

1620s



Quarter Court of Jamestown recognizes Thomas(ine) Hall as intersex or having a “dual nature”. However, the court forced Hall to dress and identify as both a man and woman.

From 1654 onward

Del 1654 hacia adelante



African women in slavery experience incalculable and innumerable offences and abuses on their reproductive rights, bodies and families.

Las mujeres afroamericanas esclavas sufren incalculables e innumerables ofensas y abusos de sus derechos reproductivos, sus cuerpos y familias.

1746

I well remember, that, in the year 1746, one of the upper towns of the aforesaid Muskohge, was so exceedingly exasperated against some of our Chikkasah traders, for having, when in their cups, forcibly viewed the nakedness of one of their women, (who was reputed to be an hermaphrodite) that they were on the point of putting them to death, according to one of their old laws against crimes of that kind.—But several of us, assisted by some of the Koosah town, rescued them from their just demerit. Connecting together these particulars, we can scarcely desire a stronger proof, that they have not been idolaters, since they first came to America; much less, that they erected, and worshipped any such lascivious and obscene idols, as the heathens above recited.¹⁰⁹

James Adair, *The History of the American Indians*, ed. Kathryn E. Holland Braund (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2005), 181–82.

According to Qwo Li Driskill a Cherokee Two-Spirit and Queer scholar-activist, Creeks almost killed Chickasaw traders who forcibly stripped a Creek person thought to be Two-Spirit. Driskill notes that there might have been “old laws” in Creek community that protected Two-Spirit folks and women from being assaulted.

1770



A law of the Colony of Georgia established a twenty pound fine for anyone who taught a slave how to read or write to keep them from writing or reading political news and essays

1818



Julian Foumontaine, a black Haitian, opened one of the several secret schools in savannah for people with African ancestry. Mrs. Woodhouse told her girl students to hide their books in piles of clothing so that it would look like they were carrying laundry.

1830's

Década de 1830



President Andrew Jackson encourages his troops to kill women and children in order to decimate current and future generation of Native peoples.

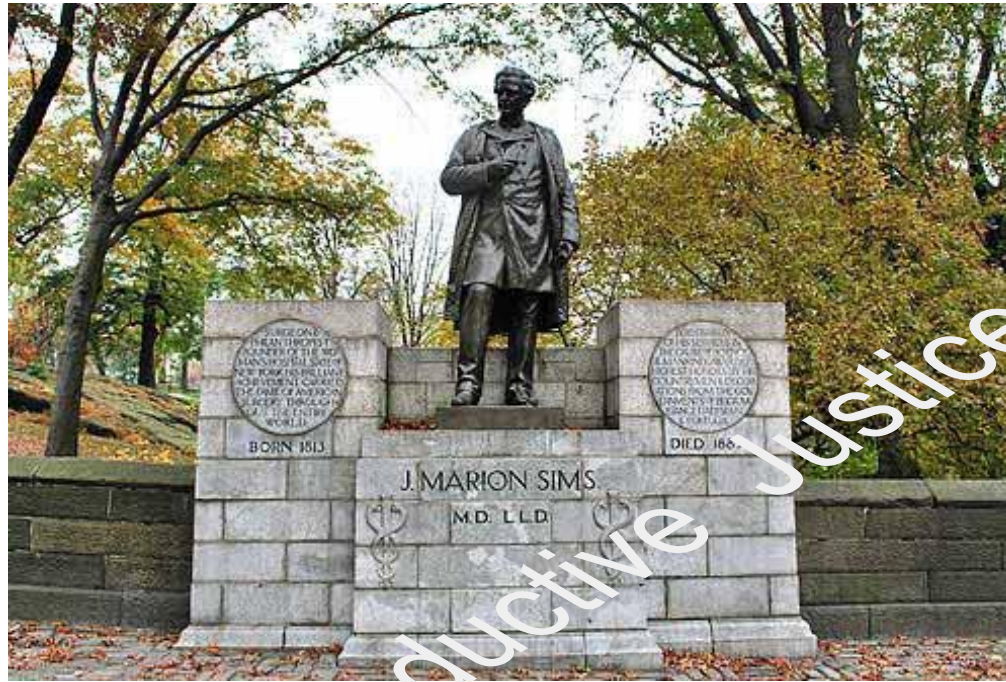
El presidente Andrew Jackson alienta a sus tropas a matar mujeres y niños para diezmar la generación actual y las generaciones futuras de la población nativa.

1836



Mary Jones is outed as the first documented Black trans woman

1845



James Marion Sims began operating on enslaved women in order to find a cure for vesicovaginal fistula (VVF). Sims operated on these enslaved women without anesthesia. VVF was inhibiting these enslaved women's ability to do work on the plantation. So, plantation owners sent them to Sims. Sims, despite his complicity in slavery, has been dubbed as the "father of gynecology." (See: C Riley Snorton's, "Black on Both Sides")

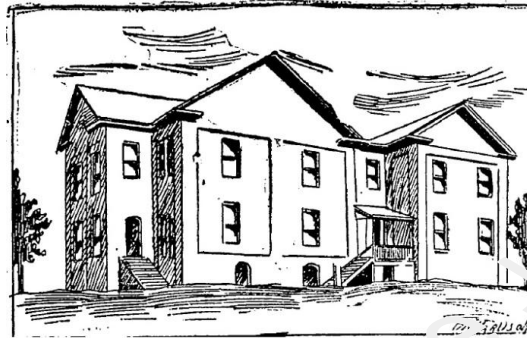
May 1854

"On the evening of the 23d of May, a colored woman, named SARAH GAYLOR, *alias* STEWART, was arrested for disorderly conduct in the street. She being one of the most notoriously bad characters who infest one portion of this district, prostitute, thief, and street-fighter, I determined to do all in my power to get rid of so great a nuisance. Accordingly, on the 24th ult., I conveyed her to the Tombs, and made the regular affidavit (which was duly recorded,) of her being a vagrant, and disorderly character; I took a great deal of pains to make known her character, and to have the law in her case fully carried out. She was sent to the Penitentiary for four months. From the day of her commitment, every means was resorted to to obtain her release. I was importuned almost daily by those who should have had the public morals more at heart, than to intercede for a black prostitute and thief. In all cases expressed a determination to have the law carried out, as far as I was concerned, nor could I, nor would I withdraw my complaint against her. I was desirous of making her case a test, for if she could escape justice without an investigation, there was an end to the police endeavoring to arrest such characters and send them to the Penitentiary as vagrants. She did escape by some means unknown to me, and on the evening of the 13th instant, she was at her old haunts again, bidding defiance to the police, and making her boasts that they could not keep her on the island. She was arrested by officer WESTCOTT, after a desperate fight, in which she tore the star from his breast, and brought to the station-house yesterday morning. I renewed my complaint, and she was again sent up for four months to the Island, where she will probably remain, unless her friends, who take a deep interest in allowing such characters the largest liberty, intercede to again set her free."

Sarah Gaylor, a black sex worker, was arrested for disorderly conduct in the street. The New York Times characterizes her as "one of the most notoriously bad characters [...] prostitute, thief, and street-fighter." Sentenced to four months in jail, Gaylor escaped and upon being found told the police that they "could not keep her on the island," and tore "[...] the star from [the arresting officer's] breast." Eventually she was re-incarcerated, but the writer seemed to express fear that her community would "intercede to again set her free."

1865

THE SUMMERHILL SCHOOL
THE OLDEST NEGRO SCHOOL



SUMMERHILL SCHOOL.

New Englanders from the American Missionary Association established the Storrs School for freed Black children in Atlanta and were surprised when the Black community opposed their attempt to remove Black teachers. In 1867 the Freedman's Bureau took over Storrs, established the Summerhill Grammar School, and enforced an apprenticeship policy requiring some Black children to work in white homes.

1870



The first public school act in Georgia required separate black and white schools.

1875



Congress passes the Page Act which effectively ended the entry of unmarried Asian women into the country as a way of limiting family development.

El Congreso aprueba la Ley Page, que de hecho acabó con la entrada de mujeres asiáticas solteras al país, como forma de limitar el desarrollo familiar.

1887



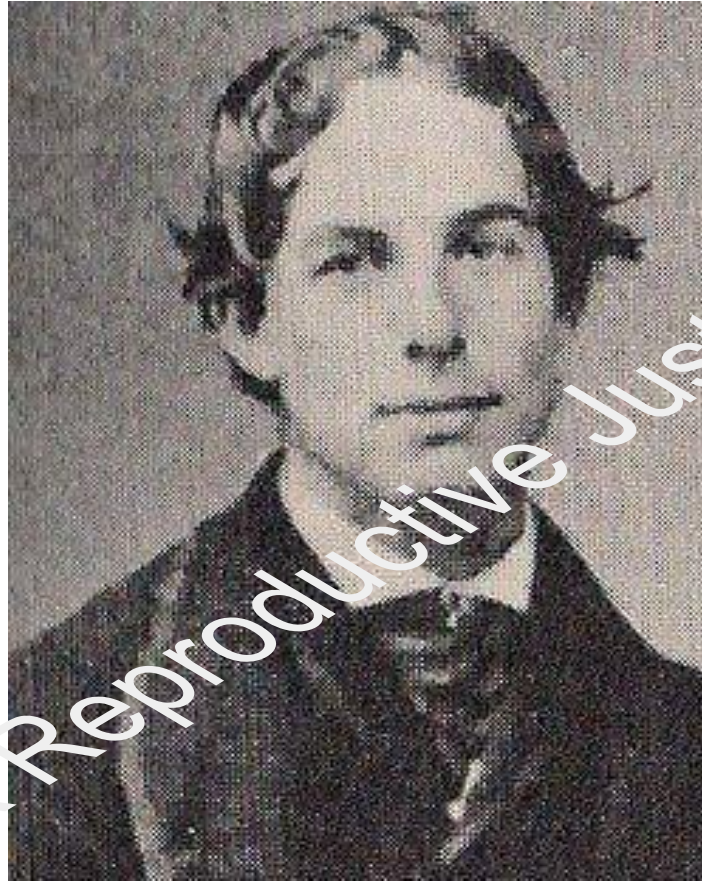
After the industrial revolution brought many women into the workplace, the state of Massachusetts passed the U.S.'s first law separating toilets by gender. Many other states soon followed.

1892



*White schools received \$120,000 of the over \$270,000 in state taxes paid
by Black Georgians*

1894



John Douglas wrote a letter about the Earl of Rosebery claiming they were "...snob queers...." This was the first time that queer was used as a homophobic insult.

Early 1900's - 1960's

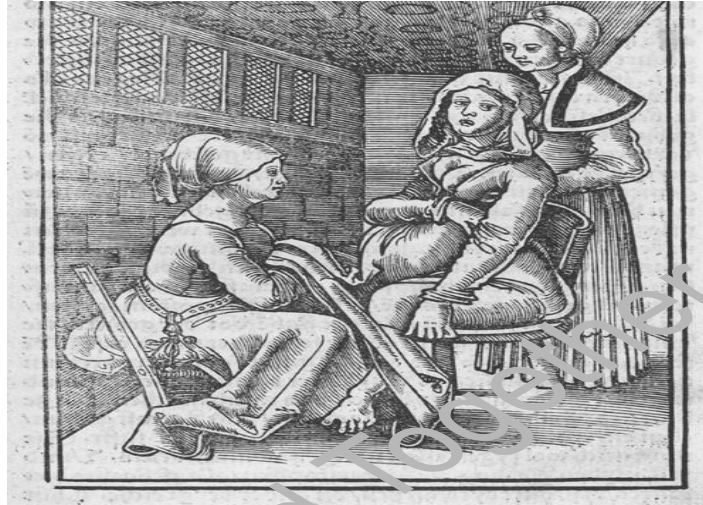
Primeras décadas del siglo XX-década de los 60



Native American children sent to boarding schools to “assimilate.” Students are punished for speaking indigenous language or practicing religion and culture.

Los niños americanos nativos eran enviados a escuelas a pupilo para “asimilarse.” Se castiga a los estudiantes por hablar una lengua indígena o practicar su religión y su cultura.

1900's to 1940's



The process of giving birth becomes increasingly medical, and traditional birthing practices decrease under pressure from doctors and medical establishment. In 1915, 40% of all births were attended by midwives. By 1935, that number had decreased to 10.7%.

El proceso de dar la luz llega a ser cada vez más médico, y las prácticas tradicionales de la natalidad disminuyen bajo presión de doctores y del establecimiento médico. En 1915 40% de todos los nacimientos fueron atendidos por parteras. Sin embargo, en 1935, ese número había disminuido a 10.7%.

Source: "The History of Midwifery and Childbirth in America: A Time Line," www.midwiferytoday.com

1940's & 1960's



The “Homophile” movement began in the United States in the 1940's and 60's. They used assimilationist strategies to decriminalize and educate people about homosexuality and to decrease homophobia.

1913-1948



In the United States, the various state laws prohibited the marriage of whites and Blacks, and in many states also Asians. In the US, such laws were called anti-miscegenation laws. From 1913 until 1948, 30 out of the then 48 states enforced such laws.

En los Estados Unidos, diversas leyes estatales prohibían el casamiento entre blancos y negros, y en muchos estados, también asiáticos. En los Estados Unidos, esas leyes se llamaban anti-miscegenation laws. Desde 1913 hasta 1948, 30 de los 48 estados hacían cumplir esas leyes.

