

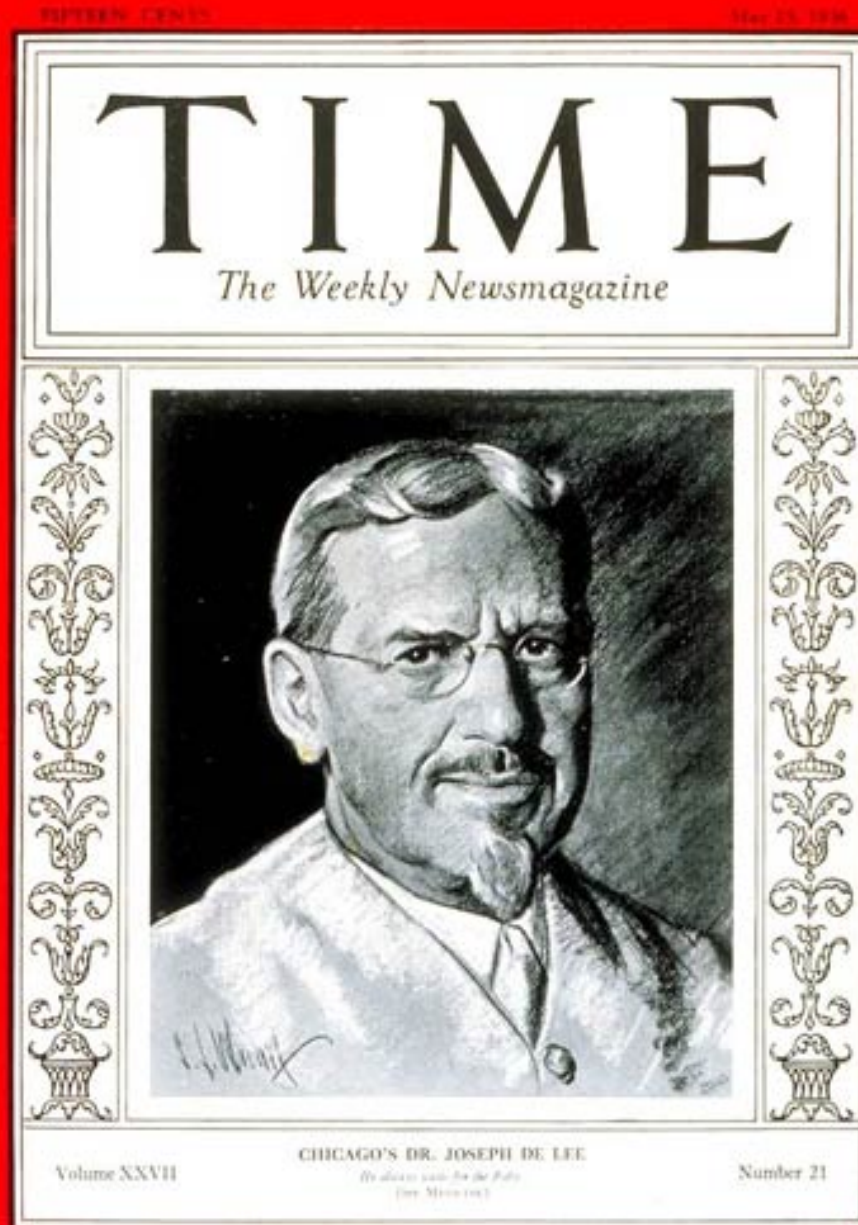
Making the Midwife Possible

Indra Wood Lusero, for AABC, October 2020



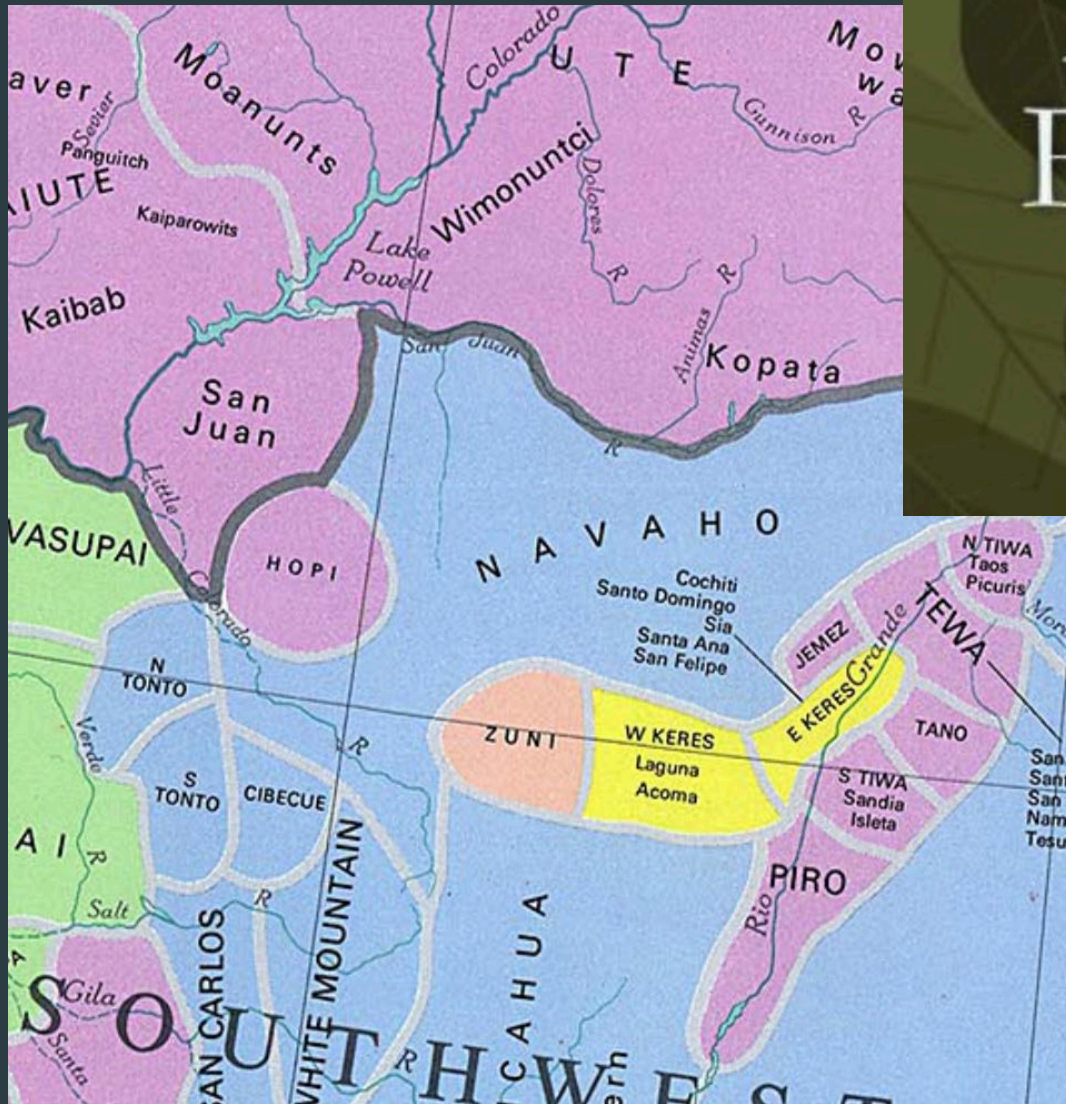
“If the profession would realize that parturition viewed with modern eyes is no longer a normal function, but has imposing pathologic dignity, the midwife would be impossible even of mention”

