



Webinar #2 in our 2018 series

HIV Criminalization and Women: A Roundtable Conversation with Survivors

Tuesday, October 30, 2018 | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM ET

SPEAKER: **Carrie Foote, PhD**
Chair, HIV Modernization Movement-Indiana

PANELISTS: **Julie Graham, Monique Howell, Tiommi Jenae Luckett, Tiffany Moore, and Jessica Whitbread**

Moderated by Krista Martel, Executive Director, The Well Project

Visit www.thewellproject.org for a link to register



10/30/2018 15:50 **Tiommi Luckett:** I'm here.

10/30/2018 16:02 **Kamaria C Laffrey:** Hi everyone!

10/30/2018 16:02 **Olivia Ford:** Greetings everyone!:heart_eyes:

10/30/2018 16:02 **The Well Project:** Welcome! Here is a link to today's slides:

<https://www.thewellproject.org/sites/default/files/HIV%20Criminalization%20and%20Women%20Slides%20FINAL%2010.30.18.pdf>

10/30/2018 16:02 **Angelina Namiba from London:** Hello everyone, from London.

10/30/2018 16:03 **Wesley Chicko from State College:** Hello from Pennsylvania!

10/30/2018 16:03 **Caroline Watson from Albany:** Hi everyone!

10/30/2018 16:03 **Sophia Kass:** Hi everyone! Sophia Kass from San Francisco. Positively Trans at the Transgender Law Center

10/30/2018 16:03 **Monique Howell:** Hello its Monique Howell SC:)

10/30/2018 16:03 **Tiommi Luckett:** Hello everyone from Little Rock, Arkansas

10/30/2018 16:03 **Ricardo Mora from Houston:** Hello from Houston!

10/30/2018 16:03 **Alejandra Aguilar Avelino:** Alejandra from Los Angeles ELAWC

10/30/2018 16:03 **The Well Project:** Here's also a link to our fact sheet: <https://www.thewellproject.org/hiv-information/hiv-criminalization-and-women>

10/30/2018 16:04 **Jenna Conley:** thank you all for joining us today!

10/30/2018 16:05 **Carla Martinez from Orillia:** Carla from Ontario Canada!

10/30/2018 16:05 **Stephanie Zelenkic from Chicago:** Stephanie from Chicago, IL

10/30/2018 16:05 **Cheryl Radeloff:** Cheryl Radeloff from Las Vegas

10/30/2018 16:05 **Tranisha Arzah:** Tranisha from Seattle. Hi y'all

10/30/2018 16:19 **angel stetson from sarasota:** Hello Sorry Im late

10/30/2018 16:19 **The Well Project:** Welcome Angel!

10/30/2018 16:22 **Tiommi Luckett:** Welcome Angel!!

10/30/2018 16:26 **angel stetson from sarasota:** Hi Tiommi and The well Project <3

10/30/2018 16:34 **Kellee Terrell from Los Angeles:** Hi everyone. It's Kellee, the well project social media manager, Krista can you ask folks to tweet some of the webinar if possible?

10/30/2018 16:37 **Angelina Namiba from London:** yes

10/30/2018 16:40 **angel stetson from sarasota:** I am so sad, I love you woman. I just stopped the abuse yesterday, I am in hiding. This is so hard to deal with when I know the focus will be on my hiv not the abuse. So I continue on to the win. <3

10/30/2018 16:41 **angel stetson from sarasota:** Keep inspiring I need to go see the doctor and be checked , love and light

10/30/2018 16:42 **The Well Project:** Sending love, Angel

10/30/2018 16:42 **angel stetson from sarasota:** I have the best support right here. Im going to be ok Thank you

10/30/2018 16:42 **Carrie Foote:** Love you Angel! We are all here for you!

10/30/2018 16:42 **Tiommi Luckett:** That's one of the harshest laws I've heard of!

10/30/2018 16:43 **Olivia Ford**: Thank you so much, Monique, Tiommi, and also Angel, and all who share experiences of such injustice, so generously :heart:

10/30/2018 16:43 **Angelina Namiba from London**: Sending love and hugs x

10/30/2018 16:43 **Tiommi Luckett**: I'm glad Angel!!

10/30/2018 16:43 **The Well Project**: Operation Blackout -- So crazy

10/30/2018 16:43 **Tiommi Luckett**: Olivia, people never know what we have gone through when we have this platform. I try to tell people that it is not the glamorous life they think it is.

10/30/2018 16:44 **angel stetson from sarasota**: love you ladies , Thank you

10/30/2018 16:45 **Wesley Chicko from State College**: Wow...these stories are heartbreaking. I commend all of you for your bravery and for the stellar examples you are setting.

10/30/2018 16:46 **Olivia Ford**: Absolutely, Tiommi - visibility is vulnerability - and also WORK:purple_heart:

10/30/2018 16:47 **Angelina Namiba from London**: Thank you for sharing ladies. Your experiences are so powerful.

10/30/2018 16:47 **Carla Hardnett from Houston**: Some of the testimonies re: criminalization is shocking. This is really good information. Thanks for sharing...

