: As a matter of fact, it's getting worse on purpose. It's getting worse.

231

00:45:13.582 --> 00:45:19.241

Loretta J. Ross: It's not an accident that the social welfare contract has been broken.

232

00:45:19.342 --> 00:45:21.262

Loretta J. Ross: Cruelty is the point.

233

00:45:22.212 --> 00:45:24.642

Loretta J. Ross: And so this is where we are.

234

00:45:24.952 --> 00:45:31.101

Loretta J. Ross: I didn't panic when Dobbs fell, because I was not surprised.

235

00:45:31.252 --> 00:45:33.962

Loretta J. Ross: I was disappointed, but not surprised.

236

00:45:34.582 --> 00:45:37.672

Loretta J. Ross: and I think that would describe anyone

237

00:45:38.122 --> 00:45:41.742

Loretta J. Ross: who, for whom the Supreme Court consistently

238

00:45:41.942 --> 00:45:46.361

Loretta J. Ross: disappoints us in upholding our human rights.

239

00:45:50.462 --> 00:46:07.312

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): I completely agree, and I think the opposite bookend that I'm going to go to from Carrie of. Yes, I think that we need to dream big and create really innovative solutions. But I also think there's a lot of rich history, of really

240

00:46:07.422 --> 00:46:32.412

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): innovative actions that happened or were planned, that didn't happen like there's a lot there that I think that we really should be learning from, and especially at this this time

this day and age, where books are being banned, and public libraries are being defunded, and the Smithsonian is getting whitewashed, like whatever is happening in all of our history.

241

00:46:32.702 --> 00:46:59.822

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): It's going to be even more important that we know what it said, that we know what happened, that we read actual books. I tell my students like, I need to see, like hard covered source book material, and that you cite in your papers because we can't just rely on what we can, Google, what we can see only on the Internet. Which is why one of the reasons I'm really proud of being a part of our bodies ourselves, because

242

00:46:59.822 --> 00:47:02.811

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): we're giving evidence-based scientific

243

00:47:02.812 --> 00:47:15.071

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): data, driven factual information that is not just opinion. And so this misinformation, whether something is fact or opinion, has become so blurred that

244

00:47:15.072 --> 00:47:39.991

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): that is a huge fight in and of itself. So for me, going back to the hard copy, going back to black feminist and black Womanist writings and essays from the sixties, the seventies. I mean, I have on my right here because I cite to them all the time, and I'm always reading like killing the black body. Sister outsider like these are the books that matter like these are them, and we

245

00:47:39.992 --> 00:48:04.792

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): need to continue to read them and teach them and grapple with them, and find ideas and gems for activism in them. Like we have such a rich history. So it's not that we have to just create something out of nothing. We have so much to build upon. And so for me. It's really about teaching that education and teaching new generations. As Marlene said, people may not know what reproductive justice is, my students walk into the class, and they're like.

246

00:48:04.792 --> 00:48:10.971

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): think, I know, like abortion choice, like I'm not sure. And I'm like all right by the end of the class. They're like.

247

00:48:10.972 --> 00:48:19.172

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): This has everything to do with me. I had no idea that the choices that my single mom was making for me

248

00:48:19.202 --> 00:48:34.632

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): was in this context, like I wasn't understanding, and then they leave the course with a very different view of what reproductive justice is, and how to engage in it. And so for me. Sometimes it's just starting with those readings like starting with, like the feminist book clubs

249

00:48:34.632 --> 00:48:54.472

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): like the kitchen table conversations, the pamphlets like, I feel like we're going to have to get back to some of that. That hard copy the bulletin board, you know. Put on the bulletin board that we're meeting in this classroom at 7 Pm. To talk about reproductive justice like we need to do that. And so some of the things that we need to do

250

00:48:54.472 --> 00:49:05.531

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): have been done. But we've moved away from them because everything's been digitalized and everything's been moved online. And we have to bring that back. We have to bring that back to in person a little bit.

251

00:49:07.962 --> 00:49:08.622

Laura Prieto: Yes.

252

00:49:08.622 --> 00:49:14.051

Marlene Fried, she/her: I don't know if you can see this. I I dug deep. I don't know if you even recognize this Loretta, this.

253

00:49:14.052 --> 00:49:15.261

Loretta J. Ross: Yes, I do.

254

00:49:15.262 --> 00:49:16.842

Marlene Fried, she/her: It. This was our 1st

255

00:49:17.062 --> 00:49:28.341

Marlene Fried, she/her: co-conspirator moment, and we wrote this in 1992. It's reproductive freedom, our right to decide. And it was part of a pamphlet series

256

00:49:28.452 --> 00:49:43.252

Marlene Fried, she/her: from open that was open magazine did so sort of a little bit on the model of what you're doing. Not exactly. It was before the digit. Everything was digitized moment. But I think what you're saying is so important, Candace, in terms of

257

00:49:43.402 --> 00:50:06.191

Marlene Fried, she/her: knowing our own history and claiming it. You know we do stand on the shoulders of so many people, and I just want to lift up. We have another colleague at Smith. Joyce Filet, who has done this 500 years of reproductive justice, timeline. So if you think you're tired.

258

00:50:06.412 --> 00:50:24.052

Marlene Fried, she/her: and I think it's going to be coming to collective power for reproductive justice, and there are ways in which, and Loretta Carey and I are working on it along with other people. But there are ways in which the people are working on making this accessible.

259

00:50:24.222 --> 00:50:30.711

Marlene Fried, she/her: And one of the things that I really appreciate about it is it's bringing to light

260

00:50:30.982 --> 00:50:34.332

Marlene Fried, she/her: the the stories that we don't know the activists

261

00:50:34.492 --> 00:50:45.431

Marlene Fried, she/her: that we don't know about, who aren't written about all the time or get a get a megaphone. So look out for the roots of Reproductive Justice Project.