- Joseph DeLee



The Lucero de Godoy Family of New Mexico

From the Founder Maese de Campo
Pedro Lucero de Godoy
Through the Seventh Generation





Diana Taylor: <https://profession.mla.org/dancing-with-the-zapatistas/>





it does require a reordering of power and priorities



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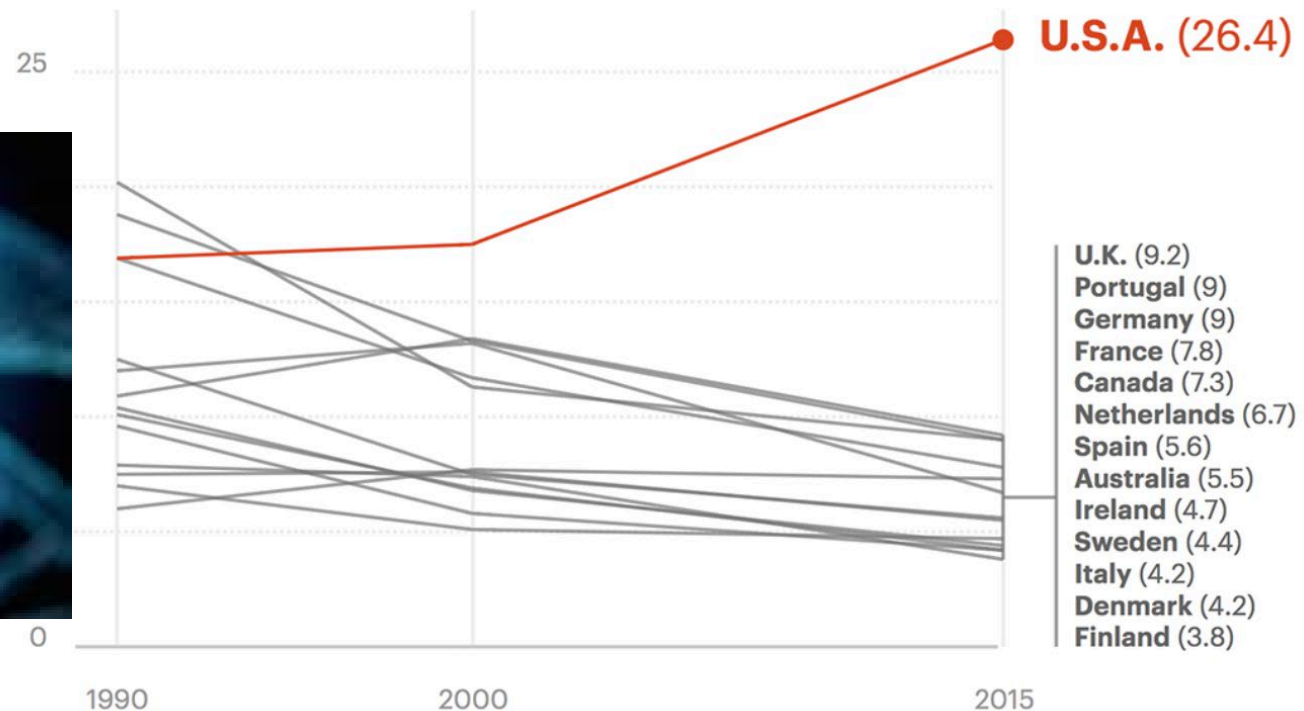
U.S. Has The Worst Rate Of Maternal Deaths In The Developed World

