

Newsletter



Volume 18 Issue 1

SPRING 2011

CAR News

New CAR Working Paper Series

Dear Members,

I am pleased to announce that we are creating a CAR Working Papers Series. This creates an opportunity for scholars at different stages of their career to have their work public as well as available for comments and critiques before publication.

Our [website](#) will have the instructions, including brief guidelines for submission and citation.

Please encourage your students and colleagues - and yourselves! - to submit material. We on the CAR Steering Committee want to put the anthropology of reproduction back on the map and make our organization more intellectually engaged. This is a small step in that direction.

Best,
Vania Smith-Oka, CAR Chair

Other News

- ◆ We are seeking a **new co-editor** for the CAR Newsletter starting in the fall of 2011, as this is Jan Brunson's last newsletter. The term lasts for 2 years. Please contact Vania Smith at vsmithok@nd.edu if you are interested.
- ◆ We would like to welcome the **new Chair -Elect**, Claire Wendland. We are pleased that she will serve as CAR Chair in 2011-2013.
- ◆ We also want to welcome Aminata Maraesa as the **new treasurer**

Find us on the web...

<http://sites.google.com/site/anthrorepro/>

...and on [facebook](#)

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Congratulations



The winner of the 2010 CAR prize for Best Edited Volume is *Reconciving the Second Sex*, edited by Marcia Inhorn, Tine Tjornhoj-

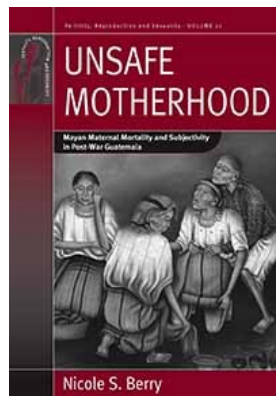
Thomsen, Helene Goldberg, and Maruska la Cour Mosegaard (award accepted at the CAR meeting by Sallie Han, contributing author)

The winner of the 2010 Graduate Student Paper Prize goes to Shana Fruehan Sandberg for, "Resisting Intervention, (En)trusting My Partner: Unmarried Women's Narratives about Contraceptive Use in Tokyo"

The CAR Steering Committee

Chair:	Vania Smith-Oka
Senior Advisor:	Robbie Davis-Floyd
Secretary:	Lauren Fordyce
Treasurer:	Aminata Maraesa
Newsletter Co-Editors:	Jan Brunson, Diana Santana
Advocacy Committee:	Elise Andaya, Maggie MacDonald, Jen Aengst, Lauren Fordyce, Rebecca Howes-Mischel
Book Prize:	Kim Gutschow, Carolyn Smith-Morris
Graduate Paper Prize:	Crystal Patil, Catherine Mater nowska, Jill Fleuriet, Robbie Davis-Floyd, Rachel Chapman
Membership Coordinator:	Sallie Han, Elizabeth Wirtz
Listserv:	Lara Braff
Website:	Sarah Orndorff, Jan Brunson

New Books



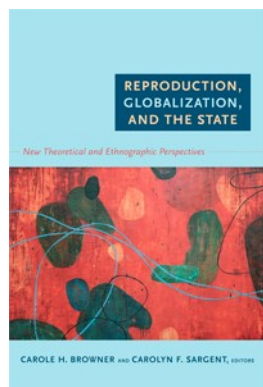
Unsafe Motherhood: Mayan Maternal Mortality and Subjectivity in Post-War Guatemala

Nicole S. Berry

Berghahn Books

Since 1987, when the global community first recognized the high frequency of women in developing countries dying from pregnancy-related causes, little progress has been made to combat this problem. This study follows the global policies that have been implemented in Sololá, Guatemala in order to decrease high rates of maternal mortality among indigenous Mayan women. The author examines the diverse meanings and understandings of motherhood, pregnancy, birth and birth-related death among the biomedical personnel, village women, their families, and midwives. These incongruous perspectives, in conjunction with the implementation of such policies, threaten to disenfranchise clients from their own cultural understandings of self. The author investigates how these policies need to meld with the everyday lives of these women, and how the failure to do so will lead to a failure to decrease maternal deaths globally.

Nicole S. Berry is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, British Columbia.



