2023 Writing Prize for New Student Scholarship in Reproductive Rights & Justice

If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice, the Center for Reproductive Rights, and the Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice invite submissions for the 18th annual Writing Prize for New Student Scholarship in Reproductive Rights & Justice.

Prizes
Winning authors will receive cash prizes: $750 (1st place), $500 (2nd place), or $250 (3rd place), and a copy of the textbook, Cases on Reproductive Rights and Justice (Murray & Luker). The first-place winning submission will also be granted a “presumption of publishability” and receive expedited review by the Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice.

Scope
The Writing Prize seeks student scholarship exploring reproductive rights and justice issues in the U.S. We encourage writing that amplifies lesser-heard voices, suggests innovative solutions, and takes into account the realities and the lived experiences of the people most affected by reproductive oppression. We ask students to think expansively about reproductive rights and justice and to analyze issues using an intersectional lens – to consider the impact of demographic and institutional factors such as race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexuality, ability, and immigration status.

Theme
The suggested theme for this year is “A Different World Is Possible: Repro Health, Rights, and Justice Post-Dobbs.” With the constitutional protection for abortion overturned by the Supreme Court, we encourage students to envision creative and expansive approaches to securing reproductive health, rights, and justice for all people. Submissions might explore topics that intersect with If/When/How’s strategic initiatives, such as removing barriers to abortion access and supporting those who seek reproductive care outside the clinical setting, combatting criminalization, strategies for securing reproductive rights at the state or local level, and public funding of reproductive health care through an intersectional, reproductive justice lens. All submissions on other reproductive rights and justice topics are welcomed.

Requirements
Papers must be at least 10 pages in length (not including footnotes), double-spaced in 12-point font with footnotes in 10-point font, conforming to Bluebook citation format. Only original scholarship by current J.D. or LL.M. law students or recent 2023 graduates will be accepted. Papers being considered for publication elsewhere are ineligible for the first-place prize but may be considered for second and third place. Winners will be selected by a panel of legal academics and announced in December 2023.

Send your submission as an email attachment (in Word format, saved with your name in the title) along with the name of your law school, graduation year, and mailing address to submissions@ifwhenhow.org by 5:00 pm PT on Monday, October 16, 2023. Questions? Email submissions@ifwhenhow.org.