

Motherhood on Ice

Melbourne
School of
Population &
Global Health



Seminar Series

The Mating Gap and Why Women Freeze Their Eggs

Prof Marcia Inhorn

Why are women freezing their eggs in record numbers? Contrary to media reports, which suggest that women's "selfish" career ambitions are the main determinant of women's fertility postponement, women themselves offer different explanations for their fertility preservation. The growing momentum toward egg freezing masks an underlying but little discussed global reality—namely, a mating gap, in which women in the United States and more than half the world's nations (including Australia) are outperforming men in higher education, resulting in the lack of eligible, educated, and equal partners with whom to pursue marriage and childbearing. Although egg freezing been touted for its "revolutionary" potential, it is a costly technological concession to growing gender inequalities, whereby educated women

are "buying time" while experiencing reproductive partnership problems beyond their individual control.

Professor Inhorn is the William K. Lanman, Jr. Professor of Anthropology and International Affairs and Chair of the Council on Middle East Studies (CMES) in The Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies.

As a medical anthropologist, Inhorn's research interests revolve around gender and health, science and technology studies (STS), feminist theory (including masculinity studies), religion and bioethics, globalization and global health, cultures of biomedicine and ethnomedicine, stigma and human suffering, and the health costs of conflict, especially for refugees and forced migrants.



Seminar details

When

Tuesday 26 March
12:00pm - 1:00pm

Where

Seminar room 515
Level 5, 207 Bouverie St

Register

go.unimelb.edu.au/bse8



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