Reproduction, Globalization, and the State

Carole Browner and Carolyn Sargent (eds)

Duke University Press

Reproduction, Globalization, and the State conceptualizes and puts into practice a global anthropology of reproduction and reproductive health. Leading anthropologists offer new perspectives on how transnational migration and global flows of communications, commodities, and biotechnologies affect the reproductive lives of women and men in diverse societies throughout the world. Based on research in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Western Europe, their fascinating ethnographies provide insight into reproduction and reproductive health broadly conceived to encompass population control, HIV/AIDS, assisted reproductive technologies, paternity tests, sex work, and humanitarian assistance. The contributors address the methodological challenges of research on globalization, including ways of combining fine-grained ethnography with analyses of large-scale political, economic, and ideological forces. Their essays reveal complex interactions among global and state population policies and politics; public health, human rights, and feminist movements; diverse medical systems; various religious practices, doctrines, and institutions; and intimate relationships and individual aspirations.

Contributors:

Aditya Bharadwaj, Caroline H. Bledsoe, Carole H. Browner, Junjie Chen, Aimee R. Eden, Susan L. Erikson, Didier Fassin, Claudia Lee Williams Fonseca, Ellen Gruenbaum, Matthew Gutmann, Marcia C. Inhorn, Mark B. Padilla, Rayna Rapp, Lisa Ann Richey, Carolyn Sargent, Papa Sow, Cecilia Van Hollen, Linda Whiteford

Panels on Reproduction at the SfAA Conference



WEDNESDAY

(W-101) WEDNESDAY 1:30-3:20 Tolmie

Choices and Constraints in Reproductive Health Care

CHAIR: ERICKSON, Pamela (U Conn)
 BULLED, Nicola, BALL, Cassandra, BRAULT, Marie, COLON, Richard, and LERMAN, Shir (U Conn) An Ethnographic Decision Tree Model of US College Students' Male Condom Use
 CHENEY, Ann, MARCUS, Ruthanne, FRANK, Cyndy, and OSTRACH, Bayla (U Conn) A Textual Analysis of U.S. College Students' Male Condom Use
 ERICKSON, Pamela (U Conn) The Social Construction of Sex and Pregnancy as Unplanned Events among Inner City Youth in Hartford
 HOLT, Kelsey, GRINDLAY, Kate, and GROSSMAN, Dan (Ibis Reproductive Hlth) Deployed US Military Women's Needs and Experiences Related to Reproductive Health Care
 PILLSBURY, Barbara (Int'l Hlth & Dev Assoc) Abortion, Poverty and Contraception: Women's Constraints and Choices in Ukraine
 GRACE, Samantha (U Arizona) Telling Sex Ed Stories
 FAWELL, Katie (W Wash U) Cultural-Ecological Approach to Prenatal Care among Latino Immigrant Women

(W-131) WEDNESDAY 3:30-5:20 Tolmie

The Times Are Changing: Shifting Paradigms of Reproductive Health Care

CHAIR: MAUPIN, Jonathan (Arizona State U)
 ROHWER, Shayna (U Oregon) Information, Kinship, and Community: Teen Mothers' Perceptions of Doula Support
 MOFFAT, Amy A.E. (UC-Merced) Lessons Learned from Applying Anthropology to a Community-Based Doula Program
 MERINO CHÁVEZ, Nadia (San Diego State U) "Times Are Changing": The Role of Biomedicine in Childbirth Practices in Rural Oaxaca
 MAUPIN, Jonathan (Arizona State U) Problem Stories: Guatemalan Midwives' Narratives of Birthing Complications
 HILDEBRAND, Vanessa (Case Western Reserve U) Boundaries at Work: The Production and Maintenance of Elite Social Boundaries in a Rural Indonesian Reproductive Health Clinic
 ALTMAN, Heidi (Georgia S U) Native Language-based Paradigms for Indigenous Midwifery