1917



Dr. Alan L. Hart is the first documented trans man to undergo gender affirming surgery

1920



[WHITE] Women get the right to vote.

Las mujeres [BLANCAS] obtienen el derecho al voto.

1932



The Tuskegee study began on this date and ended in 1972. African American Sharecropping men were told that they were receiving free healthcare from the government. However, this wasn't true. These "researchers" were actually trying to see how syphilis reacted to these men's bodies if it went untreated. 399 people had the disease and even after penicillin was discovered as the cure, they did not provide it to them.

1945



Lucy Hicks Anderson is the first Black trans woman to defend herself in court.

1950



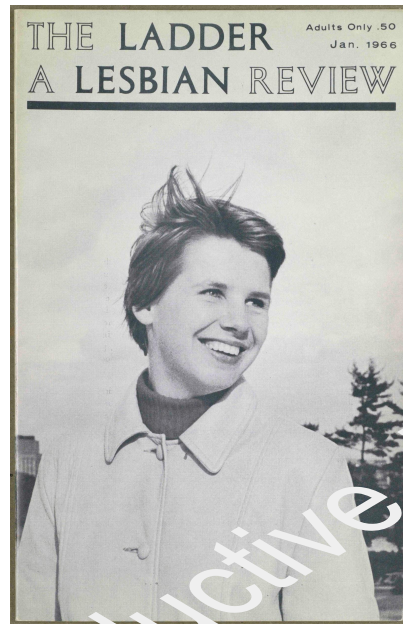
The Mattachine Society was one of the earliest gay rights organizations to be founded in the United States. The society was founded by communist and labor activist, Harry Hay, in LA to protect and improve the rights of gay men.

1955



Henrietta Lacks was an African American woman who, without her consent, had her cells cloned. After her death, her cells were used to develop a polio vaccine in 1954. Her family didn't know about the cloning of Lack's cells until 1975. This cell line was coined "HeLa" cells.

1955



Daughters of Bilitis was formed in San Francisco. The Daughters of Bilitis was the first Lesbian, civil and political rights organization in the u.s. It was created as an alternative to Lesbian social bars. The earliest members published the Ladder, the first nationally distributed lesbian publication in the united states.

1956



Clinical trials begin on early forms of the birth control pill on women living in housing projects in Puerto Rico. Levels of estrogen and progesterone are 20 times the eventually acceptable levels, creating harmful side effects for women.

Formas tempranas de la píldora anticonceptiva fueron probadas en mujeres de Puerto Rico. Los niveles de estrógeno y progesterona eran 20 veces mayores que los niveles eventualmente aceptables, causando efectos secundarios nocivos para las mujeres.

Source: "The Pill," American Experience, PBS

1959



Cooper Do-nuts Riot in which transgender women, lesbian women, drag queens, and gay men rioted to protest police harassment of LGBT people at Cooper Do-nuts in Los Angeles.

1962



Consensual sex between same sex couples is decriminalized in Illinois, the first action of its kind from a state legislature.

SPARK Reproductive Justice Now

1965



On July 30, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed this historic legislation, creating Medicare and Medicaid health care programs that provide health insurance to the elderly and poor in the United States.

El 30 de julio de 1965, el presidente Lyndon Johnson firmó esta legislación histórica creando Medicare y Medicaid, programas de salud para personas de edad y personas pobres en los Estados Unidos.

1966



The Compton Cafeteria Riot occurs in the Tenderloin district of San Francisco, marking the beginning of transgender activism in San Francisco.

1966



A group of doctors at Johns Hopkins quietly open the first sex reassignment surgery clinic in America. The Hopkins Gender Identity Clinic was made up of two plastic surgeons, two psychiatrists, two psychologists, a gynecologist, a urologist, and a pediatrician.

1967



The United States Supreme Court unanimously ruled in *Loving v. Virginia* that anti-miscegenation laws are unconstitutional. With this ruling, these laws were no longer in effect in the remaining 17 states that at the time still enforced.

La United States Supreme Court decidió por unanimidad Loving v. Virginia que las leyes contra la miscegenación son unconstitutional. Con esta sentencia, estas leyes dejaron de tener validez en los 17 estados que en ese momento aún las tenían.

1968



The Stonewall Riots occurred in New York City. Sparked by Sylvia Rivera, a Puerto Rican drag queen and transgender activist, queer and transgender people fought against the police during a raid on the Stonewall bar. This marked a new phase in the LGBT liberation movement. One of the customers at Stonewall Inn on the night of the raid was an immigrant man who committed suicide rather than be deported for being gay.

Los Disturbios de Stonewall tuvieron lugar en la ciudad de Nueva York. Incitados por Sylvia Rivera, drag queen y activista transgénero latinoamericana, personas transgénero y queer se enfrentaron a la policía durante una redada al bar Stonewall.

Este hecho dictó el inicio de una nueva etapa en el movimiento de liberación LGBT. Uno de los clientes presentes en el Stonewall Inn la noche de la redada era un inmigrante que se suicidó antes de permitir que se le deportara por ser gay.

1970



Marsha P. Johnson (the P stands for “Pay It No Mind”), in addition to leading the Stonewall riots and fighting tirelessly as an activist, Marsha co- founded Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (S.T.A.R.) As the Mother of S.T.A.R Marsha obtained food and clothing for Trans youth.

1971



Gay Activists Alliance (GAA) drops protections for gender expression from its agenda, releasing a Gay Rights Ordinance excluding those rights.

1971

Teacher Challenges 'Drag Law'

*Joy Polley challenges Chicago's Anti- Cross Dressing Ordinance
(local ordinance 192-8)*

1973

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

LATE CITY EDITION
Weather: Partly sunny, mild today;
fair tonight. Sunny, mild tomorrow.
Temp. range: today 45-59; Monday
33-54. Full U.S. report on Page 76.

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NEW YORK, TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 1973

15 CENTS

LYNDON JOHNSON, 36TH PRESIDENT, IS DEAD; WAS ARCHITECT OF 'GREAT SOCIETY' PROGRAM

High Court Rules Abortions Legal the First 3 Months

State Bans Ruled Out Until Last 10 Weeks

**National Guidelines
Set by 7-to-2 Vote**

By WARREN WEAVER Jr.
Special to The New York Times
WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 — The Supreme Court overruled today all state laws that prohibit, or restrict a woman's right to obtain an abortion during her first three months of pregnancy. The vote was 7 to 2.

In a historic resolution of a

Cardinals Shocked —Reaction Mixed

By LAWRENCE VAN GELDEREN
Special to The New York Times
Reaction to the Supreme Court decision on abortion fragmented yesterday along predictable lines, as leaders of the Roman Catholic Church assailed the ruling while birth control and women's rights activists praised it.

In the forefront of Catholic reaction were Cardinal Cooke

3.7 MILLION CARS RECALLED BY G.M. TO CORRECT FLAW

Shields Will Be Installed to Prevent Entry of Gravel Into Steering System

By JERRY M. FLINT
Special to The New York Times
DETROIT, Jan. 22 — The General Motors Corporation is recalling today 3.7 million 1971 and 1972 cars, its full-size Chevrolet, Pontiac, Buick and

KISSINGER IN PARIS; CEREMONIAL SITE CHOSEN FOR TALKS

Use of Conference Center Indicates Both Sides View Truce Round as Vital

By FLORA LEWIS
Special to The New York Times
PARIS, Jan. 22 — Henry A. Kissinger arrived here tonight, and it was announced that his talks tomorrow with Le Duc Tho of North Vietnam would be moved to the ceremonial

NATION IS SHOCKED

Citizens Join Leaders in Voicing Sorrow and Paying Tribute

By ROBERT D. MIKALOVICH
Special to The New York Times
Shock, sorrow and the sense of a historic leader's death were the morning themes of public officials and private citizens across the nation.

President Richard M. Nixon and the first lady, Mrs. Nixon, had a void, an emptiness and a sense of loss where he



STRICKEN AT HOME

Apparent Heart Attack Comes as Country Mourns Truman

Special to The New York Times
SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Jan. 22 — Lyndon Baines Johnson, 36th President of the United States, died today of an apparent heart attack suffered at his ranch in Johnson City, Tex.

The 64-year-old Mr. Johnson, whose history of heart illness began in 1955, was pronounced dead on arrival at 4:33 P.M. central time at San Antonio H-

Roe v. Wade – Supreme Court decision establishing women's right to abortion.

Roe v. Wade – Decisión de la Corte Suprema que estableció el derecho de las mujeres al aborto.

1979



Hyde Amendment – made it illegal for federal Medicaid to pay for abortions except in the case of life endangerment for the pregnant woman.

Enmienda Hyde – ilegalizó que el Medicaid federal pagara abortos, salvo en caso de peligro para la vida de la mujer embarazada.

1979

Jon Meyer (1938-)

"My personal feeling is that surgery is not a proper treatment for a psychiatric disorder, and it's clear to me that these people have severe psychological problems which don't go away following the surgery."



The Hopkins Gender Identity Clinic closed after Jon Meyer, psychologist and chair of the clinic deemed that being transgender was a "mental illness that required a purely psychological approach". Thirty surgeries were performed at Hopkins itself and the clinic consulted on more than a thousand surgeries at different hospitals, training doctors along the way. By the time the Hopkins clinic closed, between 15 and 20 medical centers were performing the surgery.

1979



"White Night Riot" in response to the manslaughter conviction and sentence of Harvey Milk's murderer.

SPARK Reproductive Justice Now

1980s

The Shot - Depo Provera



Phoenix and Oklahoma City Indian Health Services use Depo- Provera on Native women with disabilities, despite the fact that it wasn't approved by the FDA. Reason given was for "hygienic purposes" – or to stop the periods of patients with developmental disabilities.

1990's – DepoProvera is given to women of color in public health clinics, often without adequate medical information or consent.

Antes de la aprobación por parte de la FDA, se descubrió que por lo menos durante 10 años, mujeres nativas americanas con profundo retraso mental en AZ, NM, UT, NV, IK y el sur de CA habían sido inyectadas con DP por los médicos del Servicio de Salud Indígena. 1990's – DepoProvera se suele dar a las mujeres de color en las clínicas de salud pública sin información médica o consentimiento adecuados.

Source: DepoProvera Fact Sheet, Committee on Women, Population and the Environment, 2001

1980s



The term “Queer” began to be reclaimed in the 1980’s.

1980

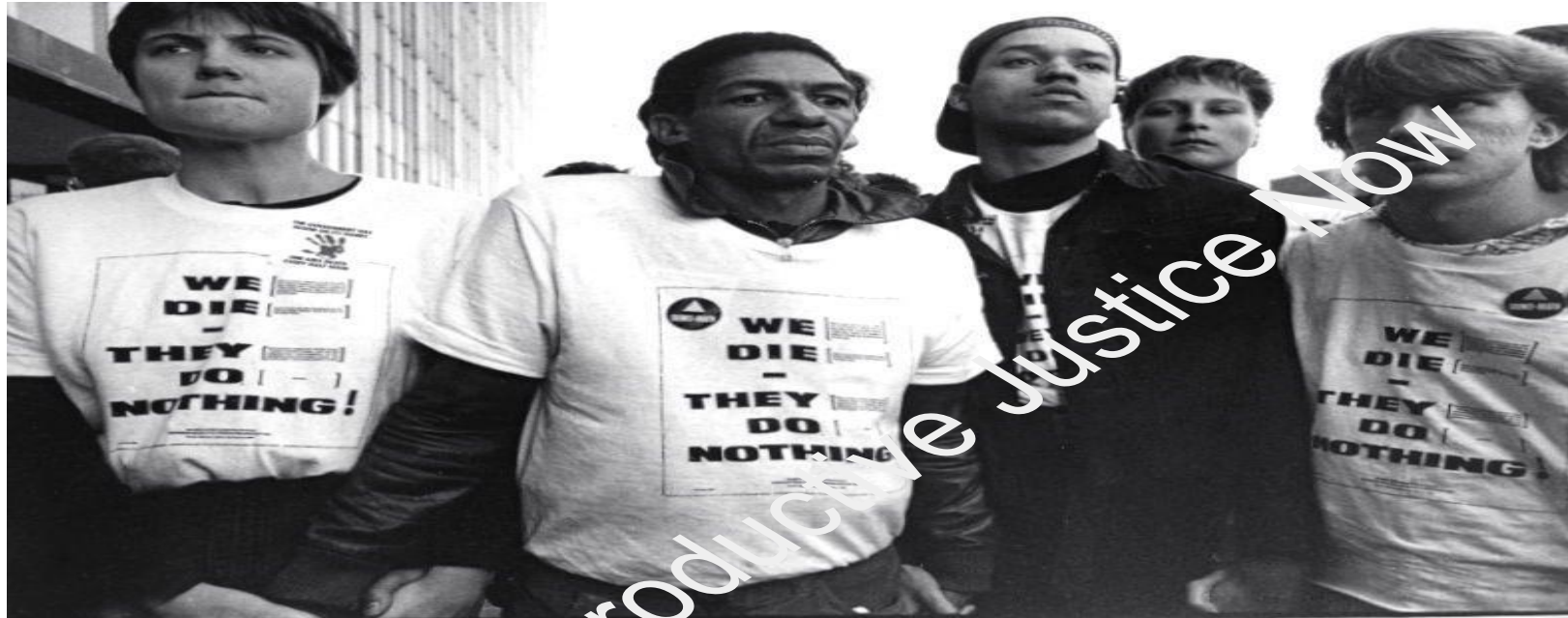
AMERICAN
PSYCHIATRIC
ASSOCIATION



*Transgender people officially classified by the American Psychiatric Association as having
“gender identity disorder”*

SPARK Reproductive Justice Now

1987



ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power), a group formed to advocate for those living with HIV and/or AIDS in legislation and medical research is formed.

