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## ANSIRH faculty and staff

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## Faculty and researchers



[Tracy Weitz, PhD, MPA, ANSIRH Director](#). Tracy Weitz is a lifetime advocate of women's health and reproductive rights. Dr. Weitz's passion is for those aspects of women's health that are marginalized either for ideological reasons or because the populations affected lack the means or mechanisms to have their concerns raised. Dr. Weitz's current research focuses on innovative strategies to expand abortion provision in the U.S.

Dr. Weitz also serves as the Associate Director for Public Policy at the UCSF National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, and was its founding executive director over a decade ago. In 2006, Dr. Weitz was appointed by Governor Schwarznegger to the Women's Health Council, an advisory body to the California Departments of Health Care Service and Public Health. She is a current board member of the ACLU of Northern California. In 1999, she received the UCSF Chancellor's Award for the Advancement of Women. At UCSF, she serves on the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women. She has an MA degree in public administration with an emphasis in health care and a PhD in medical sociology from the University of California, San Francisco. Phone: 510-986-8939.

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[Diana Greene Foster, PhD, Assistant Professor, Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences and Director of Research at ANSIRH](#). Diana Greene Foster, PhD, is a demographer who uses quantitative models and analyses to evaluate the effectiveness of family planning policies and the effect of unintended pregnancy on women's lives. Dr. Foster has worked on the evaluation of the California State family planning program, Family PACT. This work demonstrated the effectiveness of the program in reducing the incidence of unintended

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pregnancy. Dr. Foster created a new methodology for estimating pregnancies averted based on a Markov model and a microsimulation to identify the cost-effectiveness of advance provision of emergency contraception. She is currently leading a nationwide longitudinal prospective study of the health and well-being of women who seek abortion including both women who do and do not receive the abortion. Dr. Foster received her

undergraduate degree in Political Economy of Natural Resources from UC Berkeley, her MA in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University, and her PhD in Demography and Public Policy from Princeton University. Phone: 510-986-8940.

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[Kira Foster, PhD, Medical Anthropologist.](#) Kira Foster is a medical anthropologist specializing in qualitative and mixed-methods studies of primary health care delivery. In addition to current projects at ANSIRH, her recent work includes a mixed-methods study of the benefits and challenges of diversity in California schools of medicine and public health. Her previous research includes an ethnographic study of primary health care

professionals in post-apartheid South Africa, and contributions to major social epidemiological studies of homelessness and HIV/AIDS in the Bay Area. Prior to work in academia, Dr. Foster participated in community-based work on issues of health and poverty in a variety of settings, from San Francisco's Tenderloin District to rural Zimbabwe. Her research interests include the political economy and micropolitics of health services, health care as emotion work, and the intersection of health and social citizenship in South Africa and the United States. Dr. Foster obtained her PhD from the UC Berkeley/UCSF Joint Program in Medical Anthropology. Phone: 510-986-8940.

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[Lori Freedman, PhD, Research Associate.](#) Lori Freedman is a Research Associate. She worked with the Ryan Program from 2005-2008 on her dissertation research about abortion care in the United States. A qualitative study, her dissertation addresses the way that abortion politics impact medical practice, focusing on structural, cultural, and social-psychological challenges to integrating abortion into physician practice. Dr. Freedman's

interest in reproductive health care research was born at San Francisco General Hospital (1998) when she worked as a research assistant for several contraception-related studies. Later, for her MA research (2001), she conducted an ethnographic study of a hospital abortion clinic. Dr. Freedman is currently working to publish her dissertation as a book and embark on a new study about reproductive health care in religiously affiliated health care institutions. Her future research will investigate how institutional conscience clauses and distinct standards of care in these institutions affect patient health and welfare. Dr. Freedman received her BA at the University of Oregon and her PhD in Sociology from the University of California, Davis. Phone: 510-986-8948.

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[Ushma Upadhyay, PhD, MPH.](#) Ushma Upadhyay is a Research Associate at ANSIRH, working on an analysis of evidence-based counseling models for abortion. Her research interests include unintended pregnancy, sexual relationship power, and barriers to access of contraception and abortion. Dr. Upadhyay joined ANSIRH from the New York City



Department of Health, where she conducted epidemiological research using complex survey data on the health of New Yorkers. Previously she was at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health as Associate Editor for *Population Reports*, an international journal for health care providers. She is co-author of *Family Planning: A Global Handbook for Providers*, a Johns Hopkins/WHO publication providing evidence-based guidance on the provision of contraceptive methods in low resource settings. Her previous research examined the determinants of age at first sex among a cohort of over 2,000 adolescents in Cebu, the Philippines, followed since they were born in 1980. Dr. Upadhyay has a BA in Communications and International Studies from American University, an MPH from Columbia University School of Public Health, and a PhD from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Phone: 510-986-8946.

