Pushing the Boundaries: Reproductive health for young people

Youth on the Margins

Melissa Kang

Abstract

This presentation will discuss the availability and accessibility of contraception for young people who are the most marginalized, including those who are homeless and in out-of-homecare. While physical barriers such as cost and transport are major issues for marginalized young people, other factors such as autonomy, discrimination and health beliefs can limit real or perceived choice of contraception. The presentation will include brief case discussions as well as recent evidence into health care barriers for marginalized young people in Australia (including those who are homeless, of refugee background, sexuality and gender diverse, Indigenous and living in rural/ remote areas).

Melissa Kang is Associate Professor in Public Health at the University of Technology Sydney, and Clinical Associate Professor in the Department of General Practice (Westmead) at The University of Sydney. She also works as a medical officer in Youth Health Services in Western Sydney, a comprehensive primary health care service for homeless and marginalized young people.