1990

The term Two-Spirit was formally adopted at the 1990 Native American/First Nations Gay and Lesbian Conference in Winnipeg. It is frequently cited as being a translation of the Ojibwe phrase *niizh manitoag* and a replacement for the derogatory term *berdache*.

Two spirit scholar Alexandria Wilson remembers Two-Spirit being given to a Cree Lesbian in a dream (2007)

@the.beads.knees on Instagram

A Mi'kmaw and French 2spirit beadwork artist who creates contemporary beadwork as a reminder that Indigenous cultures are not relics.



1993-1995



Althea Garrison was the first trans woman to serve as a state legislator in the U.S. She was a Massachusetts state legislator. Two days after her victory, Althea was outed by a transphobic Boston Herald reporter, described as filled with “glee” when he found Garrison’s birth certificate.

1993



Cheryl Chase creates the Intersex Society of North America

1996



President Bill Clinton signing welfare reform legislation, looked on by his Health & Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala

El President Bill Clinton firmando la legislación de reforma de asistencia pública (welfare), teniendo al lado a la Secretaria de Servicios de Salud y Humanos Donna Shalala

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, punished low-income women on welfare for bearing children and coercing low-income women to marry.

Ley de Reconciliación de Responsabilidad Personal y Oportunidades de Trabajo, quecastiga a las mujeres de bajos ingresos por tener hijos y coacciona a las mujeres de bajos ingresos a casarse.

1996



Congress passes and President Clinton signs the Defense of Marriage Act banning marriage between same sex couples.

El Congreso aprueba y el Presidente Clinton firma la Ley de Defensa del Matrimonio, que prohíbe el matrimonio entre parejas del mismo sexo.

1996



First public demonstration for intersex people in North America occurs on October 24, 1996. The date is commemorated every year as Intersex Awareness Day.

1998



Gwendolyn Smith creates Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) to memorialize the murder of Rita Hester. TDOR is held every year on November 20.

2000's



The *New York Times* reports that Alabama has adopted a new law to prevent children from being exposed to drugs--in and out of the womb.

El New York Times informa de que Alabama ha adoptado una nueva ley para evitar que los niños estén expuestos a las drogas – dentro y fuera del útero.

States begin passing laws criminalizing women who use drugs while pregnant.

Los estados comienzan a aprobar leyes que criminalizan a las mujeres que usan drogas mientras están embarazadas.

2003



Lawrence v. Texas Supreme Court decision decriminalizes homosexuality country-wide.

2005



More than 80% of women living with HIV or AIDS are women of color, and Black women are 20 times more likely than white women to contract HIV.

Más del 81% de las mujeres que tienen SIDA y VIH son mujeres de color, y es 20 veces más probable que una mujer afro-americana contrae el VIH que una mujer blanca.

Source: Center for Disease Control, HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report, 2005.

2005



Tanya Smith, an incarcerated transwoman experienced sexual harassment and medical neglect while in California prisons.

Tanya Smith, una mujer transexual encarcelada, fue víctima de acoso sexual y negligencia médica en las prisiones de California.

Transgender and gender-variant people, as a population, are incarcerated at even higher rates than the general population of African American men, although the majority of those incarcerated are also people of color. Despite demands to place them in facilities based on their gender identity, they've been systematically put in prisons based on their genitalia.

Las personas transgénero y con variantes de género, como conjunto de población, son encarceladas en porcentajes aun más altos que la población general de hombres afroamericanos, aunque la mayoría de las personas encarceladas también son personas de color. A pesar de las demandas para ubicarlos en centros basados en su identidad de género, han sido ubicados en prisiones en base a sus genitales.

2006



3 states defeat attempts to restrict or prohibit abortion – South Dakota, California, Oregon

3 estados derrotan intentos de restringir o prohibir el aborto – SD, CA, OR

2006



Seven young Black lesbians traveled to the West Village from their homes in Newark for a regular night out. When walking down the street, a male bystander assaulted them with sexist and homophobic comments. The women tried to defend themselves, and a fight broke out. On June 14th, 2007 Venice Brown (19), Terrain Dandridge (20), Patreese Johnson (20), and Renata Hill (24) received sentences ranging from 3 ½ to 11 years in prison.

Siete jóvenes lesbianas afroamericanas fueron a la West Village desde sus hogares en Newark para una salida nocturna. Mientras caminaban por la calle, un hombre las atacó con comentarios sexistas y homofóbicos. Las mujeres trataron de defenderse y hubo una pelea. El 14 de junio de 2007 Venice Brown (19), Terrain Dandridge (20), Patreese Johnson (20) y Renata Hill (24) recibieron sentencias de 3 ½ a 11 años en prisión.

2008



All would find themselves without access to life saving information, birth control, contraceptives, reproductive devices (like IUDs and NuvaRings), and many medical procedures. The bill particularly impacts incarcerated, pregnant, low income teens, those who are wards of the state, and those who are victims of incest.

SPARK organizes around HB526 introduced in January 2008. The bill stated that accessing products whose function is to prevent pregnancy would be illegal for anyone under the age of 18, undocumented folks, people without “proper identification,” or a juvenile ward of the state.

SPARK! Reproductive Justice NOW (formerly Georgians for Choice)
Saturday January 26 and Tuesday February 19
Two Events for Power and Mobilization



Saturday January 26- People's Movement Assembly 11:30 AM Georgia State Capitol
Join SPARK! for a day of Drumming by Cakalak Thunder, Art, Street Puppets Theater, People's Caravan, and ACTION!
Tuesday February 19- Legislate THIS! 9-1PM Reproductive Justice Day of Action Trinity United Methodist Church 265 Washington St NW
Breakfast with Dorothy Allison Teach-Ins Art Reproductive Justice Day of Action
For more info visit www.legislatethis.org Text SPARK to 313131 or call 404.532.0022

January & February 2008

SPARK held its first LegislateThis! Event with Dorothy Allison, renowned author and activist, to talk about the importance of using our voices to speak truth to power and using that power for collective action. There were also teach-ins, an art exhibit, and a day of action at the capital!

The goals of LegislateThis! are to engage multidimensional on the ground strategies for social transformation, informed by our lived experiences. It's designed to realize our right to make sustainable and liberatory decisions about our bodies, genders, sexualities, families and lives within the context of public policy making and best practices.

July 2008

SPARK organizes a direct action protest against the anti-choice, right-wing, Ultra Christian, anti-queer org Operation Save America which had come to Atlanta to harass people visiting clinics. They held up signs that said “Welcome to Reproductive Justice Summer, OSA,” “Honk for Reproductive Justice” and chanted “Say yes to justice! Say no to OSA!” “Save us from poverty! Save us from Ignorance!”

“Well, we’re woman enough for ‘em. They might’ve gotten away with murder (ah! murder!) twenty years ago when they came to Atl, but this go ‘round, it’s not that easy. We, women of color, queers, pro-choice, women who go to those clinics, any and everybody else who’s down with standing up for our bodies...are a force to be f***ed with.” - Unique



Join us for a sensual night free of sexual oppression for all of us fighting for the freedom of our bodies everyday. Celebrate your authentic self at our Anti-Masquerade Ball with live performances, delectable desserts, fabulous prizes, a live auction and more!

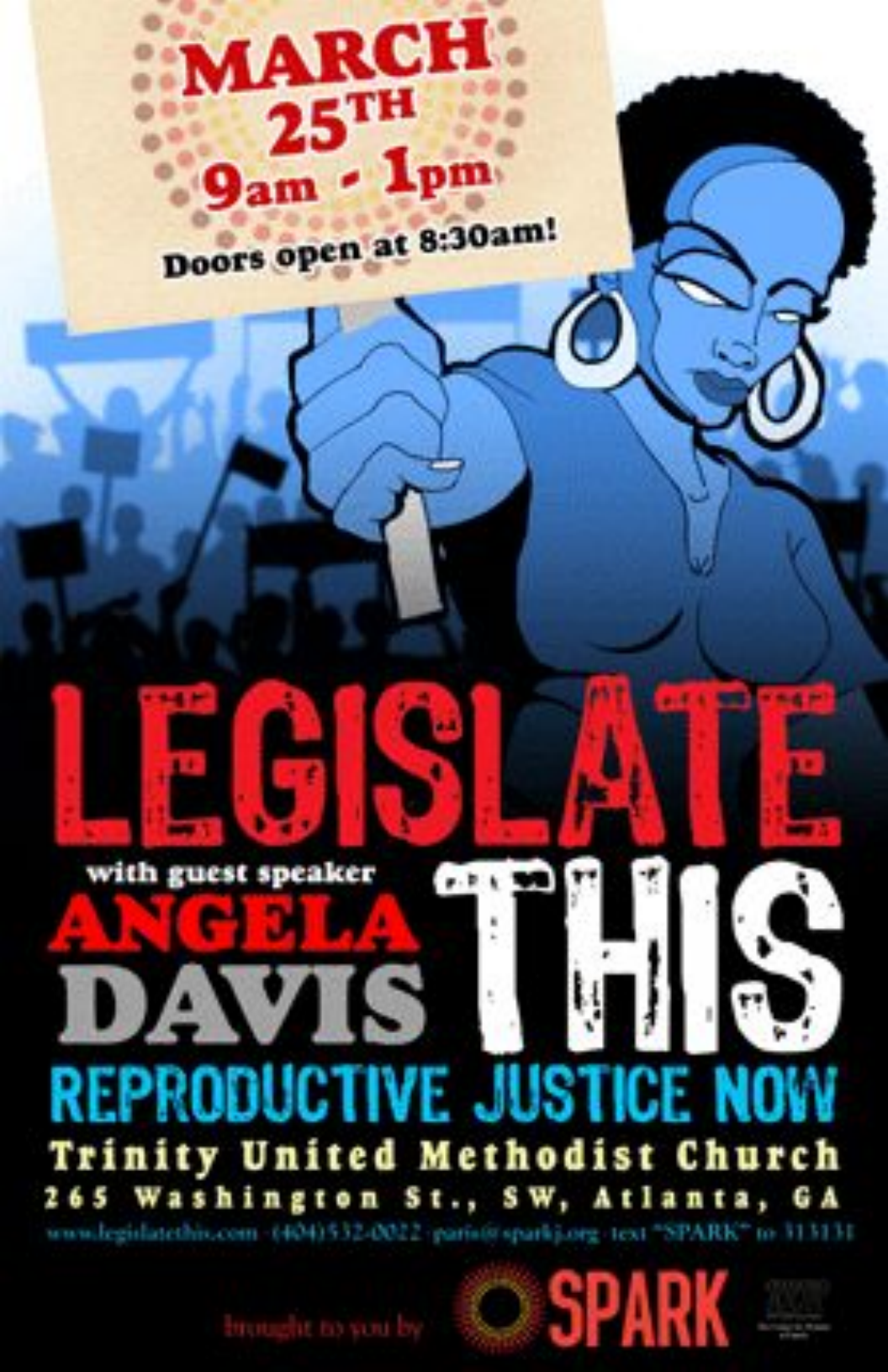
October 2008

SPARK partnered with Project South to host their Sex, Wine, and Chocolate event named Telling Our Truths, Taking Off Our Masks. There were gender inclusive bathrooms, body art, dancing, live art, dancers, delicious wine, and yummy chocolate. To one participant Monique, the event was an “open, safe, and expressive environment in which the individuals present had the opportunity to claim ‘the power of their erotic’ as Audre Lorde has encouraged us all to do.”

2009



President Obama signs presidential memo allowing same sex partners of federal employees to receive benefits, excluding full health coverage.



2009

SPARK held its 2nd
LegislateThis! gathering
with Angela Davis.

2010

“SPARK wants to put in place a Giving Birth with Dignity Bill that would make it illegal to shackle pregnant incarcerated women during labor, delivery or transport.”

- Paris Hatcher

SPARK members attended an Anti-HB 1155 rally to protest the bill that would make it a felony to provide “sex/race-selective” abortions, a bill based on a conspiracy that abortion providers are targeting Black families for genocide. According to Loretta Ross of Sister Song, this bill may require providers to ask patients why they are getting an abortion, and also loosely defines “solicitation” leaving room for further abortion restrictions.



2010



SPARK RJ Now in solidarity with SisterSong and Raksha mobilize to challenge these billboards from the Radiance Foundation. SPARK organized direct action campaigns to push CBS to take down the billboards two of which include a call to action to e-mail CBS and a call for Black women to be photographed/talk about what reproductive justice means to them.