10/30/2018 16:48 **Kamaria C Laffrey**: We're with you in solidarity ladies. Thank you for sharing your stories. People need to know about this, that real stories are behind these laws. Real people are being impacted. Just thank you for being here Monique, Tiommi, Tiffany and Jessica. Thank you.

10/30/2018 16:49 **Olivia Ford**: Thanks so much for your story and voice, Tiffany - and welcome Jessica and wee twin!:two_hearts:

10/30/2018 16:50 **The Well Project**: Thank you so much Monique, Tiommi, Tiffany, and Jessica for sharing your very powerful and personal experiences. We appreciate your willingness to share to help others. <3

10/30/2018 16:50 **Kamaria C Laffrey**: This issue around sexual assault really, really, really concerns me. I've been doing workshops on educating about the laws, but when I get asked about this topic in particular - I am left feeling so freaking helpless.

10/30/2018 16:51 **Tiommi Luckett**: It was a really hopeless situation for me Kamaria! I had to do some soul searching. The depression and PTSD after it happened was real. The whole ordeal nearly immobilized me.

10/30/2018 16:52 **angel stetson from sarasota**: Hearing these stories let me know there is hope ; however until the criminalization laws are changed . I will never feel safe from my rapist.

10/30/2018 16:52 **The Well Project**: We agree, Kamaria.

10/30/2018 16:53 **Kamaria C Laffrey**: Tiommi I'm so glad that you have seen the other side of this, inspite of how traumatizing it has been, you show up for others and I applaud you.

10/30/2018 16:53 **angel stetson from sarasota**: Tiommi Thank you I feel like I lost my mind

10/30/2018 16:53 **Kamaria C Laffrey**: Yes, Angel, there is hope.

10/30/2018 16:53 **angel stetson from sarasota**: Powerful woman ; you are my inspiration and my Why

10/30/2018 16:55 **Tiommi Luckett**: It's not all me Kamaria! I'm surrounded by stronger women. The key is we all lean on each other and are there for each other. The past few months have shown us that if not us, then no one! Not our elected officials!

10/30/2018 16:55 **angel stetson from sarasota**: Kamaria maybe after my mental health care for this I can be of help to you in your workshops.

10/30/2018 16:56 **The Well Project**: We definitely need to continue to stick together and continue to lift each other up!

10/30/2018 16:56 **KIMBERLY JANE from PATERSON**: I really feel like in some cases of rape this criminalization laws should go in affect. But not for disclosing their partners, Only because how serious the punishment is, and if we do use that law then it should be for every STD or STI not just for HIV. I feel like that can be used across the board and be equal

10/30/2018 16:56 **The Well Project**: and Vote!

https://www.facebook.com/events/2247296248827609/?active_tab=about

10/30/2018 16:57 **angel stetson from sarasota**: Yes we do, without you woman and the people who support us, I would be dead from my depression and ptsd. I cannot do this by myself

10/30/2018 16:57 **Olivia Ford**: @ Jessica, so, so important to hear you speak about your experience breastfeeding - and the rough connection between public health and legal systems

10/30/2018 16:57 **Wesley Chicko from State College**: To the group: how can men best use the inherent privilege we have in our society to fight on behalf of women living with HIV and fighting against these systemic obstacles?

10/30/2018 16:58 **Tiommi Lockett:** Get Out the HIV Vote!!

10/30/2018 16:58 **Nick Melloan-Ruiz:** !!!!

10/30/2018 16:58 **Olivia Ford:** Many, many thanks to you for sharing, and to your wee one for also joining us and sharing his fabulous mama with us:purple_heart:

10/30/2018 16:59 **angel stetson from sarasota:** Wesley great question, I dont know the answer . i GO FOR AN STD TEST FROM THE ABUSE TODAY and I still cant press charges

10/30/2018 16:59 **Angelina Namiba from London:** Thank you so much Jessica. The issue of breastfeeding is one that is close to women's hearts and it should be a choice, as long as you are supported and monitored and are engaged in healthcare. Which you clearly are. Happy to share with you some information that is being developed here in the UK around supporting healthcare clinicians and mothers who choose to breastfeed under the right circumstances. Although the recommendation in the UK is still to formula feed as the risk of passing on HIV via formula feeding is nil. However, some women can be supported if they meet certain criteria. The BHIVA British HIV Association Guidelines for the management of HIV in pregnancy are currently being updated and should soon be available.

10/30/2018 16:59 **Stephanie Zelenkic from Chicago:** Thank you all for sharing your experiences with us today.

10/30/2018 17:01 **angel stetson from sarasota:** That is beautiful Tiommi <3

10/30/2018 17:02 **Carrie Foote:** Wesley, I think sharing the stories/voices of women is powerful... making sure space is created so women can share their stories . And then trully understand the arguments as to why these laws particularly harm women so when people argue they are protective, you can effectively explain the great harms for women. And to insure the voices of women in all our diversity are included especially those most harmed - transwomen, racial/ethnic minorities, women who use drugs, engage in sex work. So bottom line, when advocating, make sure women are at the table, especially women who have experienced HIV criminalization.