May 12, 2017 · 10:28 AM ET

NINA MARTIN, PROPUBLICA

Maternal Mortality Is Rising in the U.S. As It Declines Elsewhere

Deaths per 100,000 live births



MEDICAL BONDAGE

Race,
Gender, and
the Origins of
American
Gynecology

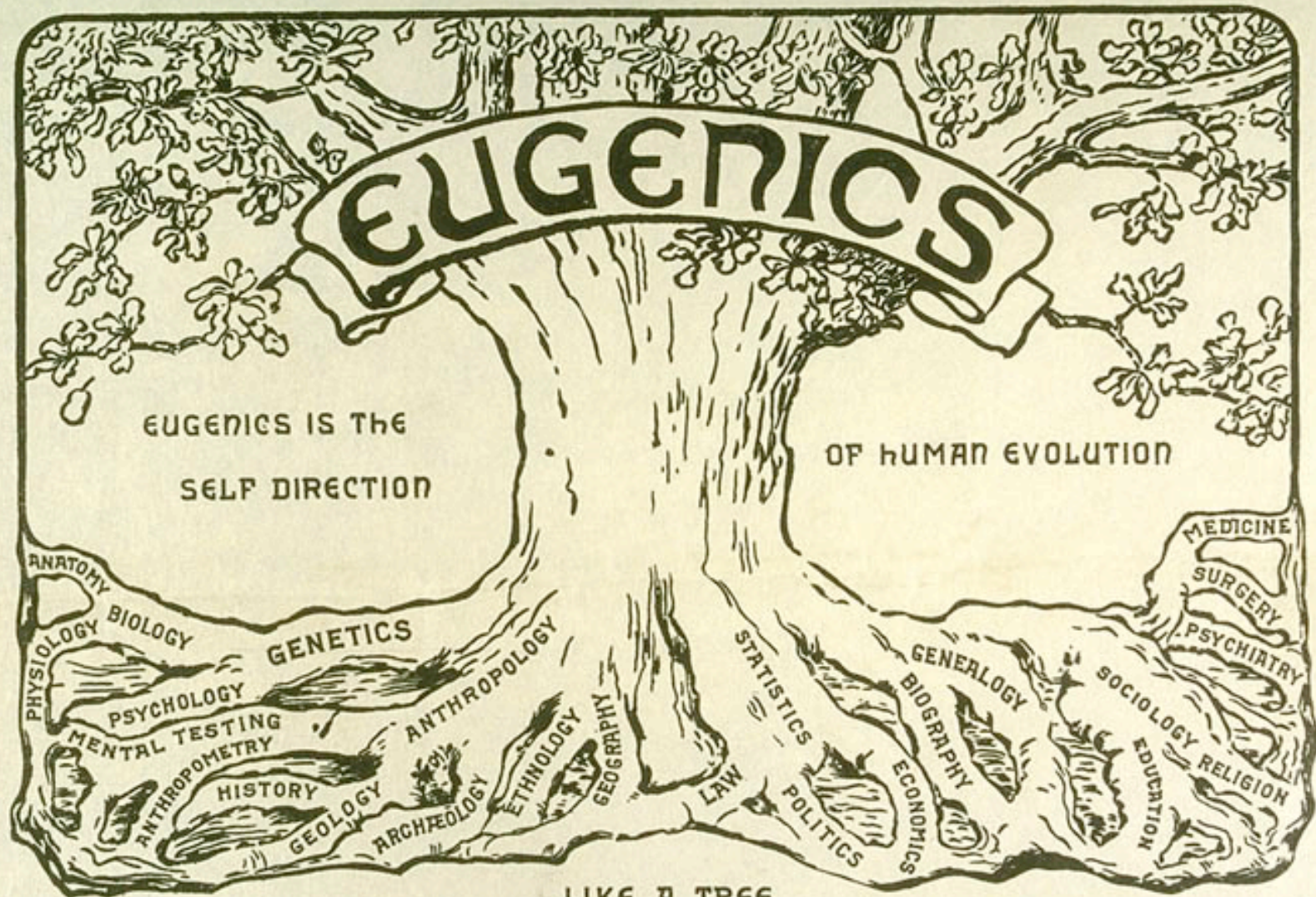
DEIDRE COOPER OWENS

HERMAPHRODITES

and the Medical Invention of Sex



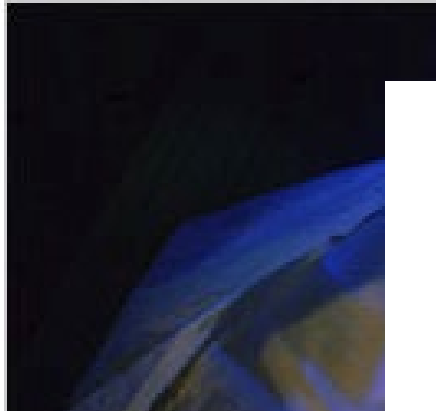
Alice Domurat Dreger



LIKE A TREE
EUGENICS DRAWS ITS MATERIALS FROM MANY SOURCES AND ORGANIZES
THEM INTO AN HARMONIOUS ENTITY.



The Epidem



Oxytot

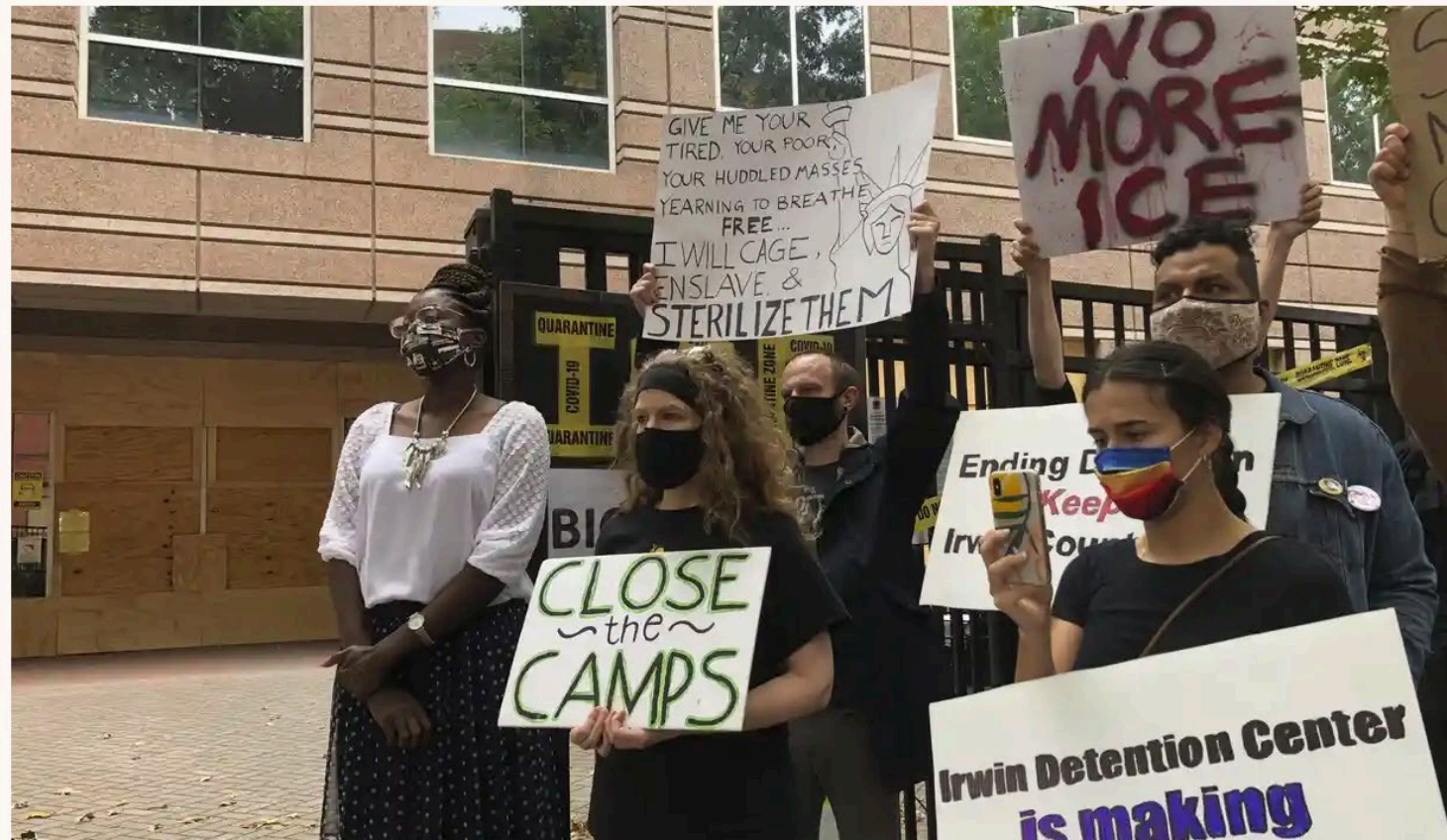
Instead of lea
era, we're repe

By LIBBY COPELAN

Ice hysterectomy allegations in line with US's long and racist history of eugenics

Moira Donegan

Forced sterilizations were endorsed by a supreme court ruling and have been repeatedly imposed on women of color



Scare

ut An urgery o

wford has settled
eir intersex son.

No... I'm just - I have experience. This is my fourth pregnancy. If I had been going to a doctor... I know what they would have done medically for me.

I at all costs wanted to make sure I had custody of my babies.