WE DEMAND THAT PUBLIC POLICIES AND PRACTICES BE FREE FROM BIAS,
PREJUDICE AND OPPRESSION. LIBERATION CANNOT BE FULLY REALIZED
UNTIL OUR BODIES, LIVES, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES ARE FREE FROM
STATE CONTROL, EXPLOITATION AND REGULATION.

HANDS OFF OUR BODIES

Legislate
THIS!

3rd Annual Day of Action

February 16, 2010

Trinity United Methodist Church

265 Washington St., SW, Atlanta, GA

www.legislatethis.org (404)532-0022 tonya@sparkrj.org text "SPARK" to 313131

Brought to you by:



Design by:

Studio

2010

SPARK held its 3rd annual LegislateThis! which provided a forum for community members to discuss and develop strategic tools to address the explosion of the prison industrial complex, the systematic disappearing of bodies of color from their communities, increased surveillance and the incarceration/detention of women of color and reproductive oppression.

In 2010, SPARK worked on banning the cruel and inhumane practice of shackling of incarcerated pregnant women during transport, labor and delivery. They also challenged other policies that label our bodies and sexualities as dangerous and in need of regulation while shifting policy priorities toward a more just society.

July 2011

SPARK hosted an event with PureMe Productions to discuss how to connect the health care issues of trans and gender non-conforming folks to the reproductive justice movement in Georgia. This conversation was the first in a series of programs to work towards building a reproductive justice movement that centers the experiences, needs, and vision of trans identified and gender non-conforming folks.

The event's guest speakers were:

Holiday Simmons of Lambda Legal

Tracee McDaniel of Juxtaposed Center for Transformation, Inc.

Raymond Walker III of The Shephard's Table Covenant Church

2011

SPARK alongside Women on the Rise Telling HerStory (WORTH), ACLU of Georgia, ACLU of Florida, and Black Women Birthing Resistance organized a webinar designed to provide their communities, political stakeholders, state medical professional organizations, healthcare providers, elected officials and social justice groups with an understanding of the intersections of race, class and gender within the context of institutions of social control like jails and prisons.

From Invisibility to Reality: Reproductive Justice for Currently and Formerly Incarcerated Women and Girls discussed how reproductive justice activists in Georgia, Florida and New York were working to end the practice of shackling incarcerated women during labor, delivery and transport to and from the hospital.

A woman is shown from the back, her hands clasped behind her head. A barcode is tattooed on her upper back, with the numbers 529 1155 529 1155 printed below it. The text 'LEGISLATE THIS!' is superimposed over the lower half of her back in large, bold, white letters. The background is a dark blue with faint, repeating text in a lighter blue color that reads 'We will no longer be invisible. We will no longer be silent. We will no longer be afraid.'

**RACE, GENDER, REPRODUCTION AND BODY OWNERSHIP:
CHALLENGING REPRODUCTIVE OPPRESSION
AT THE GOLD DOME**

**LEGISLATE
THIS!**

4TH ANNUAL DAY OF ACTION
WWW.LEGISLATETHIS.ORG

SPARK
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE NOW!

STUDIO 7
GRAPHIC DESIGN

2011

SPARK held its 4th annual LegislateTHIS!

LEGISLATE THIS!

4TH ANNUAL DAY OF ACTION
WWW.LEGISLATETHIS.ORG



STUDIO 7

2011

SPARK's first FYRE (Fierce Youth Reclaiming & Empowering) Media Justice Camp commenced with the theme of Exploring Intimacy, Using Our Stories to Build Power. Using photography as a mode of self-expression, over the course of 4-days and 3-nights, participants explored a world of self and communal possibility, hope, and transformation.



Illustrated by Alexandra Angelich

2012



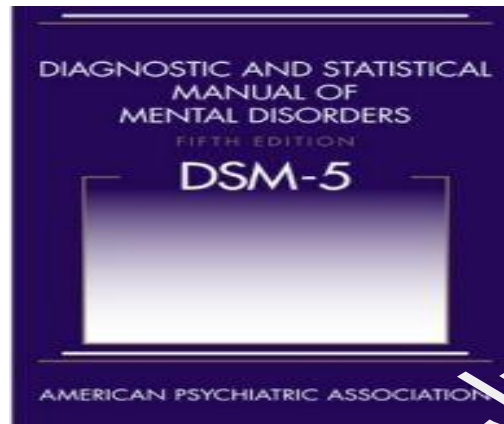
On International Women's Day, 1600 Palestinian women incarcerated in Israeli prisons go on a hunger strike to protest sexual abuse, physical and psychological torture, and denial of menstrual products at the hands of the Israeli Security Agency (Shabak)

June 2012



On June 28th, the supreme court ruled that the Affordable Care Act was constitutional. For many, this secured coverage for pap smears, STI screening, prenatal care, and the HPV vaccine. However, the Supreme court also ruled that states could opt out of expanding Medicaid leaving many poor women of color who do not qualify for a subsidy without healthcare coverage.

2013



Fifth edition of APA's DSM-5 eliminates the term "gender identity disorder" and refers to "gender dysphoria" to emphasize those distressed by their gender identity.

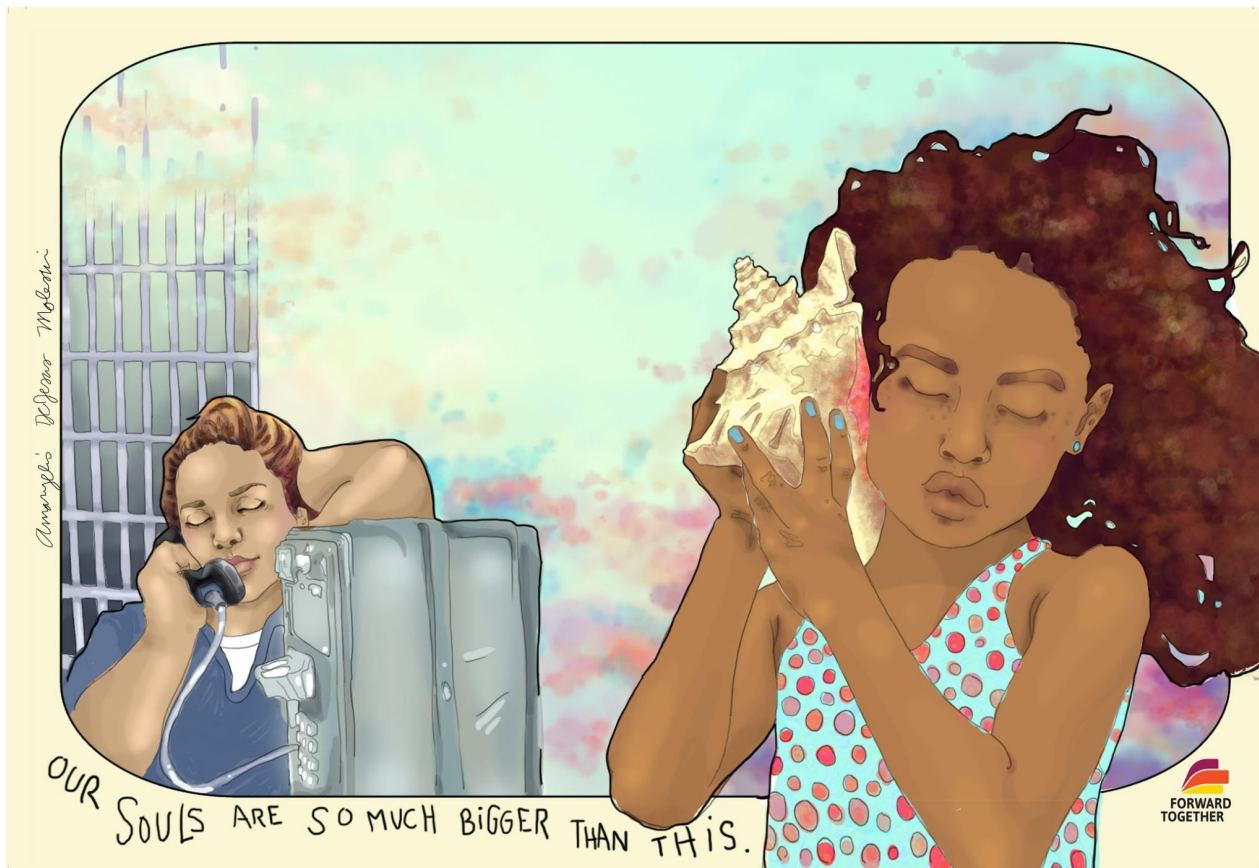
2012

SPARK's 5th annual LegislateTHIS! revolved around Women of Color and the Politics of Body Ownership with Dorothy Roberts, author of the acclaimed "Killing the Black Body" and other works, as their keynote speaker. This LegislateTHIS! was also focused on the inhumane shackling of incarcerated women. It wouldn't be for another seven years that anti-shackling legislation was instituted in Georgia.

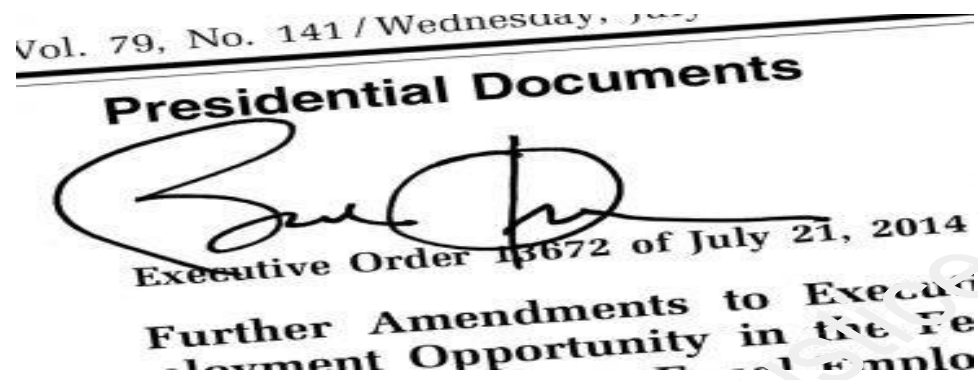
Tracee: “Family to me is unconditional love, accepting our flaws and all. As a family, sometimes we disagree, however, we know that we love each other. A family is constantly working out the issues, and hopefully, there aren’t very many. Family is a support system for when I am tired and frustrated — I can talk to them.”

May 2013

In 2013, SPARK partnered with the Strong Families Network for a Mama’s Day e-campaign. We were introduced to Black activist mothers from around Georgia including trans activist Tracee McDaniel of Juxtaposed Center for Transformation Incorporated, Marilyn Winn of Atlanta 9to5, and Mary Hooks of Southerners on New Ground.



2014



President Obama signs Executive Order 13672, adding "gender identity" to the categories protected against discrimination in hiring in the federal civilian workforce and both "sexual orientation" and gender identity" to the categories protected against discrimination in hiring and employment on the part of federal government contractors and sub-contractors.

6TH ANNUAL

Legislate THIS!

WOMEN OF COLOR
RECLAIMING & REBUILDING THE SOUTH

FEBRUARY 20, 2013

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
265 WASHINGTON STREET SW

WITH GUEST SPEAKERS

DEON HAYWOOD

MOYA BAILEY



www.legislatethis.org

www.sparkrj.org

2013

SPARK's 6th Annual LegislateTHIS! centered Women of Color Reclaiming & Rebuilding the South and featured Deon Haywood of Women with A Vision, and then graduate student Moya Bailey, founder and co-conspirator of Quirky Black Girls.

Under 2013's theme, SPARK sought to push their legislators to take action & seek dignity and wellness for all Georgia families and justice for the many who have suffered under the inhumane practice of restrained childbirth.

2013



2013 FYRE Media Justice Participants

In partnership with StoryCorps and Atlanta's community radio station WRFG 89.3FM, SPARK held their 3rd annual FYRE Media Justice Camp. This installment was all about RJ and radio broadcasting, and the participants created a multi-segment podcast on reproductive and racial justice issues.

7TH ANNUAL LEGISLATE THIS!



