Feminist Research Institute Presents

Dr. Aubrey Jackson Assistant Professor, Dept. of Sociology "The Socio-Political Context of Abortion Bill Activity in the Texas Legislature"



Monday
Jan. 30, 2017
12:00-1:00pm
SUB Cherry/Silver

Spring 2017 Lecture Series

For the past few decades, a prominent controversy in US politics has centered on an outcome highly consequential for women's health and rights—abortion. Extant research investigates how Supreme Court decisions and interest groups have shaped arguments for and against restrictions on abortion, as well as the state laws regulating this act. But less is known about ebb and flow in legislative attention to abortion, and how it relates to broader social, economic, and political factors. To address this gap in the literature, we investigate patterns of proposed abortion bills in the Texas legislature since 1992. Specifically, we analyze how the characteristics of legislators and of the counties they serve influence the volume of abortion-related bills filed in a given legislative session. Our study highlights how abortion policy represents a women's issue in the broader context of partisan competition.

This study is co-authored by Alexis MacLennan