

Steph Herold, MPH

Research Analyst



Steph Herold, MPH, is a Research Analyst who conducts qualitative research on the portrayal of abortion on television and in film and partners with ANSIRH researchers to leverage their work for various audiences beyond academia. Steph has twelve years of experience in the reproductive health, rights, and justice field, including co-founding the Sea Change Program, the first non-profit to focus entirely on reducing abortion stigma. Steph has expertise in multidisciplinary research design and implementation, has co-authored numerous grey literature papers on stigma and sexuality, including

on media coverage of abortion, youth sexuality stigma, addressing stigma through service delivery, and evaluations of abortion stigma interventions. Steph currently serves on the Advisory Board of *ReproAction*, and has served on the Board of Directors of the New York Abortion Access Fund, the Steering Committee of the International Network for the Reduction of Abortion Discrimination and Stigma, and the Board of Directors of *ACCESS: Women's Health Justice*. Steph earned a Masters of Public Health from Columbia University and her BA from Bryn Mawr College.

Contact info:

Research projects and studies

Abortion Onscreen. At ANSIRH, we are interested in not only abortion as a healthcare and policy issue, but also in how it operates in cultural conversations and narratives. American film and television—the screen—is one place where cultural stories about abortion play out. *Abortion Onscreen* is a research program aimed at investigating these stories and understanding their effects on broader social understandings of abortion.

Recent publications

- February 2020. Experiences of harassment and empowerment after sharing personal abortion stories publicly (*Contraception: X*, February 2020)
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- November 2019. Experiences of Harassment and Support after Sharing One's Personal Abortion Story Publicly (November 2019)
...Request pdf
- July 2019. Hangers, Potions, and Pills: Abortion Procedures on American Television, 2008 to 2018 (*Women's Health Issues*, July 2019)
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Media coverage

- Abortion storytellers and the harassment they face (*The Hill*, 2.18.20)
- 2019 Was a Terrible Year for Abortion Rights. TV Did Better – Kind Of (*Rolling Stone*, 12.20.19)
- Queer POC Who Need Abortions Are Rarely Represented On TV, A New Report Shows (*Bustle*, 12.18.19)

- [The Pro-Choice Movement Has Won the Culture War \(The Nation, 12.3.19\)](#)
- [How Shondaland Shows Changed the Way We View Abortion on TV \(Shondaland, 11.21.19\)](#)
- [‘Orange Is The New Black’ Abortion Scenes Spark Questions About The Procedure, Experts Says \(Bustle, 8.2.19\)](#)
- [The Abortion Storyline In ‘The Letdown’ Season 2 Is Different — We’ve Studied Them All \(Romper, 7.24.19\)](#)
- [Beyond the Back Alley“Call the Midwife” and TV’s Stubborn Abortion Binary \(Bitch Media, 5.21.19\)](#)
- [On The Ground at Focus on the Family’s Anti-Abortion Rally in Times Square \(Newsweek, 5.4.19\)](#)
- [Shock, Gore, and More: ‘Unplanned’ Recycles Timeworn Tropes of Anti-Choice Films \(Rewire, 4.5.19\)](#)