**TAKING ACTION
FOR MEDICAID EXPANSION
FOR OUR BODIES, OUR FUTURES,
OUR COMMUNITIES**

FEBRUARY 20, 2014

STARTING AT 9:00AM

**TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
265 WASHINGTON STREET SW
ATLANTA, GA 30303**

RSVP AT LEGISLATETHIS.SPARKRJ.ORG

February 2014

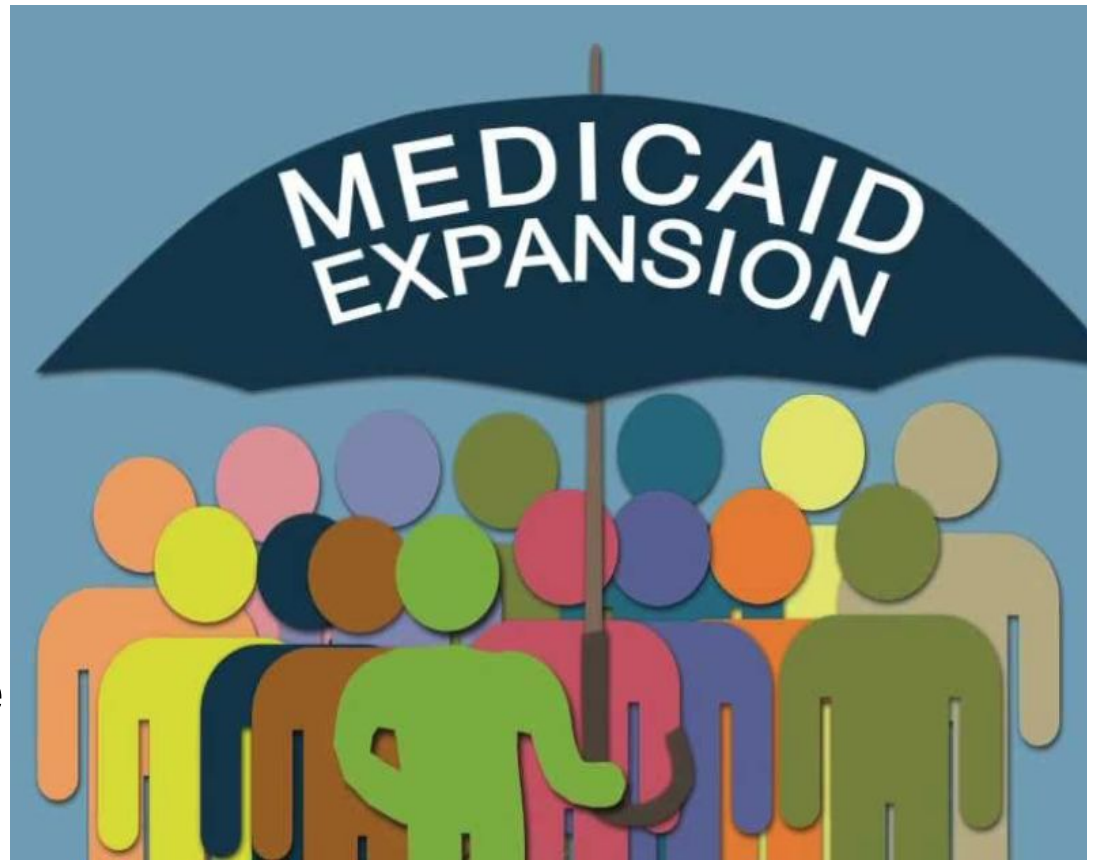
SPARK hosted its 7th Legislate THIS! -- a statewide day of action and advocacy centered on the expansion of Medicaid and pressuring Governor Nathan Deal to cover over 650,000 uninsured Georgia residents. The Supreme Court ruled in 2012 that states could individually choose to opt out of expansion.



April 2014

Governor Nathan Deal signs legislation to halt Medicaid expansion by giving the power to approve it to the General Assembly in House Bill 990.

Legislative approval (unlikely in Georgia) would be the condition for expansion, not the Governor's decision.



He also signed House Bill 943 which prohibited local/state governments from advocating for Medicaid expansion, effectively ending the operations of the University of Georgia's health insurance navigator program.

2014

In partnership with Advocates for Youth, SPARK hosts their '14 FYRE Media Camp, a dynamic leadership development initiative for Southern Queer and Trans youth of color interested in reproductive justice organizing. Youth engage in art-based activism and with media justice to create their own liberatory media.

This year's cohort created two short films about the lived experiences of Queer and Trans youth touching on gender-based violence, sexual harrassment, homophobia, transphobia, disposability, and the necessity of medicare expansion.



2014 FYRE Media Justice Camp Participants

2015



Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA) and cosponsors introduce the EACH Woman Act.

The Equal Access to Abortion Coverage in Health Insurance Act, or "EACH Woman Act," to ensures coverage for abortion for every woman, however much she earns or however she is insured.

La Representante Barbara Lee (D-CA) y los copatrocinadores introducen la legislación "EACH Woman Act." Esta legislación garantiza la cobertura del aborto para cada mujer, sin tomar en cuenta cuánto gane o cuál sea su aseguranza

2015



The White House and over 150 U.S. colleges and universities institute gender-neutral bathrooms.

2015

SPARK hosts its 8th LegislateTHIS! -- a day of lobbying and popular education at the Georgia Capitol. According to a participant, “Lobbying [...] every time I saw it was an association with white men in suits. And today, I realized that it’s just talking to people, just talking to people about the issues you really care about to create the change you want to see in the world.”



2015



Malta becomes the first country to outlaw non-consensual medical interventions to modify sex anatomy. It also becomes the first jurisdiction to protect intersex and other individuals from discrimination on grounds of “sex characteristics”

2015



SPARK hosts a 6 week organizing intensive for youth interested in improving their organizing and movement building skills in Georgia and the South. According to the SPARK website, “The SOI is geared towards supporting and empowering women of color (while centering the experiences of Black Women), young parents, and LGBTQ youth of color on issues that impact their lives and will provide an opportunity for new and experienced organizers and activists to dig deep on pressing issues that affect our communities across identities, gain concrete organizing skills, and directly organize and support community events and projects throughout 2015.”

2015



In collaboration with SisterLove and Georgia Equality, SPARK

May 2015

"These billboards are nothing more than a consistent attempt to instill fear and shame around making our own decisions about what is best for our bodies and families, "

- Monica Raye Simpson,
SisterSong



In response to new billboards by Pro-Life Across America, SPARK joined a coalition of 10 Atlanta based reproductive justice organizations to defeat the campaign which targeted Black birthing people. A town hall meeting was held to hear the concerns of Black birthing people in the community and to strategize how to prevent more of these kind of billboards from being erected.

2015

SPARK's 2015 FYRE camp sought to illuminate the voices of queer and trans youth through poetry. The youth participated in skill shares around RJ, media justice and activism and gained knowledge around how to create original spoken word pieces.



2015 FYRE Media Justice Camp Participants

2015



SPARK's 2015 LegislateTHIS! was a week of activity involving cultural teach-ins about art activism, a twitter discussion on all things RJ, and a grassroots lobby training for organizers with the Southern Center for Human Rights!



TAKEOVER DAY AT THE CAPITOL!

Join SPARK Reproductive Justice NOW and our community partners, members, and allies as we gather at the Capitol to take over Crossover Day with a full lineup of popular education teach-ins and grassroots lobbying!

MARCH 13TH
STARTING AT 10:00AM

GA STATE CAPITOL
SOUTH ROTUNDA



SPARK
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE NOW

2015

Crossover Day is the last opportunity a bill has to move from one legislative chamber to another to potentially become law. In 2015, with SisterLove, SisterSong, and the Feminist Women's Health Center, SPARK held a community takeover day full of teach-ins around sexual, reproductive, and maternal health issues.

2015

A promotional poster for an 'Ice Cream Social' event. The background is light pink with faint illustrations of various ice cream cones and popsicles. On the left, a large, detailed illustration of a blue soft-serve ice cream cone is shown. The text 'ICE CREAM SOCIAL' is written in large, bold, blue, sans-serif capital letters across the middle. To the right of the title, the event details are listed under the heading 'When & Where' in a smaller blue font. Below this, the date and time are given as 'Thursday, July 23, 2015 @ 6PM - 8PM', followed by the address '250 Georgia Hill Ave, Suite 207C, ATL, GA 30312'. Under the heading 'What' in blue, a paragraph describes the event: 'As the summer heat rises, come cool down with US at Kick It with SPARK! - Ice Cream Social Edition! We'll provide yummy ice cream treats and board games, but feel free to bring some of your personal favorites.' In the bottom right corner, there is a red, starburst-shaped logo with the text 'KICK IT with SPARK!' inside. A dark blue horizontal bar at the very bottom contains the text 'Kick It with SPARK! is a space for LGBTQQ young folks of color.' in white.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

When & Where
Thursday, July 23, 2015 @ 6PM - 8PM
250 Georgia Hill Ave, Suite 207C, ATL, GA 30312

What
As the summer heat rises, come cool down with US at Kick It with SPARK! - Ice Cream Social Edition! We'll provide yummy ice cream treats and board games, but feel free to bring some of your personal favorites.

Kick It with SPARK! is a space for LGBTQQ young folks of color.

Kick It with SPARK! saw its first year as an opportunity for queer and trans youth to gather and enjoy each other's company. The kickback series included an ice cream social, numerous film screenings, cupcakes, and a cookout.

2016



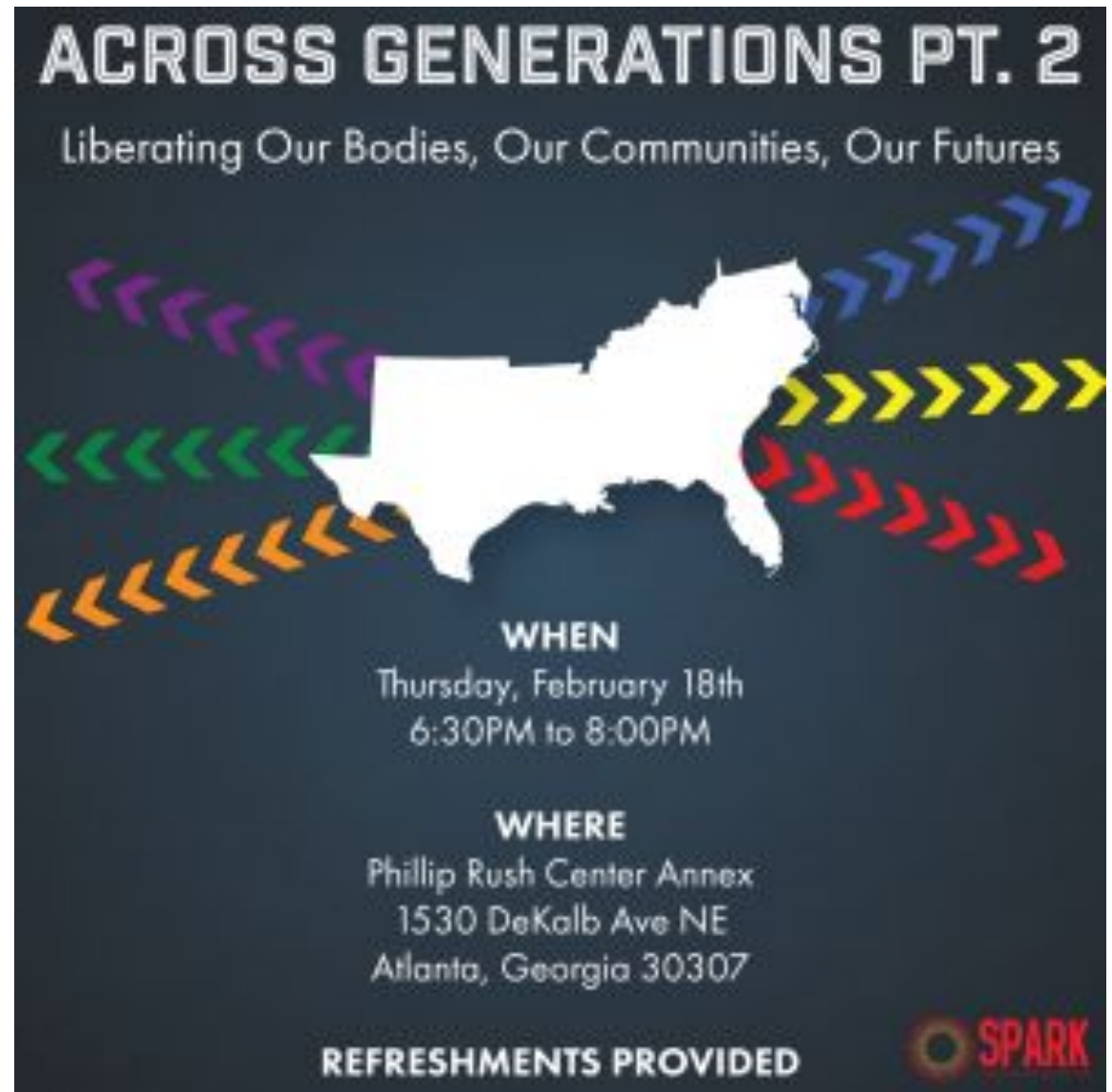
Mike Pence is elected Vice-President. Pence introduced the first federal legislation to defund Planned Parenthood, he signed 8 anti-abortion bills into law during less than four years as Governor of Indiana. signed a contract to take money from Indiana's TANF program and give it to an anti-abortion group.

That's just picking three things—he's done plenty more to limit access to reproductive justice.

Mike Pence es elegido Vice-Presidente. Pence introdujo la primera legislación federal que quita fondos de Planned Parenthood, firmó 8 leyes contra el aborto durante menos de cuatro años de ser gobernador de Indiana, firmó un contrato para tomar el dinero del programa TANF de Indiana y darlo a un grupo contra el aborto. Esto sólo es tres ejemplos—él ha hecho mucho más para limitar el acceso a la justicia reproductiva.

2016

SPARK hosted two *Across Generations* panels of local organizers, elders, and activists to honor Black History Month and discuss Black Queer and Trans Organizing in the South.



2016



My Body, My Vote was a panel discussion on the then upcoming elections and the potential they could have on marginalized communities.

2016



The state of North Carolina passed HB2, a bill that banned Trans students from using bathrooms matching their gender identity. The state has since lost millions of dollars in revenue.

2016



The digital campaign Heroes for HIV was initiated by SPARK's then Community Solutions Fellow Mutebi Bwakya. It centered the lived experience of queer and trans people of color and sought to highlight “the natural resources we hold as a community and how we are sometimes forced to suppress this collective power out of fear and shame.” The programming also involved a podcast interview with Zina Age of Aniz Inc. and a field day where SPARK organizers spoke to residents of Atlanta about HIV stigma, transmission, and care.