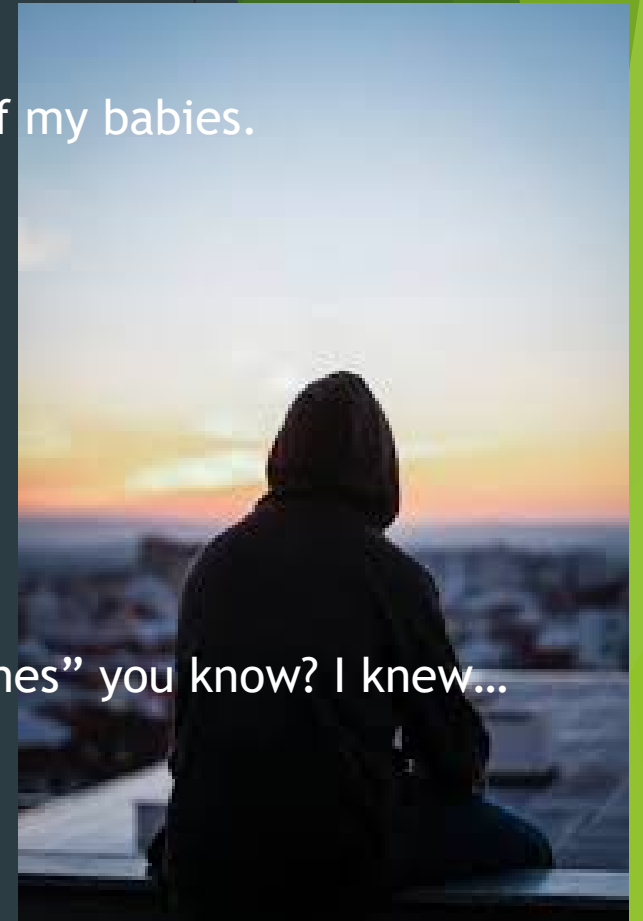
I was trusting in my own body.

You never know if you're at the hospital or at home, things happen that you can't predict.

There came a time where I just quit listening to her... I'm like "here he comes" you know? I knew...

Is he ok?...

And she assured me, "Momma, if you're worried about him being able to breathe just look at his lungs. That's when he started crying.



I didn't put him down the whole time. I never once put him down. And I kissed his face a million times....

I'm his mother. I wanted him to eat and gain his weight so he would survive.

I thought he was perfect.

I just was mothering him.



Junk Science: the crack baby myth

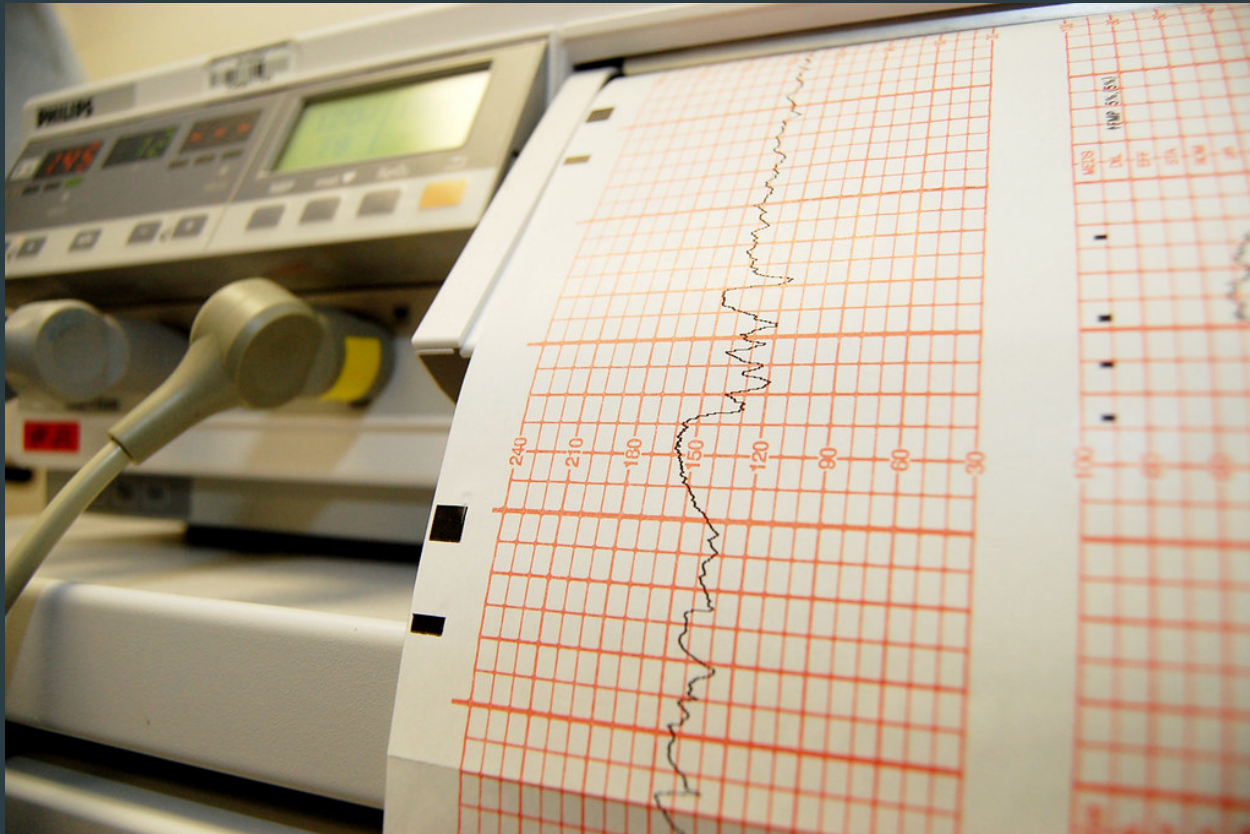
The Epidemic That Wasn't



“Many recall that ‘crack babies,’ or babies born to mothers who used crack cocaine while pregnant, were at one time written off by many as a lost generation It was later found that this was a gross exaggeration.”

-Nat'l Institute on Drug Abuse, Research Report, Cocaine: Abuse and Addiction 6 (May 2009)