262

00:50:50.233 --> 00:51:01.782

Laura Prieto: Could we talk some more about? Yeah. Your your own reading lists? Your own inspirations. We've talked we you've already touched on some

263

00:51:01.932 --> 00:51:04.112

Laura Prieto: suggestions. Audre. Lorde!

264

00:51:04.452 --> 00:51:06.018

Laura Prieto: Carol Downer!

265

00:51:07.352 --> 00:51:14.222

Laura Prieto: What else like? Where do you go to find energy and hope and inspiration yourselves?

266

00:51:14.680 --> 00:51:21.641

Laura Prieto: What? What keeps you writing in the face of everything that we're going through right now. And what keeps you

267

00:51:22.412 --> 00:51:27.342

Laura Prieto: doing the activist work? And in the face of

268

00:51:27.852 --> 00:51:30.551

Laura Prieto: the backlash that we're experiencing now.

269

00:51:31.042 --> 00:51:49.082

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Well, I'll jump in here, and it's Ms. Magazine. Ms. Magazine has been publishing for over 50 years, and I think all 4 of us have published it with Ms. It still comes out in print copy 4 times a year, but it's also online with a lot more breaking content.

270

00:51:49.192 --> 00:51:50.721

Carrie N Baker, she/her: It is the.

271

00:51:51.012 --> 00:52:13.771

Carrie N Baker, she/her: It is a major place where feminists share their strategies. They share their thinking. They spread the word about

campaigns that are happening. I think it's a really important source and a way to kind of keep your finger on the pulse of

272

00:52:14.592 --> 00:52:17.062

Carrie N Baker, she/her: you know women's movement activism.

273

00:52:17.232 --> 00:52:33.561

Carrie N Baker, she/her: And you know, just hearing what others, and we many people who write for Ms. Magazine are scholars. We have the Ms. Writer, Ms. Committee of scholars which recruits and trains academics across feminist academics across the country to write for the magazine as well as activists.

274

00:52:33.882 --> 00:52:52.462

Carrie N Baker, she/her: So it's like a sounding board where people can share their ideas and learn and build movements. So I think this is an absolutely critical source. And it's also now available through Ebsco as a database in college and university libraries.

275

00:52:52.462 --> 00:53:10.551

Carrie N Baker, she/her: and is used by women's studies faculty to educate people about the long history of the movement. I mean, you know, going back to 1972. So many people like some of the people that we've mentioned have been published in Ms. Published really groundbreaking work in Ms.

276

00:53:10.552 --> 00:53:19.392

Carrie N Baker, she/her: And so all of those you can have access to through this new database. And so I think this this is one source that I, you know.

277

00:53:19.442 --> 00:53:21.282

Carrie N Baker, she/her: absolutely rely on.

278

00:53:24.842 --> 00:53:38.782

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): I can jump in and say I get inspiration every day from my kiddos. So I have 2 young children. So for me, motherhood parenthood is such an art form.

279

00:53:38.852 --> 00:54:05.321

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): a creative art form. And so part of that is, I'm trying to teach the next generation of how to live, how to interact with the world, what the world should be, how they should dream about the world. But then, how is it really the realities, the pragmatism, and trying to kind of meld this line of wanting them to dream really big, as expansive as possible, and also

280

00:54:05.322 --> 00:54:19.452

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): let them know what's really out there. And so for me. I get a lot of inspiration from them. And the next generation in my books of you know, feminist black feminist scholars. I also have kid books, because it just reminds me, it grounds me of

281

00:54:19.452 --> 00:54:36.851

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): the kiddos that my kids and you know this is dream, big little one like this is for me. This is this one's mine, like, I want to dream big, too, like it grounds me that we, you know, when we're kids, we think so much is possible. And sometimes it's finding that

282

00:54:37.312 --> 00:54:54.252

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): somewhat ignorant but also just, really blissful energy of what the world could be and how to envision the world. So for me, that's what I like to draw inspiration from. And also I draw a lot of inspiration from my students, because we just have really

283

00:54:54.352 --> 00:55:10.781

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): real raw, deep conversations about issues that we're all grappling with, particularly this this semester, you know. January through May was very intense for my students, I'm sure, for all of you who are teaching, and

284

00:55:10.782 --> 00:55:31.622

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): we just broke it down. They're just like what is happening. What is? What does this mean? What is birthright citizenship? Where does it come from? And so we like, go through the Constitution. And I'm like, Okay, well, let's start. Let's go back to the 14th Amendment, and let's like, take it back a little bit to talk about what happened before the 14th Amendment, and really breaking it down for them, helps ground me

285

00:55:31.642 --> 00:55:33.461

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): in the moment that we're in.

286

00:55:33.652 --> 00:55:57.951

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): and seeing, making me hopeful that we will have a continual moment, right? That we're not just stuck, because I'm sure every generation has felt really stuck in the moment that they were in, and every generation, particularly for black folks, particularly for black women, particularly for black, queer, and women, have been in really hard, hard situations

287

00:55:58.082 --> 00:56:04.092

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): for the last 400 years, and so I know that my ancestors felt stuck right.

288

00:56:04.372 --> 00:56:10.661

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): And so what I want for myself, and I want for my kids is to feel just a little less stuck.

289

00:56:10.982 --> 00:56:19.321

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): and feel that there is somewhere to go like there is room. There is abundance out there. And it's really for us to

290

00:56:19.422 --> 00:56:22.401

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): create those futures for ourselves and our kids.

291

00:56:27.652 --> 00:56:31.262

Marlene Fried, she/her: You know I'm I'm looking at the oops. Sorry.