THURSDAY

(TH-141) THURSDAY 3:30-5:20 Chinook

Infant Nutrition in the 21st Century: New Perspectives and Practices

CHAIR: GRAHAM, Margaret A. (UT-Pan American)
 GRAHAM, Margaret A. (UT-Pan American) and MILLARD, Ann V. (TX A&M Sch of Rural Public Hlth-McAllen) Feeding Babies on the Border: Views of Mexican-American Mothers
 ANDERSON, Laura and SELLEN, Daniel (U Toronto), WILSON, Warren and AMARRA, Sofie (U Calgary), CHADWICK, Sarah and MOFFAT, Tina (McMaster U) Infant Feeding and Vitamin D Supplementation among Canadian-Born and New Canadian Mothers and Children in Three Canadian Cities
 EDEN, Aimee (U S Florida) Lactation Consulting: The Oral History of an Emerging Profession
 RAHMAN, Rumana (Miss State U) Cultural Knowledge and Breastfeeding Practices in Rural and Urban Bangladesh
 MARSHALL, Lindsay (Oregon State U) Moral Work: Mother's Experiences of Breastfeeding in an Alternative Birthing Community



SfAA Panels on Reproduction Continued...

FRIDAY

(F-32) FRIDAY 10:00-11:50

Princessa II

Video

Changing Birth Practices and Indigenous Identity in Andean Ecuador

MORRISSEY, Suzanne (Whitman Coll) and KEITH, Patricia (Lewis & Clark State U)

SATURDAY

(S-42) SATURDAY 10:00-3:20

Sealth

The Impact of Socio-economic Factors on Health

CHAIR: SHAHBAZI, Mohammad (Jackson State U)

WOLFORTH, Lynne M. (UH-Hilo), LOO, Sherry (JAB Med Sch), and SOOD, Sneha L. (JAB) The Comorbidities of Prematurity, Ethnicity, and Socio-economic Factors: Retrospective Chart Review of Neonates at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children

CARDENAS, Rosario (U Autonoma Metropolitana) Understanding Maternal Mortality in Mexico: The Need of a Comprehensive Data Collection Approach

HACKETT, Kristy, MUKTA, U.S., JALAL, C.S.B., and SELLEN, D.W. (U Toronto) Perceived Barriers to Care Giving among Adolescent Girls and Mothers in Rural Bangladesh

Mentorship Column

Sarah Rubin writes from Cape Town



Sarah Rubin is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Case Western Reserve University.

She is currently conducting fieldwork in Cape Town, South Africa.

In four days I'll be thirteen months into my dissertation fieldwork on motherhood and emotion among the Xhosa of South Africa. With one year down, and half a year left, I've reached the point where things have just begun to make sense to me, but *just*. At this precarious moment, I was approached and (perhaps regrettably) agreed to offer some "advice" to other graduate students preparing to go to the field.

Out of all the disparate tidbits of advice I'd gleaned from professors, mentors, and books, one piece that seemed straightforward and easy to follow was, Beware of the Anthropologist Spoiler. This is the anthropologist, researcher, or foreigner who came before you and "ruined it" before you arrived. Beware of your predecessors, I was told, because whatever mess they left, you'll have to clean it up before you can proceed with your own "good" work.

Easy enough, I thought, and entered the field with my ears perked for stories of The Spoiler. But what it took me months to realize is that that "one" person was actually 350 years worth of people.

Studying motherhood and emotion, I have been interviewing and observing clinic staff as well as pregnant women longitudinally through their pregnancy, birth and baby's infancy.

Initially, the nurses were reluctant to be observed and evasive about interviews. After a few months, one told my research assistant that this was because many nurses thought we were spies from the department of health. I was elated, now I knew why the nurses didn't like us! I had found The Spoiler and could now work to dispel this misnomer.

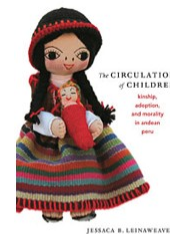
To rectify my "spy" image, I started focusing less on the nurses and more on my other participants, the formerly pregnant women, now mothers of young infants. Building rapport was challenging, and with every hurdle, I reflected on who I was and why my participants were reluctant to open up to me and be their "true" selves. I was a student, an American, a woman; I was white, childless, and in my thirties...but I couldn't figure out why I was such a "bad researcher" that, after months of intensive work, many of my participants were willing and friendly on the surface, but still guarded and withdrawn. For example, we were invited to come to their homes, but not offered anything to drink, an integral part of this culture's hospitality. Sure, my learning curve about Xhosa culture was

Continued on page 6

Announcements

Jessaca B. Leinaweaver of Brown University will receive the 2010 **Margaret Mead Award**, jointly given by the American Anthropological Association and the Society for Applied Anthropology, for *The Circulation of Children: Adoption, Kinship, and Morality in Andean Peru* (Duke University Press, 2008).

