

Community Advocates Discussion Guide Questions

Opening from Moderator: *The education that medical students receive focuses on gaining an understanding of disease processes and prevention. We are working to expand how our medical school curriculum within the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Science prepares students to address issues related to the influence of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual identity in medical care. We're interested in learning from you and the expertise that you have gained as leaders and advocates for the diverse communities that you serve. To get started...(lead into icebreaker question)*

1. Icebreaker – How did you get involved with health equity activism and advocacy? What does your advocacy journey look like?
2. Tell me why you think that it's important, or even possible, for medical students to have some of the things you all have learned on your journeys and in your work as advocates integrated into their curriculum.
3. What are your thoughts on medical students being taught things like intersectionality, reproductive justice, trans and queer rights and advocacy, and other social and structural competencies?
 - a. Follow-up:
 - i. How do you think this training and teaching can be integrated into their medical school curriculum?
4. It may be important for OBGYNs and other physicians to be mindful about interacting with patients from different backgrounds. What are some of the qualities that medical students need to learn to give the best care to the communities you work with?
 - i. Prompt:
 1. For example, do you wish that physicians included friends and chosen family in decision-making around care?
 - b. Based on your work, what do you wish OBGYNs and other physicians knew about giving care/treating the community you work with?
 - c. Follow-ups/prompts:
 - i. What topics do medical students need to learn to know this?
 - ii. How can medical students learn to become advocates for members of your community?
5. Medical students often read research articles for best practices and will eventually conduct research. What are your thoughts on some of the things we've discussed today and how they can be applied to research on the communities you serve.
6. Can each of you recommend a book, article, reading, movie/film, or even a TV show or podcast that you think would be beneficial for medical students' curriculum and training? And why?
7. Is there anything else that we didn't ask that you'd like to share with us? Or that you think is important for us to know?

Closing from Moderator: *We don't want this to be a one-time conversation and would love to stay in touch and include you on other projects. We'd also love to share with you all the results of this work and other research we may do if you're interested. Please tell us if we can help support you and your work! Thank you all for sharing your thoughts and opinions with us – it was great learning from you all. Also, we are still recruiting for more focus groups and let us*

know if you know anyone who you think would be interested in participating in another focus group.