292

00:56:34.482 --> 00:57:01.242

Marlene Fried, she/her: Am I unmuted? Yeah, I'm looking at the chat, and so I'm inspired by the presence of several long haulers, and I don't mean long haulers, Covid, I mean people who have been in the fight for the long haul, as we all need to be. But I also take a lot of inspiration, not just from teaching, but also from activism. And there's so many young activists who are

293

00:57:01.432 --> 00:57:31.011

Marlene Fried, she/her: taking up the fight and are energized. They're not defeated by what's going on. They're like, you know what the hell we're doing it. So I feel like that's for me. The only thing that gives me hope and inspiration is that there are new generations who feel as strongly as I do as strongly as anyone ever has, and who are blueprinting it in their own ways.

294

00:57:31.082 --> 00:57:41.142

Marlene Fried, she/her: And some of it looks different. Some of it doesn't. So I'm not. It sounds really weird. I'm not depressed

295

00:57:41.142 --> 00:58:02.501

Marlene Fried, she/her: by everything that's going on, partly because when you burn it all down you also have a chance to build it up better. I don't mean to sound like the build back better thing. But you know, to actually have laws that might work for more people to have abortion, access that might be there for everyone. So I'm a little optimistic.

296

00:58:02.832 --> 00:58:07.292

Marlene Fried, she/her: I know that seems really weird, but I have my rose colored glasses on.

297

00:58:07.811 --> 00:58:23.751

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): Can I just jump in and just respond to your not build back better framing, and just say that I think this moment is also really important, because it's showing that there is not. It's not a 0 sum game, right? It's not a

298

00:58:23.961 --> 00:58:33.401

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): build or burn down. And you know, when I was a when I was a baby advocate. When I was starting I was just like, burn it down, burn it down. And then I was like

299

00:58:33.551 --> 00:58:54.431

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): to. Okay. So it's burnt down. Now, what? And so I pose these questions to my students, every semester. Okay, what are you building like? What is, what are you going to do like? If say at midnight tonight? It's done, it's done. Capitalism is done like every it's done. Done. So what? What is tomorrow? Look like.

300

00:58:54.561 --> 00:59:06.931

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): what is it? How do you envision it? And it's really a struggle for folks to kind of like name and create and figure out what that is, and especially in this moment, where we've been in in DC.

301

00:59:07.151 --> 00:59:18.261

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): That's what's happening. They have burnt it down like they have dismantled the government in a way that many of us, myself included, was not expecting.

302

00:59:18.481 --> 00:59:20.751

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): And so now that it's burnt down.

303

00:59:21.611 --> 00:59:36.301

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): what what's happening right now? There's just a vacuum. And so for me. It's it's an interesting teaching moment to be like burning it down, is not always the answer. Sometimes I will say that sure it is the answer. If it's just like trash, burn it down. But like.

304

00:59:36.601 --> 00:59:39.421

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): it's more about transforming, it's more about

305

00:59:39.711 --> 00:59:44.891

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): creating solutions to specific problems, right? It's not just about

306

00:59:45.241 --> 01:00:09.571

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): just throwing it all together into a garbage fire and lighting it on fire. Because then, what are you going to do with the ash like? Then the environment is in trouble like you just burnt the whole city down. So there are real tangible. There's real tangible consequences to some of the activist thinking that I had when I was younger, and for me, writing this book kind of

307

01:00:09.571 --> 01:00:29.101

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): matured my thinking because I was looking at all of these scholars and all of these activists and advocates who came before me and who stand beside me, who actually were thinking about transformation. And so I think that is a huge key that we have to think about moving forward. And there's so much more opportunity

308

01:00:29.101 --> 01:00:44.341

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): and transformation than there is in just burning it down and building something better, right? Like it's transforming the systems and communities and relationships that we have to move them forward. And so I just the build back better made me think of that.

309

01:00:52.082 --> 01:00:54.691

Loretta J. Ross: I think I find my inspiration

310

01:00:55.042 --> 01:01:01.492

Loretta J. Ross: by looking at and reading about the stories of people who've been through even worse.

311

01:01:02.782 --> 01:01:10.242

Loretta J. Ross: like I have read and reread Victor Frankl's. This man's search for meaning for a long time.

312

01:01:11.142 --> 01:01:15.502

Loretta J. Ross: because he talked about the necessity of hope.

313

01:01:16.212 --> 01:01:19.341

Loretta J. Ross: and and how hope sustained him

314

01:01:19.892 --> 01:01:25.302

Loretta J. Ross: in the death camps of the holocaust, and so

315

01:01:26.722 --> 01:01:29.891

Loretta J. Ross: I don't know if that's too dystopian for people.

316

01:01:30.552 --> 01:01:39.731

Loretta J. Ross: and certainly I do read the stories of uplift as well, but I always want to

317

01:01:40.552 --> 01:01:52.861

Loretta J. Ross: admire the human spirit and understand that no matter how atrocious things can come, can become

318

01:01:53.752 --> 01:01:59.512

Loretta J. Ross: that we don't give up. We don't give in, and particularly

319

01:01:59.662 --> 01:02:05.931

Loretta J. Ross: when I think of my own family's lineage, because I'm in my seventies.

320

01:02:06.482 --> 01:02:10.302

Loretta J. Ross: My mother, who was born in 1922

321

01:02:10.752 --> 01:02:16.152

Loretta J. Ross: clean white folks houses on our hands and knees while raising 8 kids.

322

01:02:17.362 --> 01:02:23.652

Loretta J. Ross: And so whenever I think I'm about to be tired of sitting on my ass and pontificating on something.

323

01:02:24.412 --> 01:02:29.492

Loretta J. Ross: All I have to do is remind myself of the generation that came right before me.

