

**TED<sup>x</sup>**UNCSalon

x = independently organized TED event



*What if...*

REIMAGINING  
MATERNAL  
& CHILD HEALTH  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES

JANUARY 17, 2017

UNC SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

# TEDxUNCSalon

IDEAS WORTH SPREADING...

Your presence is appreciated. You bring a unique perspective shaped by experiences, beliefs, and values. Tonight we have come together for thought and inquiry, and we thank you for joining us.

The TEDxUNCSalon theme, “What if...Reimagining Maternal and Child Health in the US,” was chosen for the freedom it allows to cross sectors and **VIEW ISSUES OF HEALTH THROUGH DIFFERENT LENSES AND PERSPECTIVES** as we contemplate the facets that impact the health of young women, men, babies, families and communities across our nation.

We’re here tonight to be inspired; to hear new, innovative, and bold ideas from diverse voices.

Maternal and child health is multi-dimensional, and we selected speakers who could help us to reflect on those many qualities. Our change agents will speak on topics including **EQUITY, RACE, LEADERSHIP, INTIMACY, TECHNOLOGY, SPACE, AND ARTIVISM.**

During the talks, we encourage you to be present and listen with an open-mind to these perspectives. After tonight, we hope that you **CONTINUE THE CONVERSATION ABOUT REIMAGINING MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IN THE US** and that we collectively take the actions needed to make these questions of “what if...” a reality.

Thank you for being here.  
Carry tonight’s inspiration with you.



REIMAGINING  
**MATERNAL**  
**& CHILD HEALTH**  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



**UNC SSW Dean Gary Bowen** Welcome

**Sarah Verbiest** Introduction

**Gita Gulati-Partee** Leading for Equity

**Tanya M. Bass** Including Intimacy in Reproductive Life  
Planning & Sexual Health Education

**Diana E. Ramos** Technology: An Underutilized  
Tool in Public Health

**Rend Smith** Running Together to Create a Culture of  
Health and to Help Remedy Racism

**Monica Raye Simpson** Artivism: A Strategy for Shifting Culture  
of Maternal & Child Health

INTERMISSION

**Cornell P. Wright** #ColorPurpleRain: Sexual Health Equity  
in Context

**Alison Stuebe** Closing the Care Work Deficit with the  
Care4America Corps

**Malika Redmond** Why the Knowledge of Black Women  
Can Be Our Guide Towards Reproductive  
Justice and Social Transformation

**Betsy Polk & Maggie Ellis Chotas** Women Leading Together – Let's Make  
this the Rule, Not the Exception

**Sarah Verbiest** Closing words



FOLLOW ALONG  
& JOIN THE  
CONVERSATION

#whatifMCH



### **Gary L. Bowen, Ph.D., ACSW**

Gary L. Bowen, Ph.D., ACSW, is Dean and Kenan Distinguished Professor in the School of Social Work (SSW) at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Bowen has extensive experience working with all branches of the military services across a range of mental health and social service issues. Dr. Bowen is Past President of the National

Council on Family Relations, and serves as a member of the distinguished Research Council for America's Promise. In 2017, he was identified as an American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare (AASWSW) Fellow for his distinguished accomplishment as a scholar and practitioner dedicated to achieving excellence in his work to advance social good.



### **Sarah Verbiest, DrPH, MSW, MPH**

Sarah Verbiest, DrPH, MSW, MPH is the Executive Director of the UNC Center for Maternal and Infant Health and a Clinical Associate Professor in the UNC School of Social Work. She is the Co-Chair of the Perinatal Health Committee of the NC Child Fatality Task Force and the CDC Senior Consultant for the National Preconception Health and Health

Care Initiative. Dr. Verbiest leads several programs and research initiatives addressing the needs of women, pregnant women, new mothers and their infants. She earned her graduate degrees from the UNC Chapel Hill Schools of Social Work and Public Health.