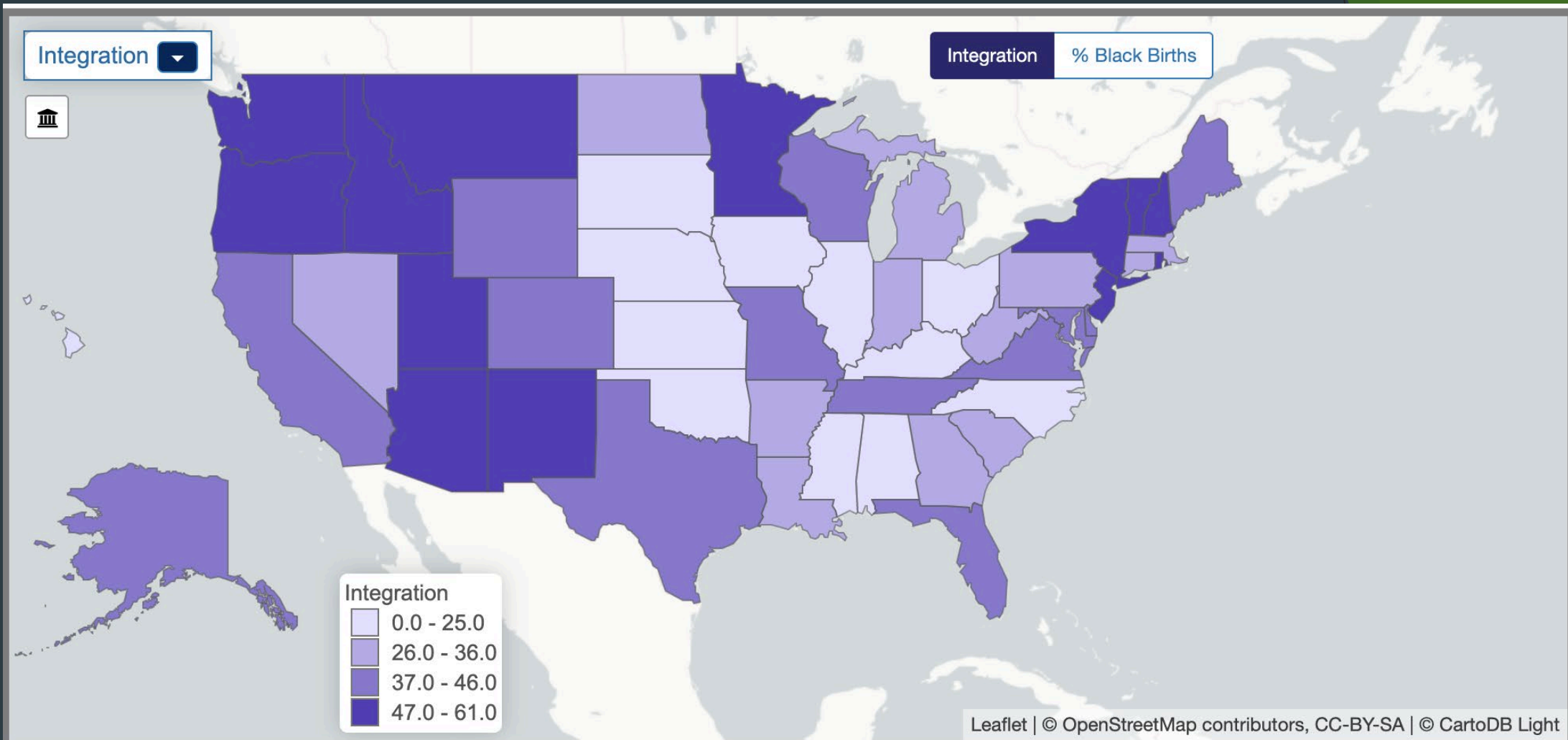
Junk Science: pregnancy in general



EFM for predicting cerebral palsy it has a false positive rate of 99.8%

EFM is used in 90% of pregnancies in the United States.

Continuous electronic fetal heart rate monitoring was introduced into hospitals in the 1970s without evidence from clinical trials, but with a strong marketing push from the monitoring industry

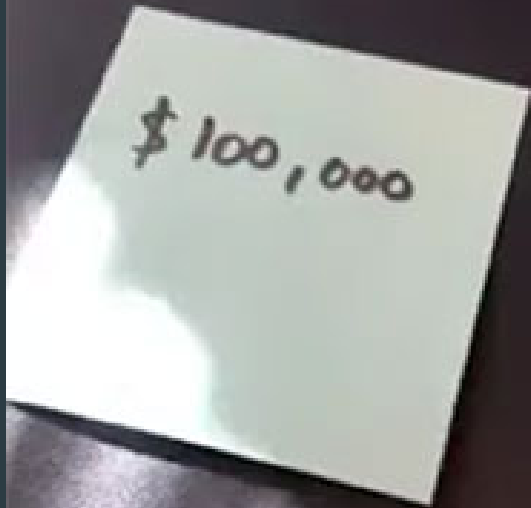


Integration	Cesarean	Induction	Low Birth Weight	Premature Birth	Neonatal Mortality	Physiologic Birth	VBAC
Breastfeeding at birth	Breastfeeding at 6 months	% Change in Community births 04-12	CPM licensure	CM licensure			