She has also received 3 grants (**NSF**, **Wenner-Gren** and **Fulbright**) to do a new project on international adoption and migration, focusing on Latin Americans in Spain. Jessa will spend much of 2011 doing fieldwork. Congratulations Jessa!



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**Elly Teman's** book, *Birthing a Mother*, received three book awards at the AAA this past November:

**The Eileen Basker Memorial Prize**--Society for Medical Anthropology

**The Diana Forsythe Prize**-- CASTAC/SAW/GAD

**The Stirling Prize**-- Society for Psychological Anthropology

Congratulations Elly!



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Cecilia Van Hollen is pleased to announce some forthcoming publications based on her research on the intersections of HIV/AIDS and reproduction in India:

"Birth in the Age of AIDS: local responses to global policies and technologies in South India" (Forthcoming 2011) In: Carolyn Sargent and Carole Browner, eds., *Reproduction, Globalization, and the State: New Theoretical and Ethnographic Perspectives*. Durham: Duke University Press.

"HIV/AIDS: Global Policies, Local Realities" (Forthcoming 2011, January) In: Clark-Deces, ed. *Companion to the Anthropology of India*. Blackwell and Wiley Publishers.



Member Publications

Jan Brunson 2010. "Confronting Maternal Mortality, Controlling Birth in Nepal: The Gendered Politics of Receiving Biomedical Care at Birth." *Social Science and Medicine*. 71(10):1719-1727.

Alma Gottlieb 2010. "Prefácio," in *Infância em Perspectiva: Pesquisa, Políticas e Dinâmicas Familiares* [Childhood in Perspective: Research, Politics, and Family Dynamics], ed. Fernanda Müller. São Paulo, Brazil: Editora Cortez, pp. 9-12.

Rachel Roth 2010. "Obstructing Justice: Prisons as Barriers to Medical Care for Pregnant Women," *UCLA Women's Law Journal*, vol. 18, pp. 79-105.

Cecilia Van Hollen "HIV/AIDS and the Gendering of Stigma in Tamil Nadu, South India" 2010 In: *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 34(4):633-657.

Cecilia Van Hollen Book review of *Where There is No Midwife: Birth and Loss in Rural India* by Sarah Pinto, Bergahn Books. in *Medical Anthropology Quarterly*. Volume 24, Number 1, March 2010:129 - 131.

Check out the recent
special issue of
Ethos 38(4)
on *Mothering as
Everyday Practice*,
edited by Kathleen
Barlow & Bambi
Chapin

Mentorship Column Continued...

steep and I knew I was making progress in general, but in terms of deepening my research relationships, I still felt stymied.

My Xhosa research assistant and I both puzzled over why our participants didn't "like" us, why they didn't tell us the truth, and why they didn't offer us hospitality. It was a mystery, until one day I lost my temper at my research assistant and said something in a slightly raised voice. The next day, as we sat down to talk through the issue, she explained to me, "When white people yell at me, it brings back memories of how it felt under Apartheid." I was annoyed. First of all, I hadn't yelled, I had hardly raised my voice. And secondly, I was not South African; my whiteness didn't mean the same thing as a South African white's whiteness. She was being racist! This was all so unfair!

We resolved our argument, but the conversation stayed with me. I slowly realized—through other dramatic incidents and mundane moments—that my identity was not real and not mine, but comprised of categories that were publically interpreted without my consent or input. (Wisdom that an American who doesn't identify as "white" might have brought to the field with them; and I, as a feminist, should have realized vis-à-vis gender.) And furthermore, all the categories that made up my identity were not treated with equal importance—among my participants I was "white" above all else.

In a country that was colonized in 1652 by the Dutch and then the British and then ruled by the racist and authoritarian "Apartheid government" from 1948-1993, "white" meant many things to my "black" participants: racist, oppressive, pushy, uncompassionate, snobbish, insensitive, unfriendly, rich, powerful, establishmentarianist, occasionally generous...and the list grows as my fieldwork continues.