324

01:02:29.642 --> 01:02:34.192

Loretta J. Ross: We're not talking about what my grandmother had to do. We're talking about

325

01:02:34.392 --> 01:02:44.202

Loretta J. Ross: how my brothers and sisters pick cotton for their summer jobs down in Texas, and so whenever

326

01:02:45.592 --> 01:02:53.032

Loretta J. Ross: I think I'm giving into despair all I have to do is remember what my family's been through, and

327

01:02:53.552 --> 01:02:59.412

Loretta J. Ross: appreciate the fact that everybody has to put up with oppression.

328

01:02:59.772 --> 01:03:03.001

Loretta J. Ross: But a few of us are privileged enough to fight it.

329

01:03:04.602 --> 01:03:07.222

Loretta J. Ross: and never lose sight of that privilege.

330

01:03:08.362 --> 01:03:11.481

Loretta J. Ross: even though it can be hard conducting the fight.

331

01:03:12.092 --> 01:03:14.912

Loretta J. Ross: Everybody else just has to put up with it

332

01:03:15.222 --> 01:03:21.761

Loretta J. Ross: without analyzing it, without writing about it, without organizing against it.

333

01:03:22.592 --> 01:03:25.221

Loretta J. Ross: And so in many ways, I see

334

01:03:25.692 --> 01:03:28.032

Loretta J. Ross: doing this work is a privilege.

335

01:03:34.612 --> 01:03:42.232

Laura Prieto: Thank you. Thank you all. That's really beautiful sentiment. Rhoda. we have a.

336

01:03:42.232 --> 01:03:49.441

Marlene Fried, she/her: Just say one thing about the hope thing, because I'm thinking about Miriam Caba, who's a an Abolitionist organizer, and

337

01:03:49.592 --> 01:04:02.321

Marlene Fried, she/her: what what was important to me about what she said about hope, she said. Hope is a discipline. We have to practice it every single day. It's not an emotion, it's not optimism. You know, it's not like blind optimism. It's

338

01:04:02.422 --> 01:04:05.691

Marlene Fried, she/her: it is something that you have to keep.

339

01:04:06.422 --> 01:04:31.221

Marlene Fried, she/her: And of course we all know that we wouldn't be here if we didn't have hope in just the way that she's talking about. And what I also appreciated is, she said. It doesn't preclude feeling. Other bad things, sadness, frustration, anger. So it's like Hope has to sit with all those other things and still

340

01:04:31.462 --> 01:04:33.182

Marlene Fried, she/her: keep the flame going.

341

01:04:33.422 --> 01:04:55.901

Marlene Fried, she/her: I got stuck on this burning thing, Candace, but I think what I mean. Look, one of the things is, we didn't choose to burn this down. It's not burning down in any way that we would have taken things apart with leaving so few on ramps for putting things back together. We would have done it very differently. But

342

01:04:56.232 --> 01:04:59.442

Marlene Fried, she/her: we we're we have to do it. However, we do it.

343

01:05:06.412 --> 01:05:07.402

Laura Prieto: Thank you.

344

01:05:08.246 --> 01:05:33.651

Laura Prieto: We have just under a half hour left. We wanted to provide lots of time for audience questions. So while we're still waiting for some questions to roll in. We have a robust audience, so please don't be shy and put your questions in the QA. I'm waiting to be fed some by Grace and Kaylee. In the meantime. What

345

01:05:33.882 --> 01:05:40.871

Laura Prieto: do you wish someone would ask you about? What do you wish I had asked you about

346

01:05:40.992 --> 01:05:46.852

Laura Prieto: with your with regard to your work in reproductive justice, especially so far.

347

01:05:50.382 --> 01:05:52.772

Loretta J. Ross: Well, one of the things that

348

01:05:53.802 --> 01:05:59.312

Loretta J. Ross: I've been thinking about rather intently is.

349

01:06:00.042 --> 01:06:05.841

Loretta J. Ross: how does the Reproductive justice Framework need to be updated

350

01:06:06.282 --> 01:06:15.971

Loretta J. Ross: for dealing with 21st century problems like genomic and assisted reproductive technologies.

351

01:06:16.532 --> 01:06:21.111

Loretta J. Ross: And so in March of this year.

352

01:06:21.552 --> 01:06:26.002

Loretta J. Ross: Professor Julisha, Jolly, from Amherst and I from Smith.

353

01:06:26.322 --> 01:06:33.312

Loretta J. Ross: organized a think tank called Reproductive Justice Futurisms, because

354

01:06:33.922 --> 01:06:43.802

Loretta J. Ross: I believe that the abuse of reproductive technologies will, in fact, upgrade our present social inequalities

355

01:06:44.442 --> 01:06:49.031

Loretta J. Ross: instead of solving the problems. It will create new problems.

356

01:06:49.392 --> 01:06:53.631

Loretta J. Ross: Like, I mean, there are people who are already talking about

357

01:06:53.932 --> 01:07:02.272

Loretta J. Ross: growing growing bodies just for harvesting their UN, their their organs, and we know

358

01:07:02.572 --> 01:07:05.541

Loretta J. Ross: who's vulnerable to that kind of thing.

359

01:07:06.872 --> 01:07:11.662

Loretta J. Ross: There are people who preach a doctrine of transhumanism

360

01:07:12.392 --> 01:07:17.511

Loretta J. Ross: that talk about the gene rich or the gene enhanced people

361

01:07:18.152 --> 01:07:24.122

Loretta J. Ross: over the natural people like ourselves, who were not designed in a test tube.

362

01:07:24.782 --> 01:07:30.401

Loretta J. Ross: and one of their advocates said something that I thought was totally alarming when they said.