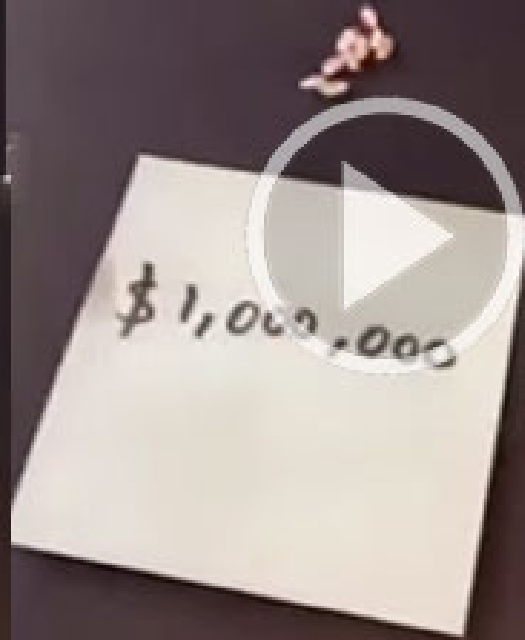
<https://www.birthplacelab.org/maps/>

Childbirth Connections
\$500,000



Diabetes Association
84 Million

ACOG 44 Million
ACNM 3 Million



Cancer Society
1.3 Billion

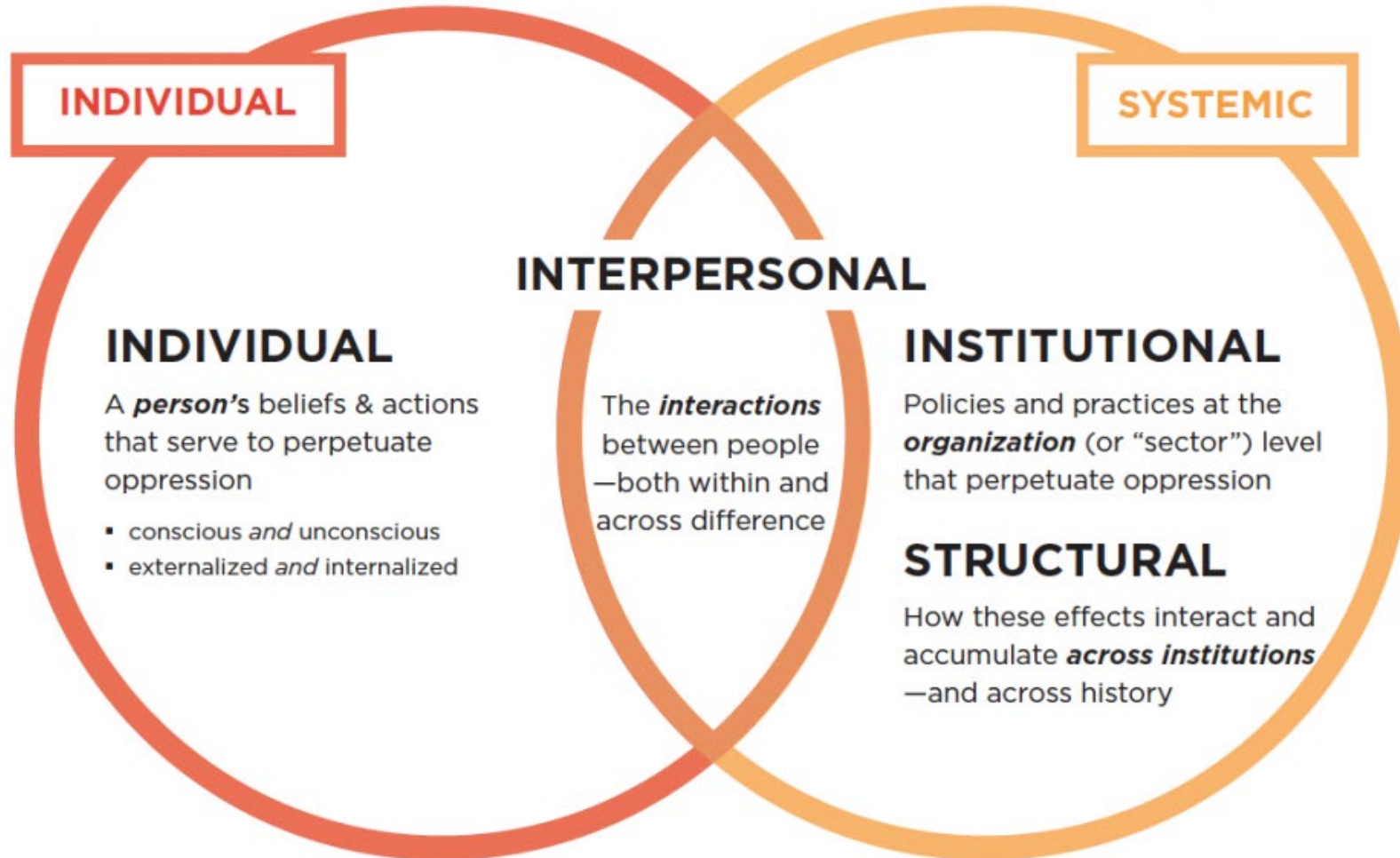


<https://www.tiktok.com/@humphreytalks>

What is Reproductive Justice?



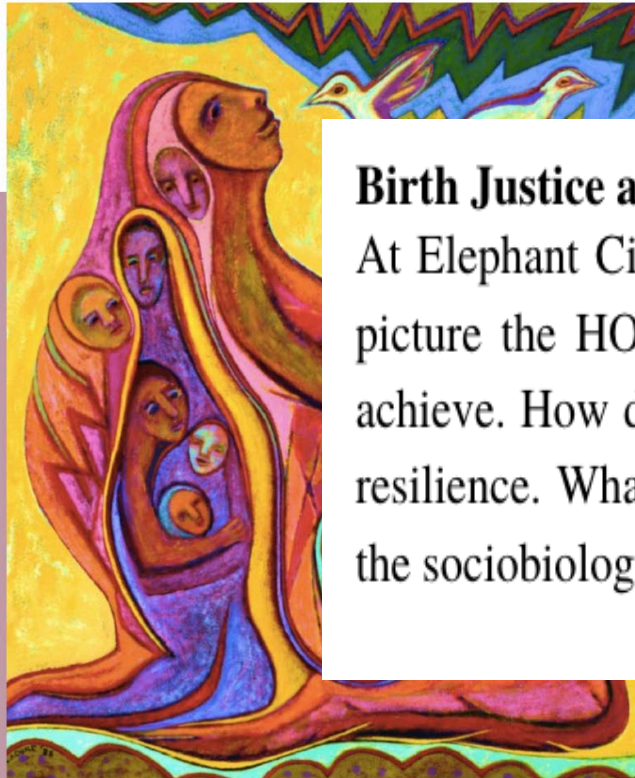
Reproductive Health	Reproductive Rights	Reproductive Justice
Sees the problem as a lack of access to health services, lack of information about health services, a lack of accurate health data	Sees the problem as a lack of legal protection or lack of laws protecting individual's rights.	Sees the problem as self-determination being limited by power inequities across multiple systems.



From the National Equity Project

FUNDING EQUITY

Birth Justice and Human Rights in Maternal and Infant Health



Jamaica Tomorrow
by Betty LaDuke // 1986

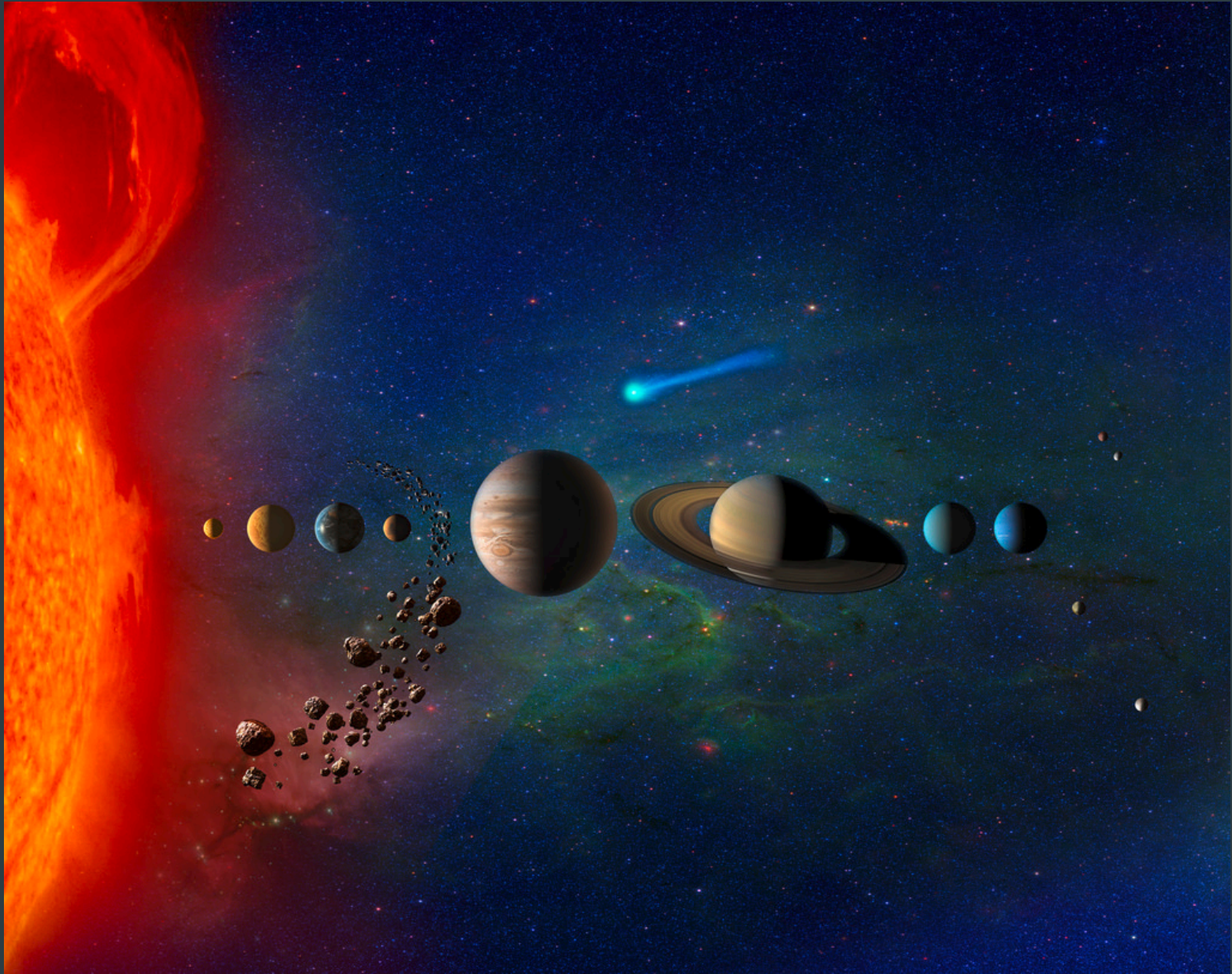
Birth Justice at Work: The How and the What

