

What's REPRODUCTIVE HARM REDUCTION?



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Academy of Perinatal
Harm Reduction

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- Experience in NICU/Postpartum since **2004** at **14** hospitals in **8** states, and counting...
- **11** years in direct service and as a member of Board of Directors at syringe services program
- Presenter at NHRC, DPA, CDC, ONDCP, ACOG, ANN... and more
- Co-Founder of the Academy of Perinatal Harm Reduction



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Academy of Perinatal
Harm Reduction

Our mission is to improve the lives of pregnant and parenting people who use substances.

We strive to create communities where all families are **safe**, intact, and **informed** regardless of what they put into their bodies.



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I have no relevant
financial relationships with
any commercial interests
to disclose.



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Harms faced by pregnant people who use substances



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War on Drugs

"You understand what I'm saying? We knew we couldn't make it illegal to be either against the war or Black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and Blacks with heroin, and then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities."

- Top Nixon adviser, John Ehrlichman, reveals the racist reason he started the 'war on drugs' decades ago



War on Drugs

"We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news."

"Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did"



- Top Nixon adviser, John Ehrlichman, reveals the racist reason he started the 'war on drugs' decades ago



DOCUMENTARY

From Crack Babies to Oxytots: Lessons Not Learned

In the 1980s, many government officials, scientists, and journalists warned that the country would be plagued by a generation of “crack babies.”

They were wrong.



RETROREPORT



www.retroreport.org/video/from-crack-babies-to-oxytots-lessons-not-learned

Pregnant people blamed for outcomes

- Pregnancy is dangerous in the US
 - Birth defects: 3%
 - Miscarriage: 6-20%
 - Maternal Death: 13.8 of every 100,000
- No evidence exists to support these charges
- Creates a new class of crime that can only be committed by people with the capacity for pregnancy



The Onion



Fetal Assault Laws

- Intent: harsher punishment for hurting a pregnant person
- Reality: Frequently used to prosecute people who are suspected of using illicit drugs or attempting medication abortion
- Charges of murder and decades-long prison sentences are common



The Onion



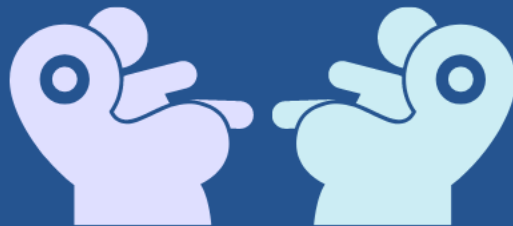
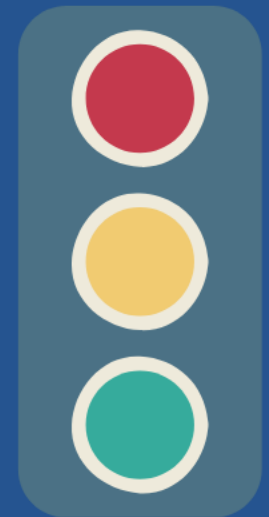
What is HARM REDUCTION



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DRIVING A CAR



HARM REDUCTION is...

- Respecting people who use drugs
- Improving the quality of life for people who use drugs
- Promoting joy and pleasure



ANY POSITIVE CHANGE



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Meeting People WHERE THEY'RE AT



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language matters

- "Person with Substance Use Disorder or SUD (used in DSM V)"
- "Person who uses/injects drugs (PWUD/PWID)"
- "Prenatal substance exposure"
- "Physiological dependence"

Value Neutral

* Focuses on effects... not consequences.

PERINATAL SUBSTANCE USE: A Harm Reduction Toolkit

- Quality Perinatal Care is Your Right
- 6 Classes of Substances
- Navigating Systems
- Prenatal Care
- Labor and Birth
- Postpartum Care



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PERINATAL SUBSTANCE USE: A Harm Reduction Toolkit

Written by interdisciplinary team

- Parents with lived experience
- Medical Doctors
- Researchers
- Lawyers
- Social Workers
- and more...