Being labeled and treated as "white" in South Africa was inevitable, but what could I have done to make it easier to recognize The Spoiler and to make the process less painful? Had I gone to the field knowing what to look for, what questions could I have asked and to whom? What advice can I now give to a larger pre-fieldwork audience?

1. If you're lucky, The Spoiler might be someone, but be aware that it could be a group, an institution, a national psyche, a historical legacy, or a category you don't yet know exists.
2. Work hard to create an open relationship with one key informant. Having someone who's not afraid to tell you when you're behaving like a (culturally relative) jerk is essential if you and The Spoiler happen to share the same identity.
3. Interrogate your own identity as subjective, fluid, and culturally constructed. What categories you think are relevant, might not be. Listen for ways that your participants speak about others, especially negatively. How might you be lumped into that category of person (however unlikely or insulting it seems)?
4. Come to terms with your "self" as a research instrument. Around month six, being told I was "acting too white" all the time started to wear on my ego, until I remembered that it wasn't personal. I needed to take a step back and be more self-reflexive. How I acted and how people reacted to me wasn't a superfluous annoyance, it was an important part of my research.

For me, finding The Spoiler hasn't just been an obstacle to overcome, but an integral part of my fieldwork process. It helped me to understand, in a surprising way, Xhosa motherhood and emotion through the lens of race and historical oppression, which has been invaluable to my nascent analysis. And learning to shed the parts of my behavior and mindset that are "too white" has helped me to get closer to my research participants in ways that didn't seem possible a year ago. My professors were right, you do have to be cognizant of your predecessors and clean up their mess before you can do your "good" work, and all you need is a new twist on the basic tenants of ethnographic inquiry—be open, be patient, keep your perspective, let go of your "self," be culturally relative, remain inquisitive, and don't be too hard on yourself.

Texts that helped me think through this essay:

- Abu-Lughod, Lila
1991 "Writing Against Culture." In *Recapturing Anthropology: Working in the Present*. Richard G Fox, ed. Santa Fe: School of American Research Press.
- Bernard, H. Russell
2006 *Research Methods in Anthropology: Qualitative and Quantitative Approaches*. 4th ed. Pp 396-397. New York: AltaMira Press.
- Rosaldo, Michelle Z
1980 *Knowledge and Passion: Illongot Notions of Self and Social Life*. Pp. 1-3. NY, New York: Cambridge University Press.

And thank you to Jan Brunson for suggesting these helpful readings:

- Garcia, Maria Elena
2000 *Ethnographic Responsibility and the Anthropological Endeavor: Beyond Identity Discourse*. *Anthropological Quarterly* 73(2):89-101.
- Twine, France Winddance
1999 *Racial Ideologies and Racial Methodologies*. In *Race-ing Research, Researching Race: Methodological Dilemmas in Critical Race Studies*. J.W. Warren and F.W. Twine, eds. Pp. 1-34. New York: New York University Press.



Announcement

Dear CAR Members,

I am writing to you on behalf of the International MotherBaby Childbirth Organization (IMBCO), for which I serve as a board member and as editor for the International MotherBaby Childbirth Initiative (IMBCI): 10 Steps to Optimal MotherBaby Maternity Services. The history of the IMBCO and the full text of the IMBCI are available at www.imbci.org.

Our new news is that we have received pilot/demonstration site applications from hospitals in Quebec, Austria, Brazil, the Philippines, South Africa, and Mozambique. These hospitals intend to implement the full 10 Steps of the IMBCI—a massive challenge!--and to statistically document the results, which we believe will result in vastly improved outcomes for both mother and baby. We are in the process of applying for major grants to fund these pilot/demonstration sites for trainings in implementation and for documenting the results.

I share this news with you because I strongly believe that the process of implementation in all of these sites represents a major research opportunity for scholars in reproductive health. There will be many barriers to implementation, many failures, and hopefully some successes. IMBCO invites applications from scholars seeking research opportunities to study the implementation process. This research would involve intense participant-observation in specific sites. Applicants would have to find their own sources of funding for their individual research. IMBCO can provide the contacts and the context for the research.

If you are interested, please contact me at davis-floyd@mail.utexas.edu

Best wishes to all CAR members!

Robbie Davis-Floyd PhD
Senior Advisor to CAR
www.davis-floyd.com
512-426-8969

Call for Papers

Gendered Perspectives on International Development (GPID) publishes scholarly work on global social, political, and economic change and its gendered effects in the Global South. GPID cross-cuts disciplines, bringing together research, critical analyses, and proposals for change.