2016



Zintkala Mahpiya Wi Blackowl gives birth while at the Standing Rock unified collection of camps set up by Native people with the common goal of protecting Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Land from the construction of the Dakota Access Pipeline. Blackowl gives birth at the camp intentionally joined by Indigenous midwives stating, "Having babies is my act of resistance in this space, in particular. It creates the possibility for Indigenous women to decolonize not just through birth, but really come back to a place of matriarchy and respecting women in a way that we can also respect Mother Earth and not lay pipelines in her, not dig out her liver, her coal, just as they're doing in Black Mesa, Big Mountain, Sovereign Dine Nation, just as they're doing all across the world and across the globe."

2016



SPARK showed out for their 9th LegislateTHIS! day of action focusing on Medicaid expansion, expanding access to HIV testing and STD treatment, HIV criminalization, maternity leave, and establishing a living wage. They also had to keep their eyes on policies that would reverse reproductive wins such as Prenatal Personhood bills (which curtail people's access to abortions), targeted regulations of abortion providers, and bills that allow for discrimination against queer and trans people under the guise of religious freedom.

2016



The Olympic Committee declares Trans athletes can compete without “gender reassignment surgery.”

2016



The theme of SPARK's 2016 FYRE Camp was Paint as Resistance. Campers were trained on a variety of reproductive justice issues such as abortion stigma and HIV criminalization and were then guided into creating powerful pieces of artwork by Atlanta-based artist Angela Davis Johnson.

2017



Oregon passes the **Reproductive Health Equity Act**, expanding insurance coverage on abortion procedures and other reproductive health services to residents of Oregon regardless of their income, gender identity, or citizenship status.

Oregon aprueba la Ley de Equidad de Salud Reproductiva, amplificando la cobertura de seguro sobre los procedimientos de aborto y otros servicios de salud reproductiva a los residentes de Oregon, sin tomar en cuenta su ingreso, identidad de género o estatus de ciudadanía.

2017

SPARK held a public hearing with the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus to discuss HIV criminalization as part of a national task force The Georgia Coalition to End HIV Criminalization.



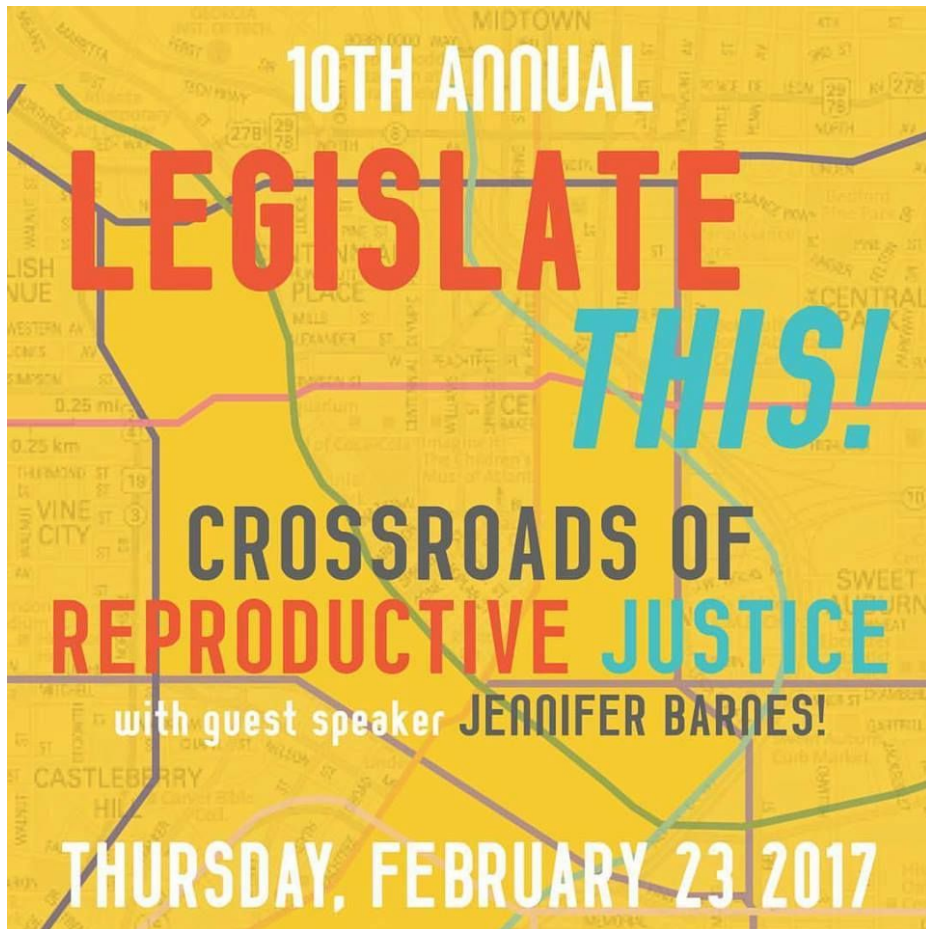
32 STATES,
INCLUDING GEORGIA,
HAVE CRIMINAL
LAWS THAT APPLY ONLY TO
PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV

2017



November elections brought many wins for candidates of color and those living in the LGBTQIA+ community, including:

2017



In celebration of the momentous 10th annual session of LegislateTHIS!, SPARK invoked Kimberlee Crenshaw's work on Intersectionality to bring awareness to issues impacting queer and trans people's reproductive health such as improving knowledge of PrEP and PEP, expanding access to HIV testing, and ending the shackling of incarcerated pregnant people.

Sheila Oliver, the state's first Black Lt. Governor of New Jersey.

Danica Roem, the first openly transgender person to be elected and seated as a state legislator. She will be serving in Virginia.

Kathy Tran, the first Asian American woman elected to the Virginia House of Delegates.

Elizabeth Guzman and Hala Ayala, the first-ever Latinas elected to the Virginia House of Delegates.

Marita Garrett, the first Black woman and youngest person to be elected Mayor of Wilkesburg, PA.

Andrea Jenkins, the first openly transgender woman of color elected to city council of a major city. She will be serving on the Minneapolis City Council.

Vi Lyles, the first Black woman elected to be mayor of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Sudanese American Mazahir Salih, the first Muslim woman and immigrant to be elected to Iowa City Council.

Joyce Craig, the first woman to be elected mayor of Manchester, New Hampshire.

Tyler Titus, the first openly transgender person to be elected in the state of Pennsylvania.

Janet Diaz, the first Latina member of city council in Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

Cathy Murillo, the first Latina mayor of Santa Barbara, California.

Mary Parham Copelan, the first elected Black woman mayor of Milledgeville, Georgia.

Michelle Kaufusi, the first woman elected to be mayor of Provo, Utah.

2017

SPARK joined a national day of action to protect and celebrate Black trans women and femmes in the wake of increasing violence and a government hostile to trans survival.



03.15.17 #ProtectTransWomen

NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION
to celebrate the lives of Black trans women
& protect all trans women & femmes

getequal.org/take-action



2017

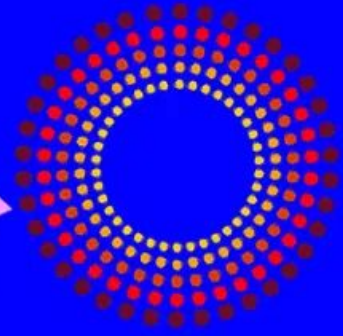
SPARK's 2017 FYRE Media Justice Camp was all about dance, specifically themed Rhythm Nation: Dancing through the Revolution. According to a FYRE attendee, SPARK teaches folks how "to use your artistic gifts to make RJ issues known and to continue to build community with each other."



2017

SPARK put out its first call for people to join its Trans Leadership Initiative (TLI). The TLI “engages trans youth of color to become leaders in their communities, build connections, and create reproductive & social justice programming that speaks to the issues of trans youth of color.

**SPARK
TRANS*
LEADERSHIP
INITIATIVE**



SPARK Reproductive justice NOW!
is putting out a call for transgender &
non-binary identifying individuals of color
seeking to enhance their leadership skills and
develop trans oriented programming as a part of
a new SPARK initiative!

**JOIN US FOR
TRANS LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE
INTEREST SOCIAL!
6PM-9PM ON TUESDAY, JUNE 13TH**

Georgia Hill Neighborhood Center
250 Georgia Ave SE Suite 207C
Atlanta, GA 30312

EMAIL TAYLOR@SPARKRJ.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION!

