

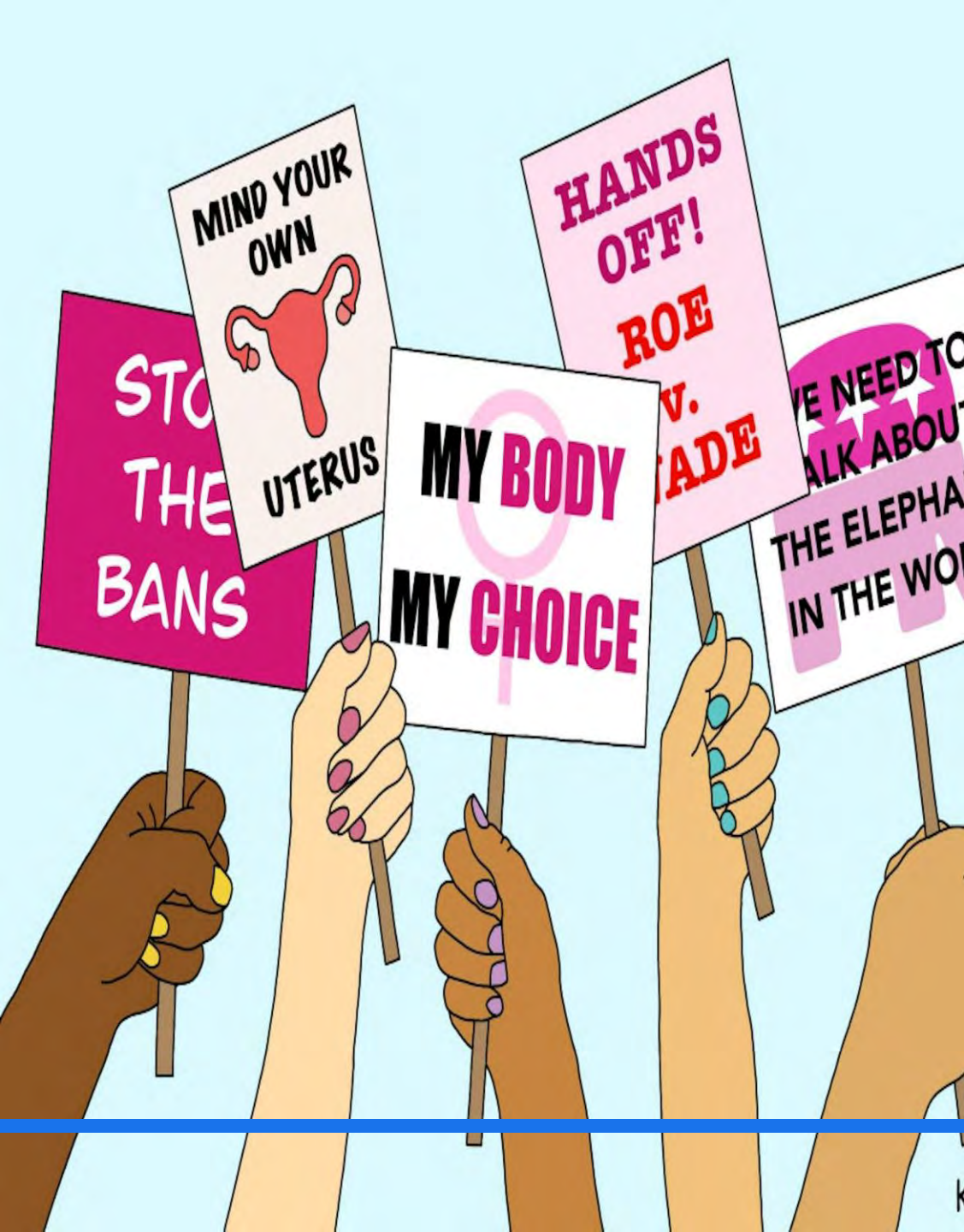
Reproductive Justice



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Beyond the
paradigm of
“choice”





Reproductive Rights

- Birth control movement (Sanger/Planned Parenthood, Stopes, & Comstock Laws – “obscene”)
- Grassroots movement *versus* Western Imperialism/Eugenics (Puerto Rico birth control pill, Norplant/Jadelle, Communism “population bomb)
- Proclamation of Tehran
- Feminist movements of the 60s and 70s.
- Before the *Roe v Wade* judgement (US) about 14 countries had legalised abortion (including China, India, Cuba, and Tunisia)
- 1990s Reproductive Justice



Reproductive rights

- Focuses on legal rights and the individual's freedom from government interference in reproductive decisions. It emphasizes the "right to choose".
- 'Choice' is a privilege
- 1994 "reproductive justice"

REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE



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- To have children
 - Not to have children
 - Parent the children you have in safe and healthy communities
 - Bodily autonomy

Why Reproductive Justice over Reproductive Rights?

- Intersectional
- Holistic (social justice oriented)
- Focus on access and equity
- Community-centred
 - Law permits *versus* what justice requires






Reproductive Justice in Clinical Practice and Health Systems

- **Patient-centred and Culturally Responsive Care** (providers also need to move beyond merely respecting choice, addressing biases, and trauma-informed care)
- **Addressing Health Disparities Systemically** (maternal mortality and morbidity, integrating reproductive health-care services with primary care & mental health services, partnering with community organizations led by marginalized groups)
- **Ethical Research and Data Collection** (truly informed consent, trialling on diverse populations, collecting data on multiple variables and determinants)
- **Advocacy for Social Determinants of Health** (living wages, affordable housing, adequate nutrition, clean environments, safe communities, and access to education)

Reproductive Justice in Global Health

- **Individual Rights, Not Demographic Targets** (global health programs & individual autonomy, comprehensive sexual and reproductive health rights, environmental justice, addressing historical harms)
- **Challenging Neoliberal Policies** (advocating against unjust economic policies, investment in reproductive health and medicine, sustained and unconditional funding unlike 'the global gag rule')
- **Strengthening Health Systems, Not Just Vertical Programs** (investment in resilient healthcare systems and training diverse healthcare workforce)





Reproductive justice reminds us that true liberation isn't just about what the law *permits*; it's about what justice *demand*s.