### **Gita Gulati-Partee *what if...* WE WERE NOT AFRAID TO LEAD FOR EQUITY?**

#### **Leading for Equity**

Gita Gulati-Partee founded and leads OpenSource Leadership Strategies, Inc., a national consulting practice that amplifies the work of social justice groups as both units and agents of structural change. She has

published and presented extensively on racial equity, advocacy, education, and philanthropy. She was a 2001–2003 William C. Friday Fellow for Human Relations and is a National Fellow on Racial Equity and Healing in the inaugural class of W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Community Leadership Network. She is a staff blogger with EmbraceRace, a multi-racial online community about raising kids to be racially conscious and resilient.



## **Tanya M. Bass, MS, CHES - SouthernSexologist™**

*what if...* **WE NORMALIZED INTIMACY?**

**Including Intimacy in Reproductive Life  
Planning & Sexual Health Education**

Tanya is a subject matter expert in the field of health education, HIV/STDs, reproductive and sexual health. She is the lead instructor for Human Sexuality at North Carolina Central University in the Department of Public Health Education. She has a Masters in Health Promotion and Human Sciences and is completing a second Masters in Human Sexuality at Widener University, pursuant to a doctorate degree.



## **Diana E. Ramos, MD, MPH**

*what if...* **THE SOLUTION TO IMPROVING THE  
NATION'S HEALTH WAS IN THE PALM OF YOUR HAND?**

**Technology: An Underutilized Tool in Public Health**

Diana E. Ramos, MD, MPH is a board-certified obstetrician/gynecologist, public health expert, co-chair of the National Preconception Health and Health Care Initiative, and adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor at the Keck University of Southern California School of Medicine. She combines her insights as a practicing physician with her public health leadership to identify solutions for healthcare delivery and disparities by focusing on prevention. Dr. Ramos has received several innovation awards recognizing her work. She is a spokesperson for multiple organizations in both English and Spanish on topics that include innovation, improving maternal and infant birth outcomes, health disparities and wellness.



## **Rend Smith**

*what if...* **RUNNING TOGETHER REMEDIED RACISM?**

**Running Together to Create a Culture of  
Health and to Help Remedy Racism**

Rend Smith is a writer by trade who began his relationship with the printed word exploring highbrow and lowbrow storytelling cultures. His stories have explored the tragicomedy of community dynamics, delving into everything from mass shootings to noise ordinances. Since entering the nonprofit world, he's worked on projects that focus on using narrative as a means to process and communicate disparate human experiences. Smith has been a public speaker presenting before communities, foundations, and national arts and social justice conferences on issues of race, politics, and justice. Rend Smith co-founded "Black Man, Running" (BMR) a public art and organizing project that addresses issues of race, public space, health, surveillance culture, and democracy.



**Monica Raye Simpson** *what if...* **WE COUPLED  
OUR ACTIVISM WITH OUR ARTISTRY?**

**Activism: A Strategy for Shifting Culture of  
Maternal & Child Health**

Monica Raye Simpson is the Executive Director of SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective. A native of rural North Carolina, she couples her activism with her artistry and released her first live album entitled Revolutionary Love where she blends her gospel roots and her passion for social justice with deep soul to create the sound known as Revolutionary Soul. Due to her “activism” Monica was named as a New Civil Rights Leader by Essence Magazine and chosen as one of Advocate Magazine’s 40 under 40 leaders.