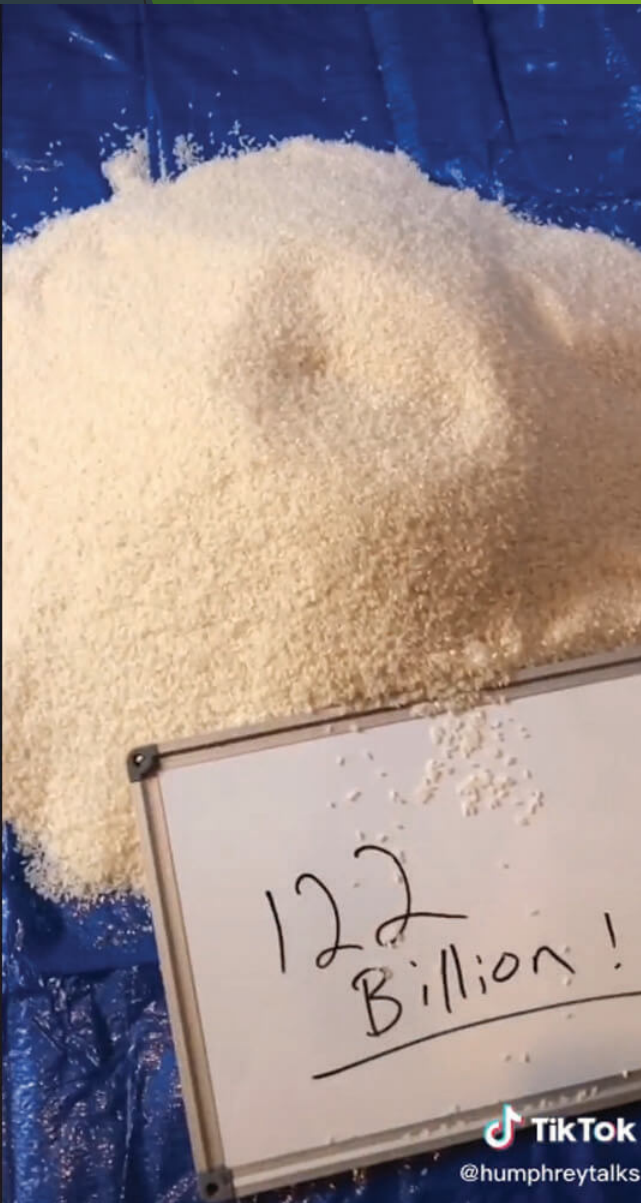
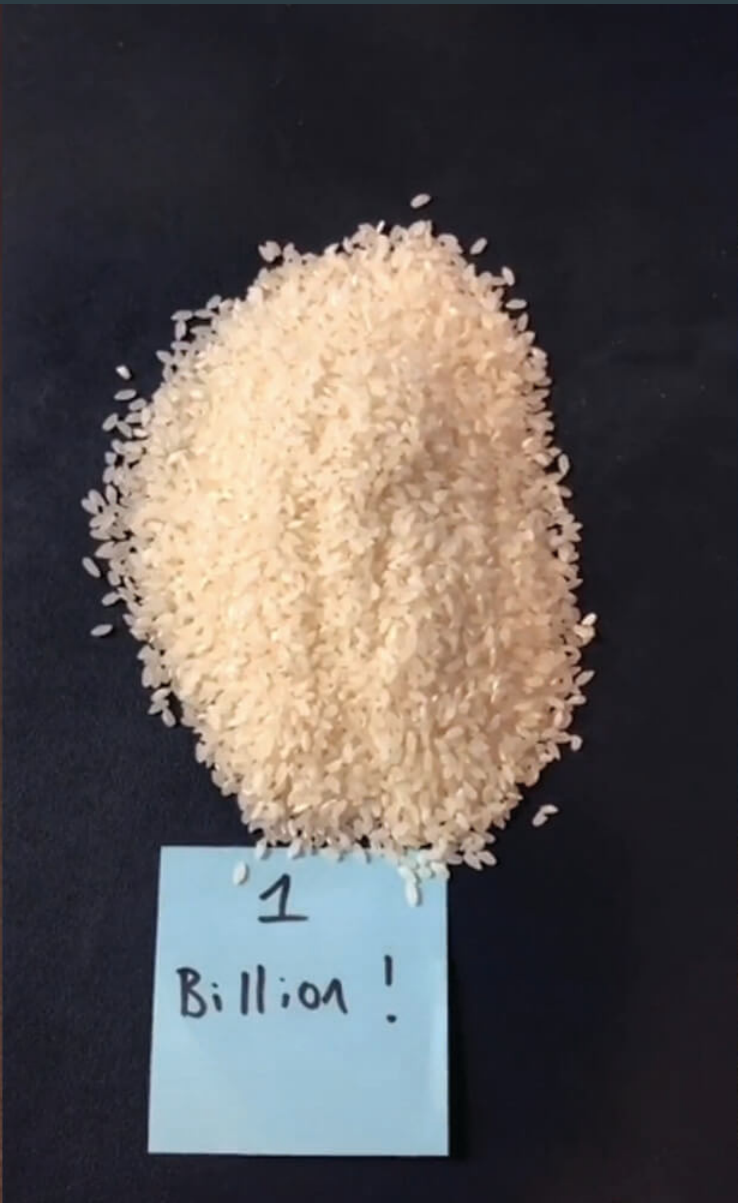
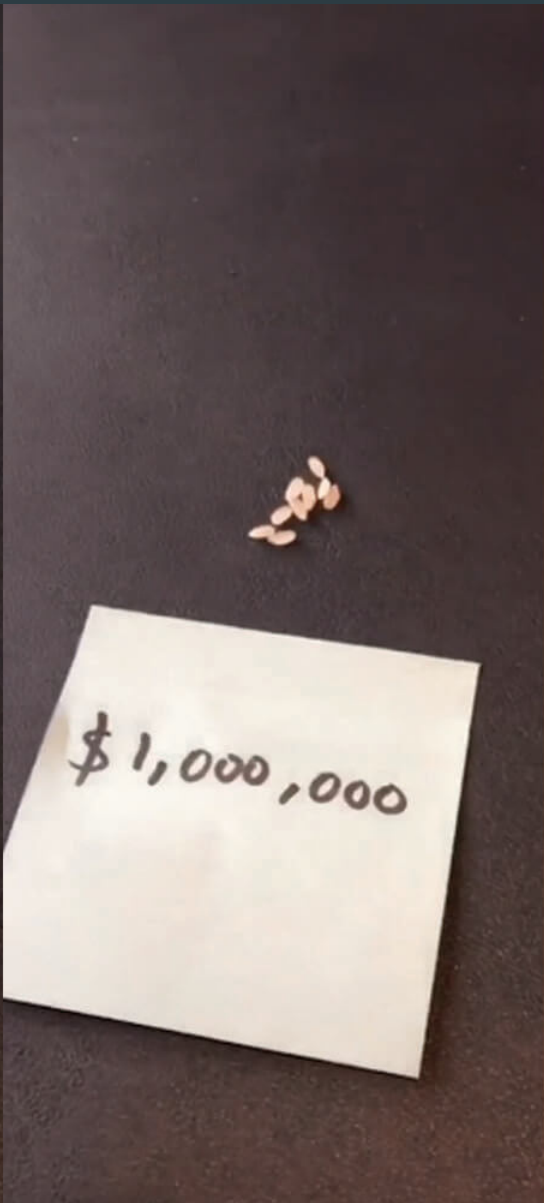
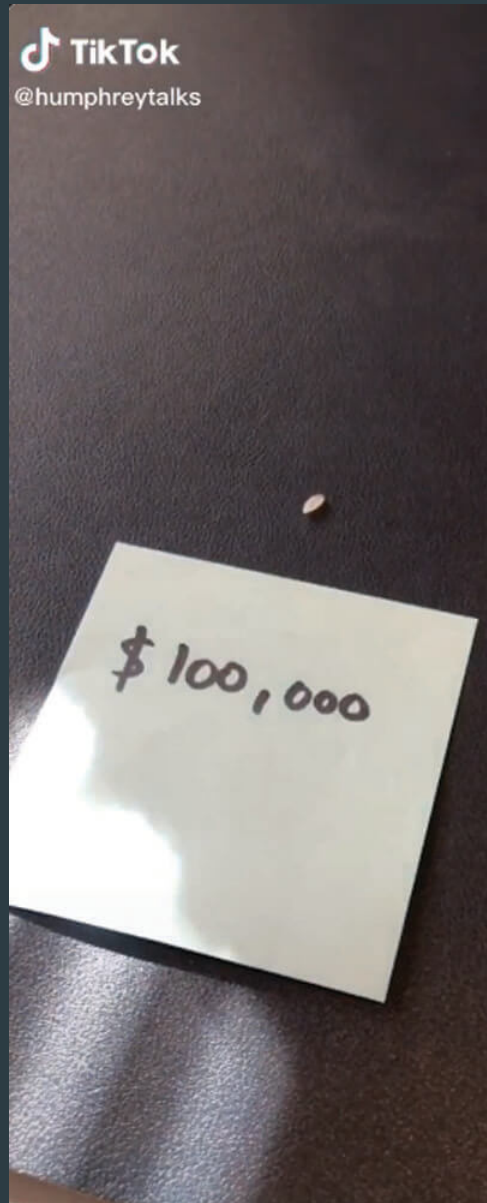
At Elephant Circle we prioritize the Birth Justice approach. When we think about Birth Justice we picture the HOW and the WHAT. How we achieve birth justice is just as important as what we achieve. How do we get there? By tackling power and oppression through strategies for change and resilience. What do we need to get there? Expertise in the health care system, the legal system, and the sociobiology of the perinatal period.