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## Staff



[Patricia Anderson, MPH, Director, Primary Care Initiative](#). Pat Anderson has spent most of her career in various positions within the field of reproductive health and rights. Most recently, she served as the Director of the Society of Family Planning and before that as the Program Manager for the California Program on Access to Care with the University of California, Office of the President. She was the founding director of Medical Students

for Choice and served as Membership Director and Interim Executive Director at the National Abortion Federation, while spearheading a special initiative on the shortage of abortion providers. Ms. Anderson received her BA and MPH from the University of California, Berkeley. Phone: 510-986-8938.

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[Molly Battistelli, Director, Health Workforce Pilot Project \(HWPP\)](#). Molly Battistelli directs the HWPP Project, a core component of ANSIRH's Primary Care Initiative, which aims to demonstrate and evaluate the role of advanced practice clinicians in providing first-trimester aspiration abortions as part of comprehensive early pregnancy care. Ms. Battistelli is responsible for this multi-year statewide project with the overarching focus of

improving access to health care. She is an active member of the reproductive health care community and has a range of experience centered on strengthening care delivery and best practices, clinic systems improvement, and reproductive health research and analysis. Prior to joining ANSIRH, she worked as a Program Manager for the Planned Parenthood Federation of America focused on operations research and clinic innovation. Ms. Battistelli received her BA from Connecticut College. Phone: 510-986-8935.

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[Kate Cosby, MPH, Research Analyst and Project Manager](#). Kate Cosby is a Research Analyst and Project Manager for two qualitative research studies related to abortion: Understanding the Landscape of Abortion Emotion and the Patient Ultrasound Viewing and Abortion Care Study. Ms. Cosby added to her qualitative research training through summer courses at the International Institute for Qualitative Methodology. Prior to graduate school, she gained experience in the field of abortion care and women's health through her work at the Feminist Women's Health

Center in Atlanta, Georgia, the Fayetteville Women's Clinic in Fayetteville, Arkansas and the National Abortion Federation in Washington, DC. Ms. Cosby received her MPH in Health Policy and Management from the University of California, Berkeley. Phone: 510-986-8931.

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[Undine Darney, Interviewer, Turnaway Study.](#)

Undine Darney is an Interviewer for the Turnaway Study. She is a San Francisco Bay Area native who has worked in both clinical and research settings in the field of reproductive health. Her experience with San Francisco General Hospital's Women's Options Center and assisting with the initiation of a midwifery training research project in Mexico led her to a post-bachelor pre-med program, which

she is now taking a break from to work with the Turnaway Study at ANSIRH. Ms. Darney received her BA in History from Occidental College. Phone: 510-986-8970.

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[Michaela Ferrari, BA, Project Assistant, Turnaway Study.](#)

Michaela Ferrari is the Project Assistant for ANSIRH's Turnaway Study. Prior to working for ANSIRH, she was a Youth Educator for the National Council on Alcoholism and other Drug Addictions in the Bay Area, teaching comprehensive drug and alcohol education to students in grades 4 through 8. She is extremely happy to be working on the Turnaway Study, and

intends to eventually continue on in the field of reproductive health. Ms. Ferrari graduated from Oberlin College with a BA in Religion and Gender & Women's Studies. Phone: 510-986-8952.

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[Heather Gould, MPH, Research Coordinator, Turnaway Study.](#)

Heather Gould currently serves as the research coordinator for the Turnaway Study. Ms. Gould has been involved with the Bixby Center for Global Reproductive Health since it was founded and has worked on many center research and policy projects over the years. She has extensive experience designing and implementing qualitative and quantitative research studies,

managing reproductive health programs, and writing grants. Ms. Gould has worked in several reproductive health clinics as a manager or health specialist, including New Generation Health Center, Planned Parenthood Golden Gate, and the Marin County Women's Health Services. In addition, she has served as a consultant to several organizations, including Planned Parenthood Federation of America-International (PPFA-I), the Association of Reproductive Health Professionals (ARHP), and Population Services International (PSI). Her particular areas of interest include access to abortion and family planning, quality of reproductive health care, social determinants of health, and policies that support reproductive justice more broadly. Ms. Gould received her MPH from the University of California, Berkeley. Phone: 510-986-8936.

