

[Get Me Out: Childbirth in Early 20th Century NYC](#)

Discussion published by Emily Miranker on Wednesday, June 14, 2017

Type:

Lecture

Date:

August 22, 2017

Location:

New York, United States

Subject Fields:

American History / Studies, Health and Health Care, History of Science, Medicine, and Technology,
Women's & Gender History / Studies, Public Health

Tuesday, August 22, 2017

6:30PM-8:00PM

The New York Academy of Medicine, 1216 Fifth Avenue at 103rd
Street, New York, NY 10029

Free, advanced registration required

Presented in collaboration with the **Museum of the City of New York** and supported by a grant from **Humanities New York**.

[REGISTER](#)

Although the development of germ theory in the 1880s shed light on the origins of childbed fever, which often killed women in the days after delivery, not much could be done to save lives until the advent of antibiotics in the 1940s. In the first program in our series, ***Who Controls Women's Health?: A Century of Struggle***, medical writer **Randi Hutter Epstein** explores the approaches taken in the interim by doctors, medical charlatans, and feminist activists, which demonstrate what can happen

when the origins of a condition are debated, and its cure unknown.

Following her lecture, Epstein will be joined in conversation by **Peter Schafer**, Acting Director of Family Health and Disparities at the New York Academy of Medicine.

Who Controls Women's Health?: A Century of Struggle is a free, three-part talk series that examines key battles over women's ability to control their bodies, health choices, and fertility. It is developed in collaboration with the [Museum of the City of New York](#) and supported by a grant from the [Humanities New York](#).

About the Speakers:

Randi Hutter Epstein, MD, MPH, is a medical writer, adjunct professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, and a lecturer at Yale University. She worked as a medical writer for the *London bureau of The Associated Press* and was the London bureau chief of *Physicians' Weekly*.

Peter Schafer is the Acting Director of Family Health and Disparities at the New York Academy of Medicine. Schafer has over twenty years' experience in policy development, community-based participatory research, and program design and implementation.

Contact Info:

Culturalevents@nyam.org

Contact Email:

culturalevents@nyam.org

URL:

<https://nyam.org/events/event/get-me-out-childbirth-early-20th-century-nyc/>