

The Begemann – Gordon Lecture Series

“Sometimes a private matter needs public support:” Reproductive Justice in Comparative Context: Ireland/US

A Special Talk with Beth Sundstrom

In this lecture, Dr. Sundstrom will discuss the role of women’s health activism in Ireland and the U.S. to build a reproductive justice movement. She will highlight the understudied roles of women’s health activists, who have redefined women’s health and reproduction, making them central concerns in Irish society and government. Dr. Sundstrom will share research that emerged from her Fulbright grant in Ireland to examine gender, science and technology in the global movement for women’s autonomy. The Irish case illustrates how women’s narratives and stories served as the central focus of the reproductive justice movement, engaging with a variety of media outlets, particularly social media, to spread their message. This analysis challenges the nature/culture dualism and highlights the possibilities of empowerment through technology in women’s health.

Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022

5 p.m.

Peabody Auditorium

Beth Sundstrom, Ph.D., M.P.H. is an associate professor of communication and public health at the College of Charleston, South Carolina USA where she is the Director of the Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (URCA) and Director of the Women’s Health Research Team (WHRT). Dr. Sundstrom is the recipient of the 2022 South Carolina Immunization Champion *Innovation Award* and the 2018 William V. Moore Distinguished Teacher-Scholar Award. She conducts applied research that informs the development of



community-based public health interventions and nationally recognized communication campaigns. Dr. Sundstrom is a Fulbright U.S. Scholar Research Grant recipient and a leading expert on health communication, social marketing, and women’s health. She is the author of *Reproductive Justice and Women’s Voices: Health Communication across the Lifespan* (2015) and co-author of *Birth Control: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford University Press, 2020) and the forthcoming *Catching Fire: Women’s Health Activism in Ireland and the Global Movement for Reproductive Justice* (Oxford University Press, 2023), along with more than 65 peer-reviewed publications in such outlets

as *Social Science & Medicine*, *Contraception*, and *the Journal of Health Communication*.



Co-sponsors: Women & Gender Studies Program, Dr. Victoria Gordon, the 2022 Coverdell Visiting Scholar