363

01:07:31.192 --> 01:07:35.942

Loretta J. Ross: When it comes to the gene rich and the naturals, the gene rich

364

01:07:36.192 --> 01:07:44.842

Loretta J. Ross: are going to have as much interest in having sex with the natural that present human beings with gorillas.

365

01:07:46.112 --> 01:07:51.742

Loretta J. Ross: And when they are saying that kind of speculation.

366

01:07:52.312 --> 01:08:00.761

Loretta J. Ross: they're very trumpist. They say what they're going to do, and it sounds so incredible we don't take them seriously, and yet they do mean it.

367

01:08:01.912 --> 01:08:07.401

Loretta J. Ross: And so what will reproductive justice look like?

368

01:08:08.262 --> 01:08:16.192

Loretta J. Ross: You know we have that middle tenet the right to have a child, but that does does that imply the right to exploit vulnerable people.

369

01:08:16.592 --> 01:08:29.212

Loretta J. Ross: to satisfy your right to have a child with exploitative surrogacy relationships and those kinds of things so interrogating

370

01:08:29.502 --> 01:08:37.051

Loretta J. Ross: how scientific racism will continue in the 21st century.

371

01:08:37.402 --> 01:08:44.091

Loretta J. Ross: and how vulnerable people will continue to be either neglected or exploited in the 21st century

372

01:08:44.732 --> 01:08:48.471

Loretta J. Ross: is something that's beyond the abortion debate for me.

373

01:08:49.032 --> 01:08:53.802

Loretta J. Ross: And I think we're distracted from actually looking seriously.

374

01:08:54.022 --> 01:08:59.572

Loretta J. Ross: and what's beyond abortion? Because we're so caught up and still fighting the 19th century battle.

375

01:09:04.392 --> 01:09:08.432

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): I completely agree. I think, for me, the next

376

01:09:08.632 --> 01:09:20.401

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): big field that I'd like to really dig deep into is around the use of artificial intelligence and technology and public health. As Loretta was saying, I mean.

377

01:09:20.562 --> 01:09:41.631

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): we are here like it's here. Artificial intelligence is here, and it's going to transform how we do everything in our world. If you're not, you know, using Chat Gpt, in a couple years, you're going to be left behind. And so what does that mean for our education, our healthcare.

378

01:09:41.862 --> 01:09:49.492

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): and it's already being employed in healthcare settings in ways that we likely do not know.

379

01:09:49.632 --> 01:10:06.781

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): AI is being used to transcribe medical records, to make prediagnoses. And we need to be aware of how that's

going to affect, not just reproductive healthcare, but just healthcare in general. And how can the reproductive justice

380

01:10:07.072 --> 01:10:16.102

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): analysis include pieces of of work like the AI Technology digital divide

381

01:10:16.332 --> 01:10:36.942

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): that's already here. And it's going to become even more of a disparity as years and years go on. So I think that there to me I'm like, I'm like looking at you, Loretta, like. So when are we going to do it? When are we going to add another tenant? What's this? When are we going to get together? When's the brain trust? Because I just, I do think that there are

382

01:10:37.312 --> 01:10:48.051

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): 21st century problems that need to be specifically named and addressed, and if we don't do it soon, it's we're going to miss the moment.

383

01:10:52.542 --> 01:11:02.242

Loretta J. Ross: Can I do a small commercial and say that within a week or so we're going to issue a call for papers on Reproductive justice Futurisms.

384

01:11:02.352 --> 01:11:17.132

Loretta J. Ross: And so if you get the call, or we, you get the Cfp. Please share it widely, and I'm looking at you, Candace, because I want you to consider contributing to the Rjf. Anthology on the topic.

385

01:11:22.012 --> 01:11:36.472

Laura Prieto: We do have some questions from our audience. And we'll get it to as many of them as we can. If we don't get to yours. We will share that with the panelists and possibly get back to you afterwards.

386

01:11:36.472 --> 01:11:54.742

Laura Prieto: But one is a question about the actions that you would suggest the everyday person can take today, you know, to protect our healthcare access. You know. What? What could we do today and follow up? What longer term actions do you suggest

387

01:11:54.772 --> 01:11:58.742

Laura Prieto: that we take whether that's individually or like groups and movements

388

01:11:59.242 --> 01:12:00.861

Laura Prieto: that are out there, that we should.

389

01:12:01.382 --> 01:12:27.182

Carrie N Baker, she/her: So one thing that I would encourage people to do is to share information about [plancpills.org](http://plancpills.org), which is an amazing website that has information about how to access abortion, no matter where you live. It has information. It has a on the homepage, it has a drop down. Menu. You select your State or Territory, and it will tell you the nearest online, the nearest brick and mortar clinics

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01:12:27.182 --> 01:12:47.971

Carrie N Baker, she/her: which may entail traveling. Obviously, if you're in a band State. It will also tell you which. Telehealth providers serve your State, and if you're in a band state, you know there are 6 clinics that serve people in banned States. So it will give you details about that. It also has the community network that serve your state. So remember, I mentioned earlier, every

391

01:12:48.082 --> 01:13:01.172

Carrie N Baker, she/her: banner. Restrictive state has a community networks sharing abortion pills for free. So it has where you can get that. And it also lists vetted websites, e-commerce sites that sell pills

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01:13:01.172 --> 01:13:14.971

Carrie N Baker, she/her: for as little as \$65. So spread that word. Let folks know that exists. There are also support services for people self-managing their abortions, like the miscarriage and abortion hotline, the repro legal health.

393

01:13:14.972 --> 01:13:39.871

Carrie N Baker, she/her: helpline, and the legal if, when housed, legal support line. So there are a lot of resources out there. But we're facing an uphill battle because there's a lot of online censorship. And so the best way is through word of mouth, through community networks. There is a

whole network of doulas across the country, supporting people, self managing abortions.

