Reproductive Health and the Environment
Communities, Science and Policy

March 17, 2015

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Mission: to improve workplace health & safety conditions

What we do:

• Outreach & awareness
• Education, technical assistance, capacity-building
• Community-based participatory action research
• Policy initiatives

Principles:

• Worker participation & civic engagement
• Social justice → Address inequities/health disparities

Affiliated with:

• COEH (Ctr. for Occupational & Environmental Health)
• IRLE (Inst. for Research on Labor & Employment)
WORK & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

• Historical approach to reproductive hazards in workplace

• Work environment, work organization

• What we can do
HISTORICAL APPROACH TO WORK & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

• Fetal protection policies

• Broader approach reproductive health cycle

• Reproductive health – both genders

• Holistic approach - health of workers
Work Environment & Work Organization Risk Factors

Chemicals
- Metals: Lead, Mercury (Dental assistants)
- Solvents: Dry cleaning, Labs, Electronics, Semiconductor & petrochemical industries
- Health Care: Ethylene oxide (sterilize), anesthetic gases, cancer drugs
- Pesticides
- Others: Formaldehyde (wood processing)

Other Work Environment Hazards
- Noise: Constant High Levels
- Heavy lifting (patients, materials)
- Radiation

Work Schedules & Stressors
- Irregular Work Schedules
- Psychosocial stressors
- Breaks allowed?
- Restroom access?
What we can do: Educate, Research, Change Policy

• Right to Know

• Right to Act
UCLA-LOSH Programs

Education - Worker leaders

Conferences: Safe Jobs Save Lives

Workers’ Memorial Day Events

Campaigns: Preventing Heat Illness

Integrate work into Community Clinics