

Technical Rhetorics and Reproductive Justice | Rights | Health



Reproductive Justice

DEFINITION

The human right to maintain personal control over our bodies, life decisions, sexuality, gender identity, and the choice to reproduce.

DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTION

Disciplines in technical rhetorics are well positioned to take up inclusive and intersectional reproductive justice-informed projects. These disciplines allow for analyses that center on the lived experiences of those who are involved in systems of reproductive care, while also considering how these same systems have excluded marginalized populations from the dominant narratives that often fuel reproductive rights movements.

Opportunities for Rhetorical Action

Use critical and inclusive language in research and writing

Choose non-institutional artifacts of study

Aim to dismantle dominate and problematic discourses through research and writing

Recognize lived experiences and coalition-building in marginalized communities



Reproductive Rights



DEFINITION

The legal right of individuals to reproductive healthcare services and education with a specific focus on the belief that abortion, contraceptives, sexual education, and family planning should be safe, legal, and accessible.

DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTION

Disciplines in technical rhetorics provide a lens for examining the language of laws, legislative proposals, and judicial opinions. They can also examine the implementation of such laws and legal decisions and how they shape (or fail to shape) policies and practices of localities and organizations. Finally, these disciplinary areas can inform and theorize activist discourses, protest practices, and organized political campaigning.

Opportunities for Rhetorical Action

Organize letter writing, phone banking, and other contact campaigns to voice concerns about legislation and judicial opinions.

Translate or represent complex legal or judicial texts for broader audiences, researching and contextualizing the Info.

Strategize messaging and protest techniques for rhetorical effect and to maximize persuasive Impact. Employ written, oral, and visual rhetoric.

Investigate the discourse, policies, and practices of organizations and institutions for how they maintain or compromise rights.



Reproductive Health

DEFINITION

The physical, mental, and emotional well-being in matters connected to reproduction and sexuality, typically facilitated through access to comprehensive medical care and education.

DISCIPLINARY INTERVENTION

Disciplines in technical rhetorics can examine how "reproductive health" is defined and can help theorize the impacts of rhetorical and linguistic choices made by healthcare providers and consumers. It can provide strategies for more effective healthcare communication and more comprehensive and effective reproductive and sexual healthcare education and advocacy.

Opportunities for Rhetorical Action

Create healthcare communication documents to inform and help individuals navigate healthcare issues and institutions.

Design educational workshops and curricula for both patients and providers. Disseminate info in accessible ways.

Protest systems, individuals, and entities that contribute to health disparities, and oppress or erase individuals.

Build digital and face-to-face networks for individuals to find community, share resources, and share experiences.



Technical Rhetorics Scholarship on RJ, RR, & RH



Reproductive Justice



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Texts with a focus on methodological approaches in technical rhetorics are marked with an asterisk (*).