394

01:13:39.992 --> 01:14:08.532

Carrie N Baker, she/her: So we need to spread this word, especially in states, with bans and restrictions, and especially in rural areas of states where it's legal, where people still may not know about how to access it. That's something everybody can do. You can share this information on your social media accounts. You can share it through your, you know, social groups, through your friends at work. And again, just sharing this information is so important. So I really encourage everybody to do that.

395

01:14:10.652 --> 01:14:30.271

Marlene Fried, she/her: You know. What I would add is also to keep an eye out. One of the things that that we do in our book is, tie the coercion, for you know, forcible reproduction, like coerced sterilization to abortion. So to keep an eye on what's happening

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01:14:30.352 --> 01:14:40.992

Marlene Fried, she/her: in the coercion arena, and some people have already noted that sterilization goes up as abortion becomes less accessible.

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01:14:41.042 --> 01:15:01.201

Marlene Fried, she/her: So, and and again, as with somebody asked something about the media quite a while ago in in the chat, and it we don't. We need to be the purveyors of information and knowledge, because so many people are just getting what they get from Fox.

398

01:15:01.302 --> 01:15:21.042

Marlene Fried, she/her: So we really need to spread the word about activism, about resistance. We don't even know how many things are going on that would uplift all of us, and then in particular, to be ready to blow whistles when we're seeing something.

399

01:15:21.162 --> 01:15:26.341

Marlene Fried, she/her: It really is true if you see something, say something, but we have to say it really, loudly.

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01:15:26.342 --> 01:15:29.871

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Now I just want to say mainstream media is a real disaster right now.

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01:15:29.872 --> 01:15:30.332

Marlene Fried, she/her: Is it.

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01:15:30.332 --> 01:15:51.001

Carrie N Baker, she/her: I mean, here's an example. I did this critique of a front page above the headline, above the fold story by the New York times trashing, planned parenthood. As Congress was preparing the budget to defend, to defund, planned parenthood, which will mean 200 clinics will close

403

01:15:51.002 --> 01:16:15.261

Carrie N Baker, she/her: many people lose access to care. And New York Times is spending its resources on maligning planned parenthood. It's not a perfect organization, but it's a massive organization. You can always find problems in a massive organization. Meanwhile they're not saying anything about crisis pregnancy centers which they're 2,700. And they're posed to replace planned parenthood

404

01:16:15.262 --> 01:16:40.251

Carrie N Baker, she/her: to take that title, 10 funding and that Medicaid funding that is disappearing to real reproductive health clinics and sending it to so that people won't have access to care at all, and that's what New York Times is spending its resources doing. So. I'm very frustrated by mainstream media. Either they don't get it or they misrepresent it. And that's why I think that resources like Ms magazine and other alternative

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01:16:40.252 --> 01:16:51.941

Carrie N Baker, she/her: media resources, are so important right now to provide a feminist perspective, because mainstream media does not have a feminist perspective. It's missing so much.

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01:16:53.342 --> 01:16:54.941

Loretta J. Ross: So let's be clear.

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01:16:55.942 --> 01:17:06.051

Loretta J. Ross: Their whole profit model is based upon hatred lies, I mean.

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01:17:06.192 --> 01:17:10.091

Loretta J. Ross: they love a trump because it keeps it keeps them in business.

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01:17:10.372 --> 01:17:15.422

Loretta J. Ross: even if it doesn't protect the democracy that they care they claim to care about.

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01:17:16.392 --> 01:17:24.251

Loretta J. Ross: And so, of course, they're going to give all of their attention to those things that they think will help their bottom line.

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01:17:26.472 --> 01:17:37.572

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): I completely agree. And if there's a silver lining, maybe it's not silver, maybe it's a gray lining is that young people aren't watching the mainstream media

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01:17:37.712 --> 01:17:40.622

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): at all. But the other

413

01:17:40.652 --> 01:18:08.851

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): equally daunting task is, how do you confront misinformation on social media and misinformation, on Tiktok and misinformation on podcasts. Just because you have a podcast doesn't mean that you're an expert does not mean that you know anything, that you have a degree that you have any lived experience. You're just saying words. You're just on Youtube. You just uploaded that video from your kitchen. That doesn't make you an expert. And so I think making that clear is

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01:18:08.882 --> 01:18:35.342

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): a lot of work that we need to do in in the movement, in the larger social justice movement about really navigating fact versus opinion. It's this misinformation. It's it's so rampant that even I am like, wait. Is that real like? Can I trust that photo like is that that doesn't look real. I see something that like even me, and I'm like even my work. I'll be like, did I didn't say that, did I say that? You know it's just

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01:18:35.362 --> 01:19:04.392

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): nothing is trustworthy right now which makes it even harder to get real information to people because you might give them the facts. And they're like. I don't. I don't know. I don't know the source right? So part of it is doing that. What Loretta said, those kitchen table conversations, those book clubs, those crochet knitting circles right and like knowing and trusting the source. And so building community and relationship, I think, is going to have to be a key way to get

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01:19:04.412 --> 01:19:27.631

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): true information out to people, because people are so skeptical of what they read online, either that or they just believe everything right. There is kind of like, no middle. And I'm in the skeptical corner where I'm like, I don't know about that. But I also think it's it's about doing your research right? So that's something that you can do right now is like.