featuring

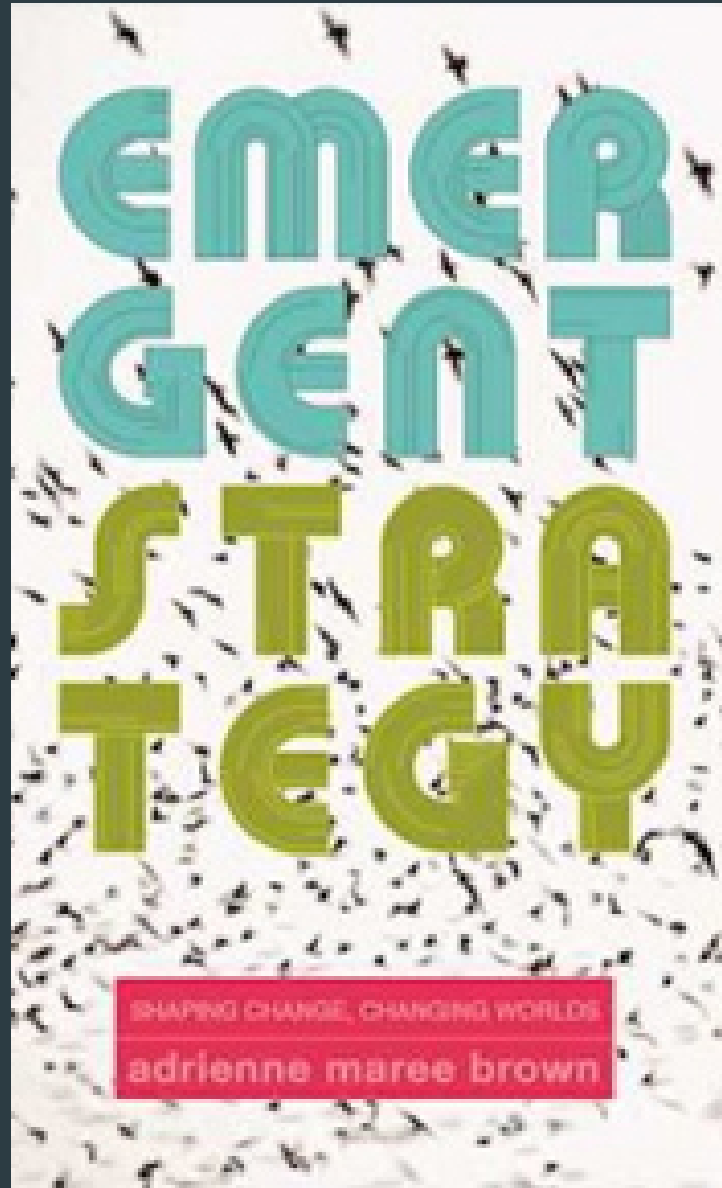
POSITION PAPERS ON THE CRITICAL ROLE OF FUNDERS IN
PROMOTING BIRTH JUSTICE IN THE U.S. AND WORLDWIDE

NOVEMBER 2019





“small actions
and
connections
create
complex
systems”





The Midwives Model of Care includes:

- ▶ Monitoring the physical, **psychological**, and **social well-being** of the **mother** throughout the childbearing cycle
- ▶ Providing the **mother** with **individualized** education, counseling, and prenatal care, continuous hands-on assistance during labor and delivery, and postpartum support
- ▶ Minimizing technological interventions
- ▶ Identifying and referring **women** who require obstetrical attention

▶ So that humanity continues.

How	What
Trust Black Women.	Support policy positions that counteract monopolies.
Read Emergent Strategy.	Fight corruption.
Practice humility.	Decolonize.

It does require a reordering of power and priorities



so that humanity continues...