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[Emily Hendrick, Interviewer, Turnaway Study.](#) Emily Hendrick interviews women across the country for the Turnaway Study. For the past eight years, Emily has worked on reproductive health programs in Latin America, the Caribbean, and the U.S. She has been involved in direct



services conducting STI/HIV prevention education with youth, adolescents, and adults as well as behind the scenes in sexual and reproductive health education curriculum development, grant writing for program expansions, creating monitoring and evaluation systems, and conducting research on the incidence of unsafe abortion and the gaps in prevention services in countries where abortion is not legal. Emily has recruited, trained and supervised youth peer educators in developing countries and the in the U.S. who conducted programs in unintended pregnancy/STI prevention and reproductive/sexual health promotion in their communities. Emily received her BS in Nutritional Sciences from the University of Nevada, Reno. Phone: 510-986-8971.

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[Carole Joffe, PhD, Professor of Sociology at UC Davis, Visiting Scholar at ANSIRH.](#) Carole Joffe is a professor of sociology at the University of California, Davis, and a Visiting Scholar at ANSIRH. Her research focuses on the social dimensions of reproductive health, with a particular interest in abortion provision. Dr. Joffe is currently working on a book manuscript, *Dispatches from the Abortion Wars*, which will be

published by Beacon Press. Besides writing for an academic audience, she also writes frequently for the general public on the topics of reproductive health and reproductive politics. In 2006, Dr. Joffe was awarded the Public Service Award by the Academic Senate of the University of California, Davis. Some current and forthcoming publications are "Abortion and Medicine: A Sociopolitical History," in M. Paul, ed., *A Clinician's Guide to Surgical and Medical Abortion*, and "The Religious Right and the Reshaping of Sexual Policy: An Examination of Reproductive Rights and Sexuality Education," *Sexual Research and Social Policy*, Winter 2007 (with Diane di Mauro). She is the author of *Doctors of Conscience: The Struggle to Provide Abortion Before and after Roe v. Wade* (Beacon Press) and *The Regulation of Sexuality: Experiences of Family Planning Worker* (Temple University Press 1986). Dr. Joffe received her BA from Brandeis University and her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. Phone: 510-986-8947.

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[Signy Judd, MPH, Research Fellow.](#) Signy Judd is a doctoral student in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences at UCSF, and a research fellow at ANSIRH. Her broad interest is in the intersection of globalization, migration, gender and reproductive health. She is currently investigating how abortifacient medicines, technologies and services are learned about, procured, and trafficked across the US/Mexico border, and used by people on both sides. Before this fellowship, Signy held research and program management positions at Ibis Reproductive Health, the UCSF Bixby Center for Reproductive Health Research & Policy, CARE International and Planned Parenthood. She has lived and worked in Spain, Ecuador, and throughout Central America, always focusing on reproductive health and rights. Ms. Judd received a BA from Occidental College, and MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Phone: 510-986-8963.

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[Deb Karasek, MPH, Research Analyst and Project Manager.](#) Deb Karasek is a Research Analyst and Director of the Abortion as Healthcare program. She manages mixed-methods studies investigating the impact of regulation and policy on abortion providers and patients. Her graduate research focused on international family planning service



delivery and the social determinants of health behavior. Prior to graduate school, she worked for the Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology at San Francisco General Hospital. Ms. Karasek received her BA at Stanford in Human Biology and her MPH in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from the University of California, Berkeley. Phone: 510-986-8930.

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[Amy Levi, CNM, WHNP-BC, PhD, FACNM, Clinical Education Consultant, HWPP.](#)



Amy Levi is the clinical education consultant for the HWPP project. In addition, she is an Associate Clinical Professor and Co-director of the INMEP Nurse-Midwifery Program at UCSF. Her research and professional interests encompass safe motherhood, clinical data sets, antenatal care, and midwifery education. Dr. Levi has extensive experience with Distance Education modalities, and launched the Distance Education option in the fall of 2005. She also works with

students in the antepartum and intrapartum clinical areas, and collaborates with other researchers at UCSF. Her current research focus is on women's decision making in perinatal care. Dr. Levi received her undergraduate degree in Nursing from Widener University in Pennsylvania and completed her MS and PhD in Nursing and Certificate in Nurse-Midwifery at the University of Pennsylvania. Phone: 510-986-8944.