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01:19:27.802 --> 01:19:53.851

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): Go do a social media cleanse. Go, do a cleanse like. Where are you getting your information? Can you actually audit your own intake of information like, where do you spend the most time? What websites do you go to? Who are those authors who are writing those pieces. Do you know anything about them? Because sometimes I even get into a mindset where I'm like, oh, I trust this source the New York Times. But

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01:19:53.962 --> 01:20:07.881

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): not anymore. Right? Like. Now, it's individual writers that I'm following because they've said very true evidence-based research and put those out into the world over years. And it's like, so we have to do that extra layer of work

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01:20:07.882 --> 01:20:31.702

Candace Bond-Theriault (she/hers): of auditing our own selves. And so that's something everyone on this call can go do tonight is, go back and look at their history and just say, Where do I spend my time? Where are the who are the people I go to watch. Who are the people I talk to? Who are? Am I thinking that I'm getting information from this show on Cnn, wait. Maybe that's just opinion, right? So, and doing some of that critical thinking for ourselves.

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01:20:40.772 --> 01:20:41.872

Loretta J. Ross: Marlene.

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01:20:42.302 --> 01:20:43.752

Laura Prieto: We're missing you, Marlene.

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01:20:44.292 --> 01:21:02.052

Marlene Fried, she/her: We go. There we go. I wanted to go back to the question about disability and reproductive justice. Yeah. And it's it was very hard in in the choice movement to disability. Choice was a hurdle

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01:21:02.182 --> 01:21:07.562

Marlene Fried, she/her: for people living with disabilities because the choice movement

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01:21:08.222 --> 01:21:23.442

Marlene Fried, she/her: made a lot of the ability to have a normal child and not and blah blah, and and to sort of demonize disability or capitalize on on negative images and stereotypes.

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01:21:23.582 --> 01:21:29.402

Marlene Fried, she/her: Disability, reproductive justice, I think, has a really good bridge to disability justice.

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01:21:29.732 --> 01:21:52.822

Marlene Fried, she/her: and it opens it up in a way that had not been opened up before. So, and it's actually a fair amount written about the connections between disability, justice, and reproductive justice people who are crossing that bridge all the time, so I can't remember who said that somebody back here. But if you write to me separately, I will give you some sources.

427

01:21:53.552 --> 01:22:15.252

Laura Prieto: Yeah, that's a question that I'm seeing in the Q. And a. That Marlene's referring to. Could you speak about disabled women and reproductive justice. How much are disabled women addressed in your work and activism, and how are disabled women engaged in these issues? How is the outreach happening if anyone else would like to speak to that.

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01:22:15.592 --> 01:22:26.542

Loretta J. Ross: Well, 2 scholar activists that I recommend is Mia Mingus, who's also an amazing transformative justice

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01:22:26.772 --> 01:22:35.267

Loretta J. Ross: activist and Rosemary Garland, Thomas Thompson. Is it military garland Thompson, who

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01:22:36.002 --> 01:22:47.482

Loretta J. Ross: is retired from Emory University, but one of the leading scholar activists on disability justice issues, and

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01:22:47.722 --> 01:22:56.401

Loretta J. Ross: Rosemary Rosemary Rosemary, however, I keep messing up her name came to our reproductive Justice Futurisms Conference

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01:22:56.532 --> 01:22:59.561

Loretta J. Ross: to talk about the rights of the disabled

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01:22:59.792 --> 01:23:04.932

Loretta J. Ross: through looking through the Rj. Lens projected into the future.

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01:23:11.076 --> 01:23:16.597

Laura Prieto: Another question I want to pick up on from the audience asks what

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01:23:17.332 --> 01:23:28.414

Laura Prieto: whether we should be organizing separately or and stealthily or collaboratively together. What?

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01:23:32.092 --> 01:23:36.732

Laura Prieto: what your thoughts are on strategies of

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01:23:38.032 --> 01:23:45.311

Laura Prieto: now I've lost it. Unfortunately. Yeah. Are we more powerful as separate clandestine units? Or should we

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01:23:45.562 --> 01:23:51.422

Laura Prieto: be strong, would we be stronger if we had a common organizational unity in our efforts.

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01:23:52.092 --> 01:23:54.901

Loretta J. Ross: Well, I don't know if that's a real question.

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01:23:55.002 --> 01:24:08.531

Loretta J. Ross: I mean, the Women's movement is not everybody joining now the national Organization for Women. It's about many different people who fight patriarchy in their own ways, but

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01:24:08.752 --> 01:24:13.281

Loretta J. Ross: can come together strategically at important points in time.

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01:24:13.652 --> 01:24:34.022

Loretta J. Ross: And so I'm not sure if what we want everybody in the same organization. I don't think so. I think it's more important for our strategies not to get in each other's way rather than us belonging to the same organization, and particularly when those organizations use that charismatic leader model

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01:24:34.382 --> 01:24:38.672

Loretta J. Ross: that can be problematic as well. So I'm not quite sure.

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01:24:40.362 --> 01:24:43.412

Loretta J. Ross: And then the whole question of stealth organizing.

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01:24:43.572 --> 01:24:49.012

Loretta J. Ross: I mean, unless you're running an underground, you know, resistance movement for armed struggle.

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01:24:49.453 --> 01:24:52.022

Loretta J. Ross: I'm not quite sure why you would want

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01:24:52.432 --> 01:25:00.351

Loretta J. Ross: to to believe in a stealth organizing campaign, and, let me say, under fascism, it ain't gonna protect you, anyway.

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01:25:00.792 --> 01:25:05.162

Loretta J. Ross: So why would you not be able to be clear with your base

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01:25:05.382 --> 01:25:09.602

Loretta J. Ross: when your reason for being stealthy in the 1st place, ain't gonna work.

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01:25:10.872 --> 01:25:25.162

Carrie N Baker, she/her: So I will say, with abortion pills. They are independent networks in each State. They have to be very careful, because they are extra legal organizations that said they are networked

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01:25:25.162 --> 01:25:45.422

Carrie N Baker, she/her: through a couple networks like redstateaccess.org. If you go to their website they will have a list of all the emails that you email in each state to contact that community network. But they have to be very careful about how they are connected. And

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01:25:45.622 --> 01:26:03.941

Carrie N Baker, she/her: you know that they're secure. And so that's an example I think, of where you know you have to. There is nationwide coordination. But there's also a lot of independence at the local level because they're dealing with, you know, a situation where they could be criminalized.