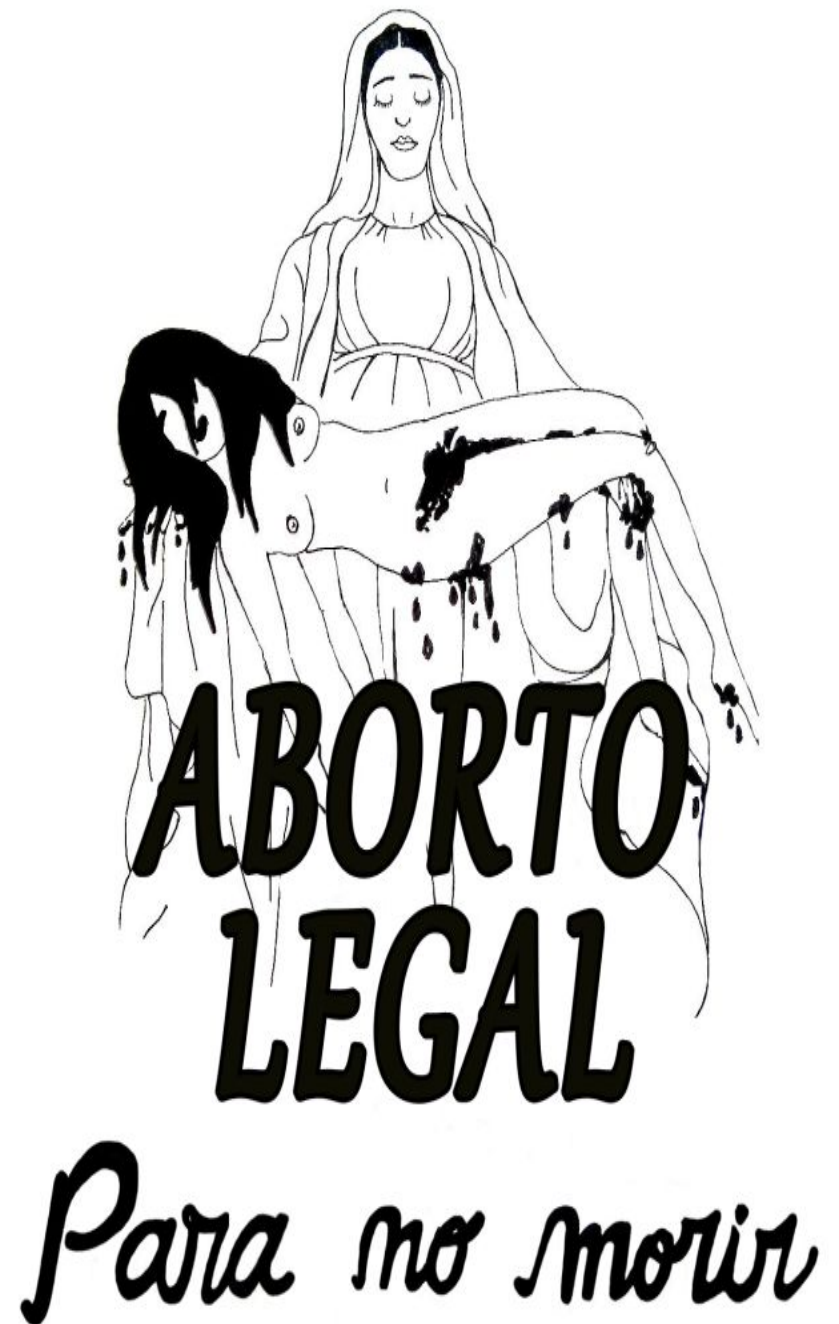
2017

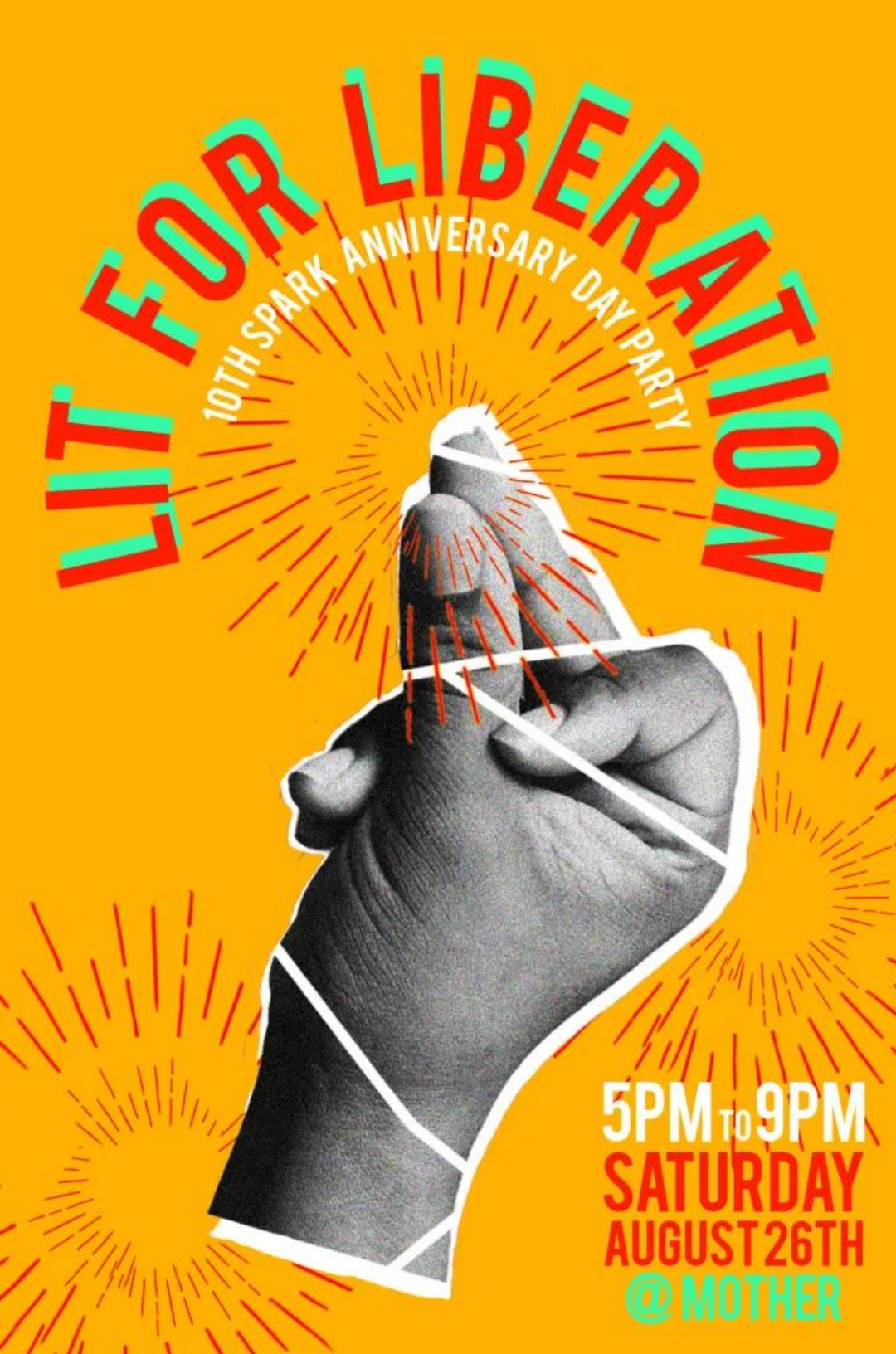
SPARK held a field day dedicated to mental health awareness and homelessness. They provided water and food to some of Atlanta's homeless people while speaking to them about their access to healthcare and healthcare services like mental health treatment. The SPARK team encountered barriers due to the reality that many people had little to no healthcare at points in their lives and were thus unfamiliar with the current state of healthcare access in the U.S.



2017

SPARK collaborated with the Somos Sur Art Collective to hold a discussion about and dispel silence around abortion within Latinx communities. T-shirts were also made with this powerful image.





2017

SPARK hosted a Lit for Liberation event to celebrate its 10th anniversary!

2018



On August 28, California became the first U.S. state to condemn nonconsensual surgeries on intersex children, in Resolution SCR-110

2018

SPARK offered its SOI cohort and community members the opportunity to participate in its 11th annual LegislateTHIS! day of advocacy and action and speak with Georgia State Representative Park Cannon.



11TH
ANNUAL

LEGISLATE THIS!

NAVIGATING THE INTERSECTIONS
OF **REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE**

WITH GUEST SPEAKER
**PARK
CANNON!**



9AM ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22 2018
TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
265 WASHINGTON STREET SW ATLANTA, GA 30303

RSVP AT [SPARKRJ.ORG/LEGISLATE-THIS](https://sparkrj.org/legislate-this)

2018



Scene and Heard was the theme for SPARK's 2018 FYRE media camp. SPARK held the space for movement building and elevating QTIBIPOC voices through theater. The team believes "we can act out during this political climate by asserting our voices and playing out our stories to hold center stage within the revolution."

2018 FYRE Media Justice Camp Participants

2018

SPARK debuts SPARK OFF! the podcast. In their first episode, the team discussed a recent legislative session they attended as Crossover Day approaches (the day that a bill must pass out of the legislative chamber to be seriously considered for passage). They noticed that there was a strong push to introduce a variety of harmful bills -- some are SB74, SB452, HB882, SB375.



2018

June 2018 saw the first Trans Leadership Initiative event where folks could gather, relax, learn more about the program, and the awesome things SPARK had on the horizon.



2018

To honor Trans Day of Remembrance, SPARK hosted a brunch gathering featuring music, collective conversation, and commemoration of our tranecestors and each other.



2018

Kae Goode and the Trans Leadership Initiative presented at Southern Fried Queer Pride's TRANS PWR Fest about finding freedom for our GNC/Trans bodies.



2019



Georgia bill HB 481 is signed into law by Governor Brian Kemp. Under law, abortion is criminalized 6 weeks after conception and only permissible in cases of rape or incest.

Let's talk about
**CRISIS PREGNANCY
CENTERS!**

hosted by...



SPARK
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE NOW



Feminist
Women's
Health Center

Lending, Educating, Advocating.

*refreshments provided



HOUSE PARTY



SEPTEMBER
20

6-9PM

FEMINIST WOMEN'S
HEALTH CENTER

1924 CLIFF VALLEY WAY NE
ATLANTA, GA 30329

For more info visit bit.ly/CPChouseparty

2019

SPARK hosts a party to discuss Crisis Pregnancy Centers which receive public money and intentionally mislead and/or harass people seeking birth control, reproductive care, and abortions.

2019



Georgia passes anti-shackling legislation, prohibiting the inhumane shackling of incarcerated pregnant folx while they are detained and giving birth.

2019

SPARK started their Queering Wellness series in 2019 centered on the yogic practice of Pranyama (conscious awareness of breath) in order to transmute oppression-based trauma for queer folks. The first series involved conversation, ritual, food, and connecting breath control with autonomy and personal power.

Queering Wellness
[a healing series]

PRESENTED BY

 **SPARK**
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE NOW


Osatyam

pranayama
find your breath

31
JAN

Connecting breath control,
autonomy, and
your personal power

Community Movement Builders
790 Welch Street, Atlanta, GA 30310
630PM - 830PM

*QueeringWellness @SPARKRJNOW @Osatyam

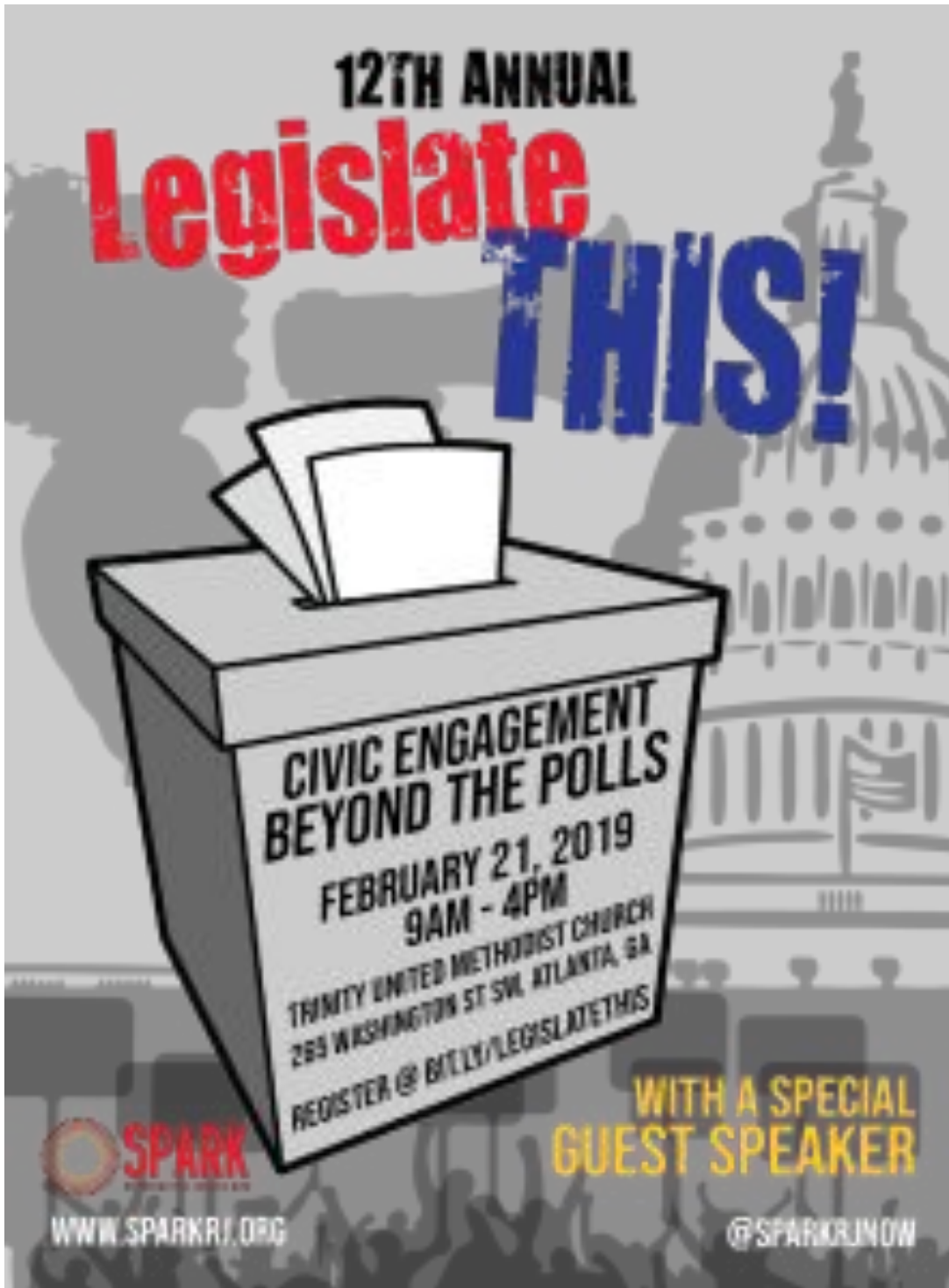
2019



Caster Semenya, a Black South African Intersex woman and olympic gold medalist is banned from competing due to high levels of testosterone, which is thought to give her an unfair advantage. This “unfair advantage” is not considered as such when it exists within white cisgender bodies, such as Michael Phelps, a white cis man and olympic gold medalist swimmer whose body produces naturally lower levels of testosterone allowing him to be more efficient within his craft. Semenya has also often been described by the media as “a man disguised as a woman,” and misgendered as a transgender woman. This clear attack on a Black non-normative body has prompted many other countries to prohibit their women athletes with high testosterone levels from competing as well.

2019

SPARK's 12th LegislateTHIS! was an opportunity to learn about and hold Georgia legislators accountable beyond the polls with special speaker Representative Shannon. SPARK also highlighted HB188 which would end the grant program which funds unregulated Crisis Pregnancy Centers.



2019



Alabama passes HB 314 into law, banning all abortions unless the life of the person giving birth is in danger.

2019

In alliance with SisterSong, Healthy & Free Tennessee, and the Women's Rights and Empowerment Network, SPARK created a regional partnership called the Southeastern Alliance for Reproductive Equity (SEARE). The aim is to align Reproductive Rights, Health, and Justice organizations serving various populations in the southeast.



