

Reproducing the Family & Imagining Future Children: Disability, Queerness, & Cultural Anxiety

In a story in the Washington Post in 2002, deaf lesbians Sharon Duchesneau and Candace McCollough set off a firestorm of criticism for their desire to use a deaf sperm donor in conceiving their children. The two women were widely condemned for failing to protect their children from disability and queerness, revealing how heterocentrism and homophobia intersect with ableism in the literature of reproductive technologies and their “proper” use. In this talk Dr. Alison Kafer details how at sites where disability, queerness, and reproductive technologies converge, marginalized people are often criticized and condemned for their alleged misuse of technology to properly reproduce the family.

**Tues. April 21
4:30-5:45 pm
MCL 505**



Dr. Alison Kafer

Dr. Alison Kafer is Assistant Professor of Feminist Studies at Southwestern University. She was the 2006-2007 Ed Roberts Visiting Scholar in Disability Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. As well as writing for *The Journal of Women's History*, she has published essays in *Gendering Disability* (2004), *Feminist Interventions in Ethics and Politics* (2005) and *That's Revolting: Queer Strategies for Resisting Assimilation* (2004).

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Information: Dr. Judy Rohrer - jrohrer@twu.edu

or Women's Studies office - 898-2112

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