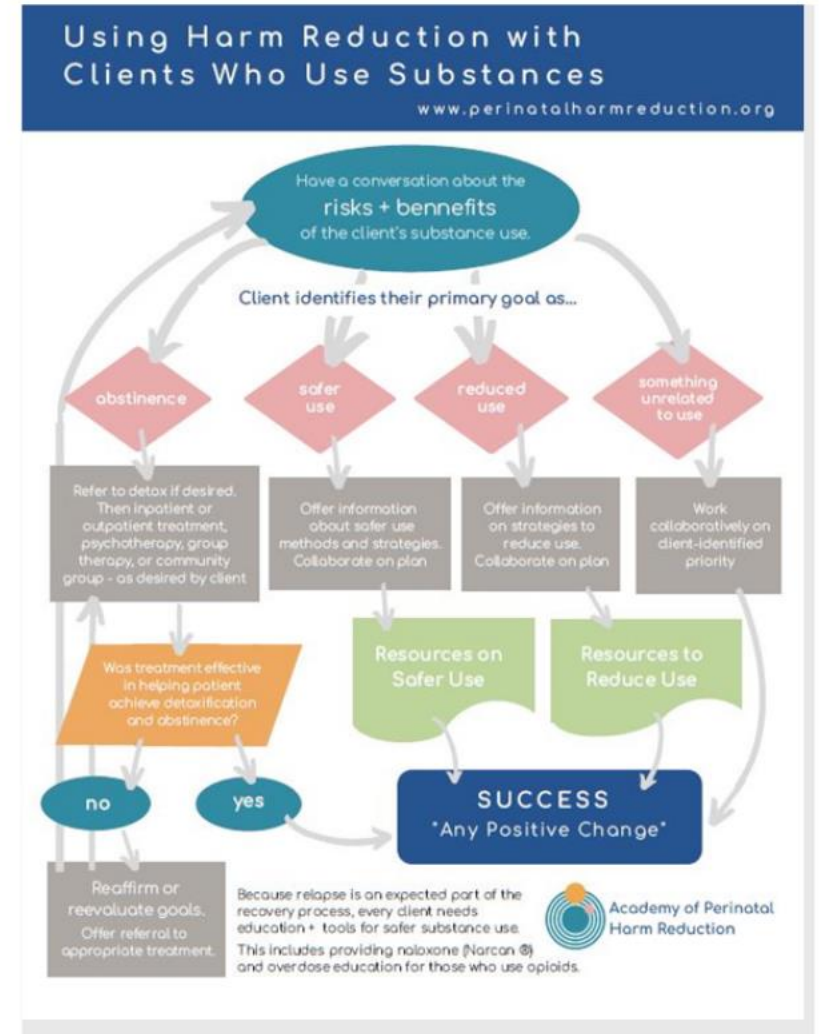


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HARM REDUCTION in ACTION

- Working with clients instead of for them or on them.
- Creating goals based on client need instead of organizational policy.
- Integrating people with lived experience into leadership positions.
- Continuing medical coverage after the postpartum period.



HARM REDUCTION in ACTION

- Nutrition
- Transportation
- Accessibility
- Advocacy, Parenting, Employment Training
- Doulas
- Consumer Rights
- Care Coordination
- Housing
- Legal Assistance



In Astoria July 8

Contact:
kestrel@buildyournest
workbook.com

Perinatal Harm Reduction

Substances + Medications in the Perinatal Period

One Day Training

with Joelle Puccio BSN RN from the Academy of Perinatal Harm Reduction

July 8th, 11am - 4pm

Astoria

This training is being offered at no cost for local service providers.

CLICK OR SCAN
to sign up!



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From the APHR: "Our mission is to improve the lives of pregnant and parenting people who use substances. Our vision is a community where all families are safe, intact, and informed -regardless of what they put in their bodies. We are passionately committed to addressing perinatal substance use through a reproductive and social justice lens. We believe that health literacy lays the foundation for trusting patient-provider relationships and ultimately improves long-term outcomes".

Joelle Puccio BSN RN (they/them/elle) is the APHR director of education and is a registered nurse working in the field of Perinatal and Neonatal Intensive Care since 2004.



Shared with North Coast community by the Build Your Nest Postpartum Navigator Pilot Project with funding through a mini-grant through the Clatsop County Health Department. For more information please email kestrel@buildyournestworkbook.com



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Links:

- The Civil Death Penalty: [“The Civil Death Penalty”—My Motherhood Is Legally Terminated \(filtermag.org\)](#)
- Elephant Circle: (www.elephantcircle.net - Publications) <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/57126eff60b5e92c3a226a53/t/5cd9e8819140b7ba382598a4/1557784705180/Substances+and+Lactation+fact+sheet.pdf>
- Goshin 2017: <https://experts.umn.edu/en/publications/an-international-human-rights-perspective-on-maternal-criminal-ju>
- Harm Reduction Doulas video: <https://youtu.be/xLc65jN9ZFM>
- Harm Reduction flowchart: <https://www.perinatalharmreduction.org/harm-reduction-in-practice>
- Harm Reduction International: <https://www.hri.global/what-is-harm-reduction>
- National Harm Reduction Coalition: <http://www.harmreduction.org/>
- N**** Cocaine Fiends are a New Southern Menace: <https://www.nytimes.com/1914/02/08/archives/negro-cocaine-fiends-are-a-new-southern-menace-murder-and-insanity.html>
- NAACP Criminal Justice Fact Sheet: <https://naacp.org/resources/criminal-justice-fact-sheet>
- Narcofeminism Story Share: [The narcofeminism storyshare model - International Drug Policy Consortium \(IDPC\)](#)
- Pregnancy Justice: https://www.pregnancyjusticeus.org/medical_and_public_health_group_statements_opposing_prosecution_and_punishment_of_pregnant_women_revised_june_2021/
- PrisonPolicy.org: <https://www.prisonpolicy.org/reports/pie2019women.html>
- Rebecca Project: <https://nwlc.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/mothersbehindbars2010.pdf>
- Street Works Alberta: <http://www.streetworks.ca/>
- Retro Report: <https://www.retroreport.org/video/from-crack-babies-to-oxytots-lessons-not-learned/>

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS



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