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01:26:07.382 --> 01:26:12.041

Loretta J. Ross: But at this point everything's going to be criminalized. See? I'm not saying that that

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01:26:12.142 --> 01:26:17.992

Loretta J. Ross: not a good thing that they're operating this way, but that's under the old paradigm.

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01:26:18.102 --> 01:26:23.561

Loretta J. Ross: where we had, where we had somewhat belief in the Department of Justice that wasn't serving

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01:26:23.812 --> 01:26:27.462

Loretta J. Ross: as the Administration's personal law enforcement.

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01:26:27.952 --> 01:26:35.752

Loretta J. Ross: Right now everything will be criminalized that the President doesn't like.

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01:26:36.882 --> 01:26:40.941

Loretta J. Ross: and under those circumstances we can't just assume

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01:26:41.472 --> 01:26:48.342

Loretta J. Ross: that the rules that we grew up with are the ones that are going to be implemented. Now.

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01:26:49.852 --> 01:26:56.412

Loretta J. Ross: I don't want to sound too alarmist, but it is unprecedented.

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01:26:57.012 --> 01:27:01.271

Loretta J. Ross: at least in the 20th and 21st century what we're dealing with now.

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01:27:02.812 --> 01:27:10.651

Loretta J. Ross: And so we should probably take our lessons from the people of Chile and other places that have survived dictatorships

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01:27:11.412 --> 01:27:18.782

Loretta J. Ross: rather than thinking anything from our liberal historical perspective is going to be the answer for right now.

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01:27:20.382 --> 01:27:28.212

Carrie N Baker, she/her: I wanted to raise one other campaign. That, I think, is really important right now, which is the effort to combat crisis pregnancy centers.

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01:27:28.362 --> 01:27:30.252

Carrie N Baker, she/her: There are grassroots.

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01:27:30.402 --> 01:27:40.621

Carrie N Baker, she/her: groups across the nation working to address the disinformation, the theft of public funds, with no accountability or transparency.

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01:27:40.772 --> 01:27:49.792

Carrie N Baker, she/her: and the danger that these centers pose to people who go to them thinking they're real reproductive health clinics. And

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01:27:49.792 --> 01:28:16.731

Carrie N Baker, she/her: we are working on creating a nationwide network to share resources. This is based out of Chicago. It's reproductive transparency. Now, if you want to try to plug into that, or you have a local campaign, but you want to try to get ideas from people working in other States. There is so much creative amazing activism going on to try to raise people's awareness about these fake clinics and to hold them legally accountable.

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01:28:16.732 --> 01:28:41.711

Carrie N Baker, she/her: They are taking people's medical information, claiming that it will be hipaa protected and then sharing it with national anti-abortion organizations. There's evidence that they're sharing people's information with the police to criminalize them for people that are accessing abortion. There's also, you know, information where, you know, like here in Massachusetts. There was just a class action lawsuit against a Cpc. That told a woman a ectopic pregnancy

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01:28:41.712 --> 01:28:47.442

Carrie N Baker, she/her: was in utero. She ended up in the emergency room. Her Fallopian tube burst.

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01:28:47.442 --> 01:29:13.891

Carrie N Baker, she/her: She almost died. She brought a class action lawsuit against this crisis pregnancy center, clearway clinic in Worcester and got a settlement. This was really groundbreaking. I just wrote a piece about this for Ms. I'll drop it in the chat. But you know there is a lot of really amazing work going on, but we are trying to connect across State so that we can support each other. And so I'll drop that story in the box.

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01:29:16.502 --> 01:29:18.961

Loretta J. Ross: Thank you, Carrie. You always remind me

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01:29:19.242 --> 01:29:22.501

Loretta J. Ross: that there's something you can do immediately. Right now.

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01:29:22.862 --> 01:29:23.522

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Yeah.

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01:29:23.792 --> 01:29:24.922

Laura Prieto: Absolutely.

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01:29:26.733 --> 01:29:38.992

Laura Prieto: Well, I think we're at time sadly. It's really flown by. Thank you. To our wonderful panelists, Loretta, Marlene, Candace, and Carrie. Thank you so much

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01:29:38.992 --> 01:30:02.402

Laura Prieto: to our audience for joining us for the really animated discussion going on in the chat, and lots of resources being shared. So we'll capture all those. And this message of informing ourselves and then helping to spread that information to others is really core to the mission of what our bodies ourselves is still doing. Over 50 years later.

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01:30:02.769 --> 01:30:04.972

Laura Prieto: We hope that you will all

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01:30:04.972 --> 01:30:12.832

Laura Prieto: keep reading and discussing and working for reproductive justice with us. If you appreciated tonight's

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01:30:12.912 --> 01:30:25.691

Laura Prieto: event. We hope you'll also consider donating to our bodies ourselves, maybe what you would have paid for a ticket to help support these programs and to help us bring more programs like this to you.

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01:30:25.692 --> 01:30:45.601

Laura Prieto: So thank you. A zoom round of applause for our panelists, and we hope to see you again soon. Our next event is on June 12.th We're going to do a film screening and panel discussion of documentary film. Fannie Lou Hamer's America. So hope to see you soon. Thanks again for joining us.

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01:30:45.602 --> 01:30:46.661

Loretta J. Ross: Thank you so much.

483

01:30:46.662 --> 01:30:49.692

Carrie N Baker, she/her: Lauren. Thanks everyone else. Great to see you all.