Individual papers in the series address a range of topics including gender, violence, and human rights; gender and agriculture; reproductive health and healthcare; gender and social movements; masculinities and development; and the gendered division of labor. We particularly encourage manuscripts that bridge the gap between research, policy, and practice. Previously published papers can be viewed at: <http://gencen.isp.msu.edu/publications/papers.htm>.

Gendered Perspectives on International Development Working Papers are article-length manuscripts (9,000-word max) by scholars from a broad range of disciplines. They disseminate materials that are at a late stage of formulation and that contribute new understandings of women and men's roles and gender relations amidst economic, social, and political change.

If you are interested in submitting a manuscript to the Working Papers series, please send a 150 word abstract summarizing the paper's essential points and findings to Dr. Anne Ferguson, Editor, or Anna Jefferson, Managing Editor, at papers@msu.edu. If the abstract suggests your paper is suitable for the Working Papers, the full paper will be invited for peer review and publication consideration.

**International
MotherBaby
Childbirth
Organization**

COUNCIL ON
ANTHROPOLOGY
AND
REPRODUCTION

Co-Editors:
Jan Brunson
Diana Santana

[http://sites.google.com/
site/anthrorepro/](http://sites.google.com/site/anthrorepro/)


**Council on Anthropology
and Reproduction**

CONFERENCES of INTEREST

APRIL

2 April 2011, Brooklyn, NY, USA
Women's Health: Science, Technology and Society
Website: <http://tinyurl.com/2u6sb7j>

April 26-28, 2012 Roanoke, Virginia
2nd Biannual interdisciplinary conference Gender, Bodies and Technology: (Dis)integrating Frames
Proposal Deadline: September 15, 2011
Website: <http://www.researchraven.com/calls-for-papers-conferences/category/reproductive-health.aspx>

MAY

5 to 6 May 2011, Manchester, United Kingdom
9th National Conference on Current Issues in Midwifery: Based on what evidence? Contemporary issues in midwifery practice
Website: http://www.mahealthcarevents.co.uk/cgi-bin/go.pl/conferences/detail.html?conference_uid=231

13 to 15 May 2011, Warsaw, Poland
3rd Global Conference: Evil, Women and the Feminine
Topics include: Representing and Misrepresenting the Female; Motherhood; Monstrous Motherhood; Monstrous Births and Infanticide; Patriarchy / Matricide; Menstruation, Castration; Fears and Myths: Feminine Blood, among others
Website: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/at-the-interface/evil/evil-women-and-the-feminine/call-for-papers/>

16 to 18 May 2011, Warsaw, Poland
1st Global Conference: Femininity and Masculinity
Website: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/at-the-interface/gender-and-sexuality/femininity-and-masculinity/call-for-papers/>

JUNE

8-9 June 2011, Lecture theatre 104, New Law School, The University of Sydney
Young Lives, Changing Times: Perspectives on Social Reproduction
Website: <http://youngliveschangingtimes.wordpress.com/>

JULY

Sixth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences
11 to 13 July 2011, New Orleans, LA, United States
Website: <http://thesocialsciences.com/conference-2011/>

AUGUST

19 to 21 August 2011, Newcastle, NSW, Australia
Homebirth Australia Conference 2011: Challenging the Boundaries
Website: <http://www.homebirthaustralia.org/>

SEPTEMBER

15 to 17 September 2011, Las Vegas, NV, United States
Reproductive Health 2011
Website: <http://www.arhp.org/RH11>
Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 15 April 2011

19 to 21 September 2011, Oxford, United Kingdom
1st Global Conference: Gender and Love
Website: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/at-the-interface/gender-and-sexuality/gender-and-love/call-for-papers/>

OCTOBER

October 22-24, 2011 in Washington, DC.
The 1ST North American Forum on Family Planning
Website: <http://www.societyfp.org/events/conference.asp>

NOVEMBER

110th Annual Meeting
November 16-20, 2011, Montreal, QC, Canada
Traces, Tidemarks and Legacies
Website: <http://www.aaanet.org/meetings/>
Deadline for general submissions is April 15, 2011