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[Kristin Nobel, MPH, Evaluator, Health Workforce Pilot Project.](#) Kristin Nobel is the Evaluator for the Primary Care Initiative's Health Workforce Pilot Project (HWPP). The primary aim of this statewide study is to evaluate the safety, effectiveness, and acceptability of advanced practice clinicians (CNMs, NPs, and PAs) providing first-trimester aspiration abortion and miscarriage management. In 2008, the Primary Care Initiative's research team received a "Women's Health Research Award" from the National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health. Ms. Nobel was previously the Project Director of TEACH, an early abortion training program for Family Medicine residents. She received her BA in English from Reed College and her MPH in Maternal and Child Health from the University of California, Berkeley. Phone: 510-986-8932.

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[Shauna Nyborg, Project Assistant, Health Workforce Pilot Project.](#) Shauna Nyborg works as a project assistant on the Primary Care Initiative's HWPP Project. Though her degree is in geology and environmental studies (and she is very proud of her 3.4 billion year old gneiss), Shauna's interest in health began with a college job at the student health center. Prior to working at ANSIRH, she managed a women's sports store for two years

where she encouraged women to empower themselves mentally and physically through fitness activities. Now working with the HWPP team, she aims to continue to support women and their family planning options and is toying with the idea of returning to the classroom to add additional letters after her name. Ms. Nyborg graduated from Whitman College. Phone: 510-986-8953.

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[Aura Orozco-Fuentes, Office Manager.](#) Aura Orozco-Fuentes began her employment with the University of California in 1992. She currently serves as the Office Manager for ANSIRH. Prior to joining ANSIRH, Ms. Orozco-Fuentes worked at the Center for the Health Professions with the School of Dentistry as a Program Coordinator for the Pew Programs in the Biomedical Sciences where she provided administrative and grant management support to over 120 grantees established at various academic institutions in the continental United States, in addition to organizing the group's annual scientific conference. Ms. Orozco-Fuentes also worked for the Medical Center's Department of General Internal Medicine at Mt. Zion and Parnassus as a Supervisor and Program Coordinator for the residency program. Ms. Orozco-Fuentes received a Bachelor's degree in Graphic Communication with an emphasis in Design from San Francisco State University. Phone: 510-986-8923.



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[Erin Cassard Schultz, J.D., Law and Policy Analyst.](#) Erin Cassard Schultz is the Law and Policy Analyst for ANSIRH. In 2008-2009, Ms. Schultz was a fellow in the WPI. Ms. Schultz was a legal intern at ANSIRH and Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ). She also worked as a law clerk in the Health Law unit at the East Bay Community Law Center. Ms. Schultz is licensed to practice law in California. She received her BA and JD from the University of Michigan. Phone: 510-986-8934.



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[Sandy Stonesifer, Project Manager, Turnaway Study.](#) Sandy Stonesifer is the Project Manager for the Turnaway Study, a national study of the consequences of unintended pregnancy on women and their children. Prior to coming to UCSF in 2006, she coordinated several public health service programs and hunger and homelessness groups, spent a summer working at a public hospital in Mozambique, and taught environmental education and leadership in Providence public schools. Ms. Stonesifer graduated from Brown University with a BA in Biomedical Ethics. Phone: 510-986-8937.



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[Diana Taylor, RN, MS, PhD, Director of Research and Evaluation, HWPP.](#) Diana Taylor is a nurse practitioner, educator and researcher, and is Professor Emerita at the University of California-San Francisco (UCSF) School of Nursing. She has served as Director of UCSF's Women's Health NP Program, as well as the co-Director of the UCSF Center for Collaborative Primary Care to advance interprofessional collaboration and innovation related to primary care education, practice and research. Dr. Taylor has been a leader in policy-shaping activities for multiple professional groups on regional, national level and international levels. She has participated in the development of innovative women's health care delivery models, interdisciplinary education programs, practice standards, and evidence-based practice guidelines. She has served on national boards and committees of the Health Professions Division of the US Public Health Service, the American Nurses Association, the National Organization of



NP Faculties, the Association of Women's Health Nurses, as well as state and local nursing practice and education committees. Currently, Dr. Taylor is also an active board member of the Reproductive Options Education Consortium in Nursing (Abortion Access Project); a board member of Clinicians for Choice (NAF); and Board chair (as well as a practicing clinician) of the San Francisco Women's Community Clinic. Dr. Taylor received her BSN from the University of Oregon, her MS from UCSF and PhD from the University of Washington. Phone: 510-986-8945.

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