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Understanding Reproductive Justice Toolkit

This toolkit was sourced and curated by Rachel Hicks as a resource of Global Foundation for Girls via the Black Velvet Collective. There is a subsequent presentation that goes along with this particular toolkit. If there is interest in utilizing the Presentation, along with the toolkit, please email Rachel Hicks at theblackvelvetcollective@gmail.com.

DEFINING TERMS

- **Reproductive Justice** - SisterSong defines Reproductive Justice as the human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.
- **Gender Diversity** - an umbrella term that is used to describe gender identities that demonstrate a diversity of expression beyond the binary framework.
- **Identity** - the qualities, beliefs, etc. that make a particular person or group different from others. (i.e.: race, gender, etc.)
- **Radical Inclusion** - "the intentional inclusion of all persons; especially people who have traditionally lived at the margins of society," as defined by a group called RoC Fellowship.

ISSUE IMPACT

- **The Reproductive Justice movement** has many intersections. In order to build momentum within the reproductive movement, there must be an understanding of where discrimination and privilege can exist among the combination of a person's political and social identities.
- **Discriminatory and punitive policy** directly infringes upon the reproductive rights of all people. Policy reformation is a popular solution to addressing issues impacting reproductive justice.

- **Reproductive rights** are human rights. Utilizing the universally accepted human rights framework coined by the United Nations, the reproductive justice movement is directly connected to human rights.
- **The reproductive justice movement** is a framework that includes all individuals, regardless of how they identify, as it works to protect their reproductive rights.

INTERSECTIONAL SOLUTIONS

- **Reproductive Justice spaces** must address issues equitably, foster radical inclusivity, and uplift gender and racial diversity.
- **Access to resources**, such as gender expansive and inclusive healthcare, is key. Without adequate access to resources, many birthing people's reproductive rights are being infringed upon.
- **Reproductive rights/justice organizations** must support and advocate for their workers as they do their constituents. Reproductive justice organizations within the US are unionizing swiftly and demanding equitable, inclusive, and safe workplaces.
- **Reproductive justice is interconnected to all justice movements:** an intersectional framework is the best solution for navigating and building momentum in the movement.

RESOURCES

Choosing to do the work of education is a huge first step! Here are some resources to help you on your reproductive justice journey.

- **Herstory of Reproductive Justice:** <https://www.sistersong.net/reproductive-justice>
- **Reproductive Justice, In Our Own Voice:** <https://blackrj.org/our-issues/reproductive-justice/>
- **Women Of Color Speak Out Against The Whitewashing Of Reproductive Justice:** <https://www.elle.com/culture/career-politics/a33251077/intersectional-reproductive-justice-movement/>
- **What is Gender Diversity?:** <https://genderrights.org.au/information-hub/what-is-gender-diversity/>
- **The Many Intersections of Reproductive Justice:** <https://thehumanist.com/magazine/features/the-many-intersections-of-reproductive-justice/>
- **Applying an Intersectional Analysis to Reproductive Justice and Other Forms of Oppression: Collaborating Across Movements and Issues:** <https://vawnet.org/sc/reproductive-justice-building-upon-reproductive-health-and-reproductive-rights#:~:text=The%20reproductive%20justice%20movement%20works,classism%2C%20ableism%2C%20and%20others.>

- **Fact Sheet: Immigration Policy and Reproductive Justice:**
<https://www.americanprogress.org/article/fact-sheet-immigration-policy-and-reproductive-justice/>
- **Reproductive Justice is the Right to Self-determine, Monica Simpson, SisterSong:**
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RfRUXCG2cE4>
- **If You Really Care about Reproductive Justice You Should Care About Transgender Rights!** http://nwlc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/rj_and_transgender_fact_sheet.pdf
- **We Need to Talk about Disability as a Reproductive Justice Issue:**
<https://austinuu.org/wp2013/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/We-Need-To-Talk-About-Disability-as-RJ-Issue.pdf>
- **Women and poverty: the effects on reproductive status:**
<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/3448825/>
- **Black Reproductive Policy Agenda:** <https://blackrj.org/blackrjpolicy/>
- **Radical Inclusion: including those who disagree with us:**
<https://difference-works.com/11196-2/#:~:text=And%20there%20is%20a%20group,sexual%20expression%20challenges%20binary%20norms.>