10/30/2018 17:02 **Jessica Whitebread:** Yes I am very aware of the new developments in the UK. I think that it is important to support women in their decision making. @angelina <3

10/30/2018 17:03 **Kamaria C Laffrey:** I am so so sorry that I have to go early. Please know I am sending positive vibes and prayers, and love and strength to ALL of you. We are going to keep screaming #HIVIsNOTaCrime until NO ONE else is held captive under these laws. That is my declaration.

10/30/2018 17:03 **Tiommi Lockett:** Have a great rest of the day Kamaria!!

10/30/2018 17:04 **Nancy Duncan from Valley Stream:** Thanks to all 4 women for sharing your stories, they're very powerful and you are all great advocates for HIV criminalization.

10/30/2018 17:04 **Wesley Chicko from State College:** Thanks for sharing that, Dr. Foote. We make every effort to make our clinic a safe space for people, but I don't feel that we've always done the best job of giving a voice to those we serve. Some of that we can blame on our state DoH, but some of it is that, simply, we need to do better. The words and stories of these women have certainly inspired me to work towards that goal.

10/30/2018 17:04 **The Well Project:** thank you, Kamaria! We'll send around the recording and resources later this week when it's on our website!

10/30/2018 17:05 **angel stetson from sarasota:** Love and Light to all.

10/30/2018 17:06 **KIMBERLY JANE from PATERSON:** So sorry im heart is breaking. It so crazy how if even you do the right thing and disclose how they can use it against you. And now i understand why people dont

10/30/2018 17:07 **Olivia Ford:** @ Ms Kimberly Jane - thanks for your comment - In cases of rape, in which the person doing the rape is living with HIV or another STI, we have laws against sexual assault to punish the person who did this crime. Rape is a crime; having a health condition isn't a crime. It can be really dangerous to start down the road of charging people more harshly based on things about themselves they can't change, like having a health condition ... Many thanks for sharing your perspective! I think this may come up in the discussion as well!

10/30/2018 17:07 **Angelina Namiba from London:** Thank you for sharing and coping as best as you can and staying strong ladies. Your stories of resilience inspire us to continue advocating for our peers.

10/30/2018 17:07 **Tiommi Lockett:** Wesley,, it won't happen overnight. By now, if you have noticed it, then the community of women you serve have noticed it and there may be some resistance. Stay the course. Trust of this magnitude has to be earned. And looking at it from a trauma-informed lens.

10/30/2018 17:08 **Wesley Chicko from State College:** Tiommi, I believe you are correct. Thank you for sharing your wisdom with me and with everyone else today. All of you who shared today are truly inspiring.

10/30/2018 17:13 **Angelina Namiba from London:** Question to the Well Project Team. What can we as

individuals and those affiliated to organisations do to support you in this advocacy journey?

10/30/2018 17:19 **Jessica Whitebread**: Getting a paper trail is the least sexiest thing -- but it can protect you later on if there was an issue about disclosure later.

(Sound problems)

10/30/2018 17:22 **Angelina Namiba from London**: Thank you for organising.

10/30/2018 17:22 **Carla Hardnett from Houston**: i concor! thanks everyone. You did a fantastic job.

10/30/2018 17:23 **The Well Project**: We apologize! We'll follow up with an email around some of the questions. Thanks to everyone for being here and sharing!

10/30/2018 17:23 **The Well Project**: If you're all good to carry on with Q&A, please do!

10/30/2018 17:23 **Tranisha Arzah**: Thanks, y'all!!! Great webinar

10/30/2018 17:23 **Ricardo Mora from Houston**: Thank you all for sharing your stories! It was a great webinar!

10/30/2018 17:30 **The Well Project**: I'm so very sorry for the horrible sound problems earlier--

10/30/2018 17:31 **Olivia Ford**: Absolutely true - sexual assault laws are likely underused and certainly sexual assaults are underreported. Adding HIV-specific enhancements doesn't change that, promote honesty or safety in relationships, or protect people from being assaulted - it doesn't add more justice, it only brings more trauma

10/30/2018 17:31 **The Well Project**: Very much agree with Carrie's sentiments.

10/30/2018 17:31 **Stephanie Zelenkic from Chicago**: I am here with Lambda Legal. Please contact our help desk with any questions you may have. We are linked in the slide that is currently up.

10/30/2018 17:32 **The Well Project**: Thank you all! We'll send along the resources later this week. Bye!

10/30/2018 17:32 **Jessica Whitebread**: Thank you so much for having me join the conversation. Its tough but important to talk about.

10/30/2018 17:32 **Carrie Foote**: thanks you all!

10/30/2018 17:32 **Olivia Ford**: Many, many thanks to everyone for joining us - and much gratitude to our phenomenal panelists!

10/30/2018 17:32 **Angelina Namiba from London**: Thank you

10/30/2018 17:32 **Stephanie Zelenkic from Chicago**: Thank you!!