2019

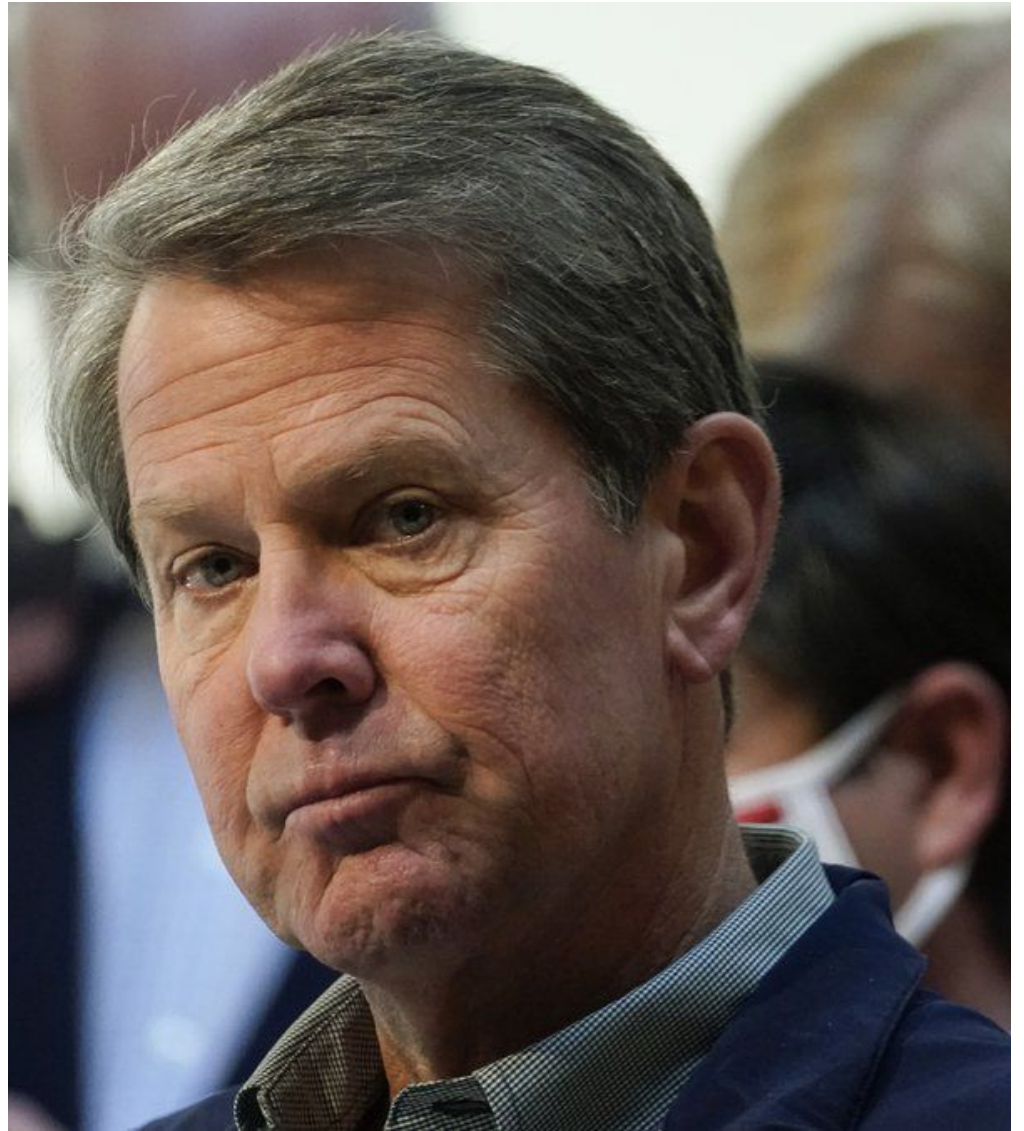


Botswana's High Court strikes down colonial era law that made gay sex illegal.

2019

Governor Brian Kemp signed HB 481, also known as the “heartbeat bill”, into law. The bill prohibited doctors from offering abortion services to pregnant people if a fetal heartbeat is present, which typically occurs at the six-week mark. Many people don’t know they’re pregnant by 6 weeks.

By June 2020, this bill was declared unconstitutional.

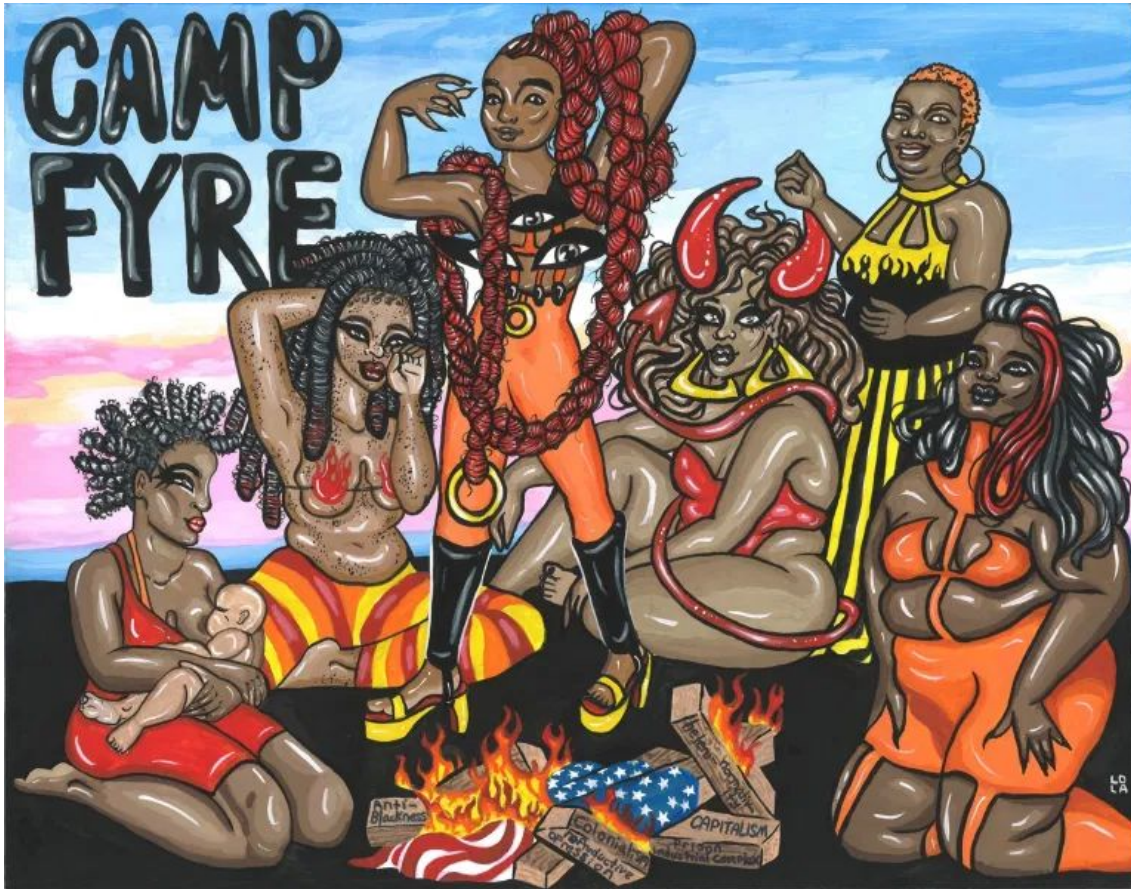


2019

SPARK hosted an open mic night for community members to showcase their skills and enjoy amazing performances from other artists in Atlanta.



2019



FYRE participants and SPARK staff created a zine with poetry, prose, essays, photos, drawings, recipes and more for the FYRE Media Justice Camp of 2019.



2019

SPARK hosted JUICE a lingerie event to reclaim fatness and party with each other. Hunter Shackelford hosted a workshop on fat futures, there was a photobooth constructed by Aurie Singletary, and an art showcase featuring the work of fat artists!

2020

13th Annual
LegislateTHIS!
"SHIFTING the NARRATIVE"

CPC Live Podcast
Wednesday, Feb 26
12PM - 1PM
@ The Movement Lab

in partnership with...
URGE
UNITE FOR REPRODUCTIVE
& GENDER EQUITY

13th Annual
LegislateTHIS!
"SHIFTING the NARRATIVE"

**Paint & Political
Educate**
Thursday, Feb 27
6PM - 8PM
@ the SPARK OFFICE
1065 Ralph David Abernathy

13th Annual
LegislateTHIS!
"SHIFTING the NARRATIVE"

Self-Care Brunch
Saturday, Feb 29
10AM - 2PM
@ the SPARK OFFICE
1065 Ralph David Abernathy

LegislateTHIS! 2020 was a week of programming beginning with an Advocacy Day where folks could discuss laws that impact their communities with their legislator and ending with a self-care brunch. Other events included listening to a live podcast on Crisis Pregnancy Centers which mislead people seeking care and SPARK's base member meeting where participants discussed RJ and capitalism while painting.

2020

SPARK hosted a massive conference called #JusticeNOW2020 to bring together activists, organizers, educators, community members, public health professionals and funders in conversation around Reproductive Justice. There were a variety of workshops, sessions, and panels that made it possible for folks to strategize, plan, and engage in social justice struggle together.



2020

Introducing...

SPARK Reproductive Justice NOW's 2020 Policy Report!

Shifting the Narrative: A Reproductive
Justice Analysis of the Healthcare
Inequities Affecting Trans and
Gender-Diverse Folx in Georgia and the
Policies Necessary for Progress

bit.ly/sparkpolicy

SPARK released a policy report detailing the state of health care experienced by trans and gender diverse people in Georgia. In doing so, they highlighted policies in place that are both beneficial and harmful to trans/gender diverse people and how policies and laws impact the health outcomes and wellbeing of our communities.

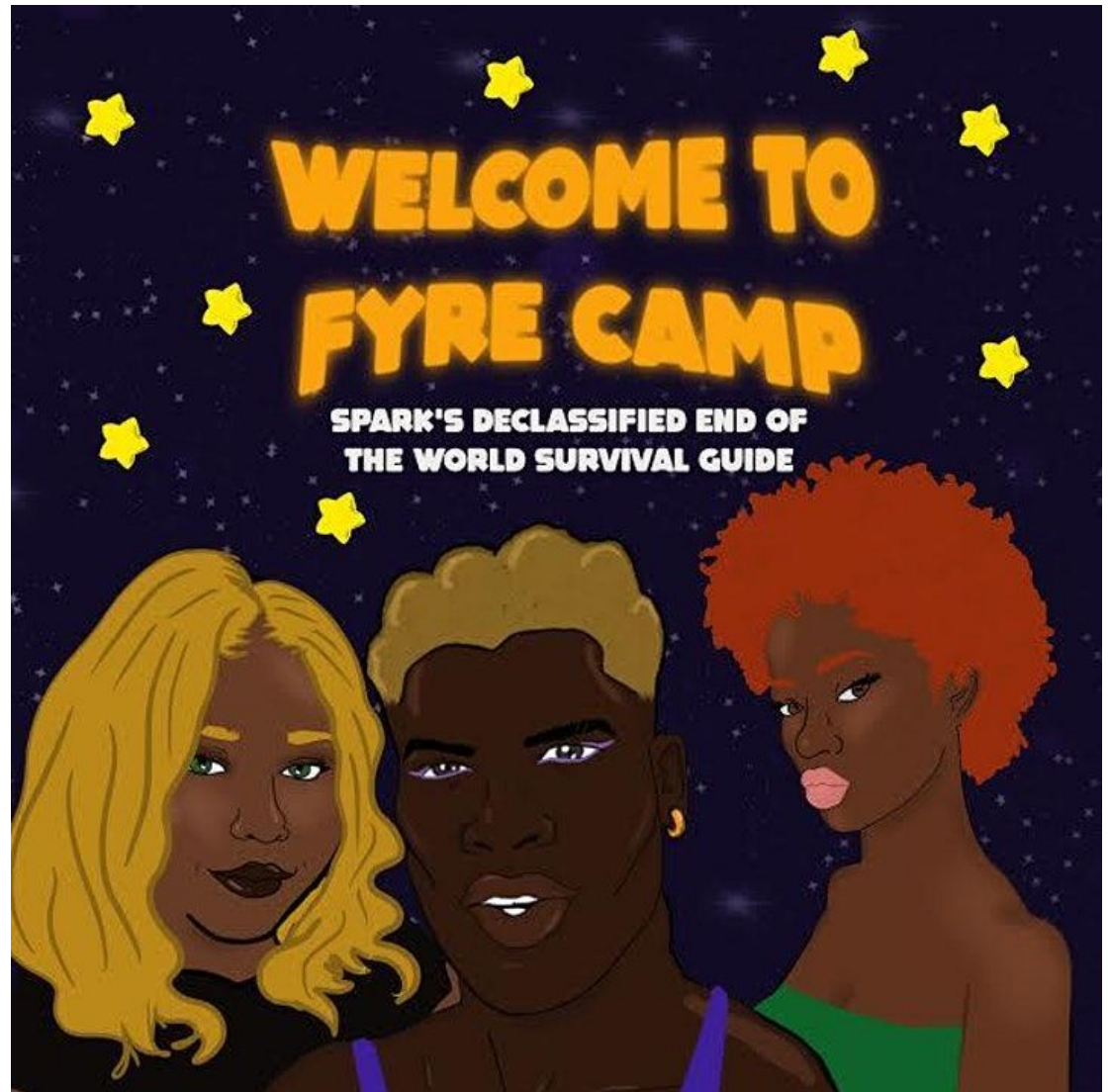
2020

SPARK announced and launched its Power in a Name Project which is an organizing and advocacy campaign to affirm the names and genders of trans and non-binary folks in the state of Georgia. The project's aim is to help trans and non-binary people navigate the name and gender marker change process by providing resources to make the change easier while working towards the abolition of name/gender change barriers.



2020

SPARK held its first digital FYRE Media Justice Camp over the course of three days. The first day was all about RJ 101 and Queering RJ, the second was dedicated to Op-Ed training and a dance party, and the third was for Yoga and a Drag show.



2021

For the first time, SPARK's LegislateTHIS! was held virtually through Instagram and Clubhouse. It provided a space for folks to gather, discuss, and advocate against anti-trans legislation, Crisis Pregnancy Centers and other pressing issues that impact their communities.



THE 14TH ANNUAL
LegislateTHIS!

An opportunity for both new and experienced organizers and activists to advocate on pressing issues that affect our communities across identities.

WHEN: March 3, 2021
6-8 PM EST

WHERE: Clubhouse App

RSVP @ bit.ly/sparklt2021

 **SPARK**
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE NOW

2021

SPARK digitally organized around SB266, a bill that would prevent trans girls from participating in school sports with their cis peers. They followed and live-tweeted the proceedings.