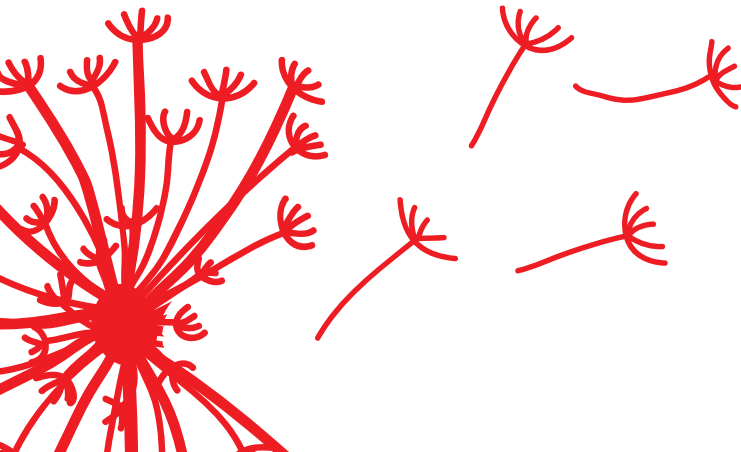
**Cornell P. Wright, MPA** *what if...* **WE VIEWED  
SEXUAL HEALTH EQUITY IN CONTEXT?**

**#ColorPurpleRain: Sexual Health Equity in Context**

Cornell P. Wright serves as the Executive Director of the North Carolina Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities under the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services within the Division of Public Health. He is an active member in the health community, serving various groups, organizations and boards including; the Patient Centered Outcome Research Institute (PCORI) where he serves on the Communication and Dissemination Advisory Panel, and the Southeastern Health Equity Council (SHEC), as part of the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities (NPA), serving as the Co-Chair to the Social Determinants of Health Committee. Cornell will include a special presentation from spoken word artist, Trin-A-Thoughtz.



**Petrina Bryant** is a spoken word artist known as Trin-A-Thoughtz. She founded PROJECT.T.R.A.I.N. (Taking Responsibility And Improving Nations). Thoughtz is deeply committed to her community and the communities around her.



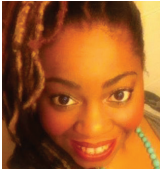


## **Alison Stuebe, MD, MSc, FACOG, FABM**

*what if...* **WE COUNTED CARING WORK?**

**Closing the Care Work Deficit with the Care4America Corps**

Alison Stuebe completed her Obstetrics and Gynecology residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. She completed fellowship training in Maternal Fetal Medicine at Brigham and Women's, and she earned a Masters in Epidemiology from the Harvard School of Public Health. She is currently an Associate Professor and board-certified maternal-fetal medicine subspecialist at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine and Distinguished Scholar of Infant and Young Child Feeding at the Gillings School of Global Public Health. She is also the Medical Director of Lactation Services at UNC Health Care. Her current research focuses on the role of oxytocin in women's health and postpartum depression and on developing models for holistic care of families during the 4th Trimester.



## **Malika Redmond, MA**

*what if...* **JUSTICE COULD ONLY BE REALIZED IF WE LISTENED TO VOICES OF BLACK WOMEN?**

**Why the Knowledge of Black Women Can Be Our Guide Towards Reproductive Justice and Social Transformation**

Malika Redmond is the co-founder and executive director of Women Engaged a nonprofit organization based in Atlanta, GA that works to empower women and young adults to become impactful leaders, key decision-makers and effective agents for social change. Malika has worked for nearly two decades both nationally and internationally managing projects that focus on women's human rights, racial, LGBTQ, and reproductive justice, as well as youth empowerment. Her writings are featured in RH Reality Check, Truthout, The Women's Health Activist, and AlterNet. She holds a bachelor's degree from Spelman College and a master's degree from Georgia State University in Women's Studies.



## **Betsy Polk & Maggie Ellis Chotas**

*what if...* **WOMEN WERE IN CHARGE?**

**Women Leading Together – Let's Make this the Rule, Not the Exception**

Betsy and Maggie are internationally acclaimed speakers on the topic of creating successful women's partnerships. Their award-winning, Amazon bestselling book, *Power Through Partnership: How Women Lead Better Together*, draws on their 13-year collaboration and features interviews with hundreds of women from across the globe. Maggie and Betsy, co-founders of The Mulberry Partners LLC, are known as The Partnership People. They are sought-after coaches and consultants who have helped more than 300 leaders and teams figure out how to work together better.

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## WITH THANKS TO



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