

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Lisa H. Harris, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, with tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and associate professor of women's studies, without tenure, Department of Women's Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of obstetrics and gynecology, with tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and professor of women's studies, without tenure, Department of Women's Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2006	University of Michigan
M.D.	1994	Harvard University
A.B.	1989	Harvard University

Professional Record:

2014-present	F. Wallace and Janet Jeffries Collegiate Professor of Reproductive Health, University of Michigan
2013-present	Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan
2013-present	Associate Professor of Women's Studies, University of Michigan
2006-2013	Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan
2006-2013	Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, University of Michigan
1998-2006	Clinical Lecturer of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Harris actively participates in the educational activities of learners at all levels though primarily focusing on undergraduates within the Department of Women's Studies and Family Planning advanced trainees in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Her list of mentees is extensive; many of whom have gone on to hold prominent positions nationally and many shared the impact that Dr. Harris has had on their careers. Dr. Harris was instrumental in establishing the fellowship in family planning at the University of Michigan which offers subspecialty training in family planning and opportunities for collaborative research in this area. As a result of this program, the University of Michigan is now the statewide and regional referral center for complicated abortion care which allows for many new learning opportunities in family planning for medical students, residents, and fellows. At the undergraduate level, Dr. Harris co-directs, with Dr. Timothy Johnson, Women's Studies 400: Women's Reproductive Health and she serves as an Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program mentor. She is also frequently invited to lecture on topics related to reproductive health and reproductive justice in the School of Public Health, School of Social Work, Center for African and African American Studies, and numerous other Women's Studies courses. In addition, Dr. Harris is regularly incorporated into the didactic sessions for medical students as well as lecturing to extracurricular groups such as Medical Students for Choice and Everyday Ethics. She frequently serves as a mentor for the Summer Biomedical Research Project. Dr. Harris serves as the primary clinical teacher at Planned Parenthood. Statewide, she has actively worked with other Departments of Obstetrics and Gynecology in transitioning miscarriage management out of the operating room and into the outpatient setting. Internationally, Dr. Harris assisted in the establishment of family planning training programs at the University of Ghana and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana and St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Research: Dr. Harris' independent and team research primarily focuses on bioethics research, specifically as it relates to women's reproductive health across the lifespan. She is most recognized for her work on abortion stigma, conscience in healthcare, and more recently the role of physician voices in shaping abortion public opinion and in depolarizing United States social life more generally. Since 2007, with funding from the Society of Family Planning, Dr. Harris has led an interdisciplinary team including over 1,200 abortion providers from numerous countries worldwide to develop the Providers Share Workshop which is an intervention that has been shown to reduce stigma and other human resource burdens of abortion care. She has published 55 peer-reviewed articles, and has recently launched a large three-year project examining the role of abortion provider voices in shaping public opinion, de-polarizing the national conversation on abortion, and de-polarizing public life more broadly. Findings from this project were recently published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. As the director of research at Planned Parenthood of Michigan, a position she held until 2016, Dr. Harris oversaw clinical studies with the most notable study for which she served as the site principal investigator being a multi-center randomized controlled trial comparing a new levonorgestrel-releasing IUD to one currently on the market. This research changed clinical practices at Michigan Medicine as well as other institutions throughout Michigan and the United States. Dr. Harris serves as the principal investigator on a grant funded through an anonymous foundation to investigate "Shifting culture through abortion providers' voices: towards evidenced-based public intellectual life." While the nature of her work does not lend itself to traditional NIH funding, she has been extremely successful in garnishing foundation support consistently for the past 10 years.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Harris LH: Divisions, New and Old - Conscience and Religious Freedom at HHS. *New England Journal of Medicine* 378:1369-1371, 2018.

Martin LA, Hassinger J, Debbink MP, Harris LH: Dangertalk: Voices of abortion providers. *Social Science and Medicine* 184:75-83, 2017.

Harris LH, for the Ethics Committee of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Sterilization of Women: Ethical Issues and Considerations. *Obstetrics and Gynecology* 129:109-116, 2017.

Debbink M, Martin L, Hassinger J, Maniere E, Harris LH. Experiences with the Providers Share Workshop Method: Abortion Worker Support and Research in Tandem. *Qualitative Health Research* 26:1823-1837, 2016.

Martin L, Debbink MP, Hassinger J, Youatt E, Eagen-Torkko M, Harris LH. Abortion Providers, Stigma and Professional Quality of Life. *Contraception* 90(6):581-587, 2014.

Service: Dr. Harris is an active member of the Society of Family Planning and has served on the Audit Committee and Committee on Board Compensation; North American Forum on Family Planning as a member of the Planning Committee and Chair of the Research Practice Track. She serves as an ad hoc reviewer for many scientific journals including the *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *Obstetrics and Gynecology*, *International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics*, and the *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal*. Since 2017, Dr. Harris has been on the Editorial Board for *Contraception* and has served as the director of research and education for Planned Parenthood of Michigan. Departmentally, she serves as the director of the Fellowship in Family Planning and co-director of the Program in Sexual Rights and Reproductive Justice. Dr. Harris has been a staff physician at Planned Parenthood since 1998 and this remains her primary clinical site. She is recognized regionally and nationally as an expert in technically challenging abortion procedures in both the first and second

trimester, and has earned an informal reputation as a “provider of last resort” in the region. Working with Dr. Vanessa Dalton, they have built a robust miscarriage management and clinical family planning patient care program at University of Michigan which has become a model for other health care facilities.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “She is a star in our field. She plays an extremely important role in bringing nuance and intellectual depth to research about abortion provision and providers. She is unique in her interdisciplinary approach, savviness about academic discourse and ability to build an academic framework to understand the abortion provision. Dr. Harris has made extremely important contributions to the field of reproductive health. She has highlighted her work on understanding the role stigma in abortion provision and also defining conscience in provision of healthcare, rather than in its denial. And these are extremely important contributions that establish her as a leading scientist in the field...I can think of very few super star physician scientists who play such an important role in academic thought and policy formation. None is superior.”

Reviewer B: “Dr. Harris is an internationally distinguished scholar, clinician, and educator whose impact both on her own fields and on public debate is virtually unrivaled...With respect to her scholarship, I consider Dr. Harris to be one of the two leading obstetrician-gynecologist-bioethicists in the world...Her research and writings merge conceptual sophistication and creativity with empirical rigor and an impressive rhetorical and narrative gift...Finally, it is apparent from her extensive list of national and international invited lectures that she is internationally recognized for her path breaking work...These activities represent more than just service—they reflect courage, because being willing to stand up and advocate as an abortion provider, and on behalf of the community of abortion providers, is a brave act...She is a national treasure, with an impact on policy and practice that few peers can match, and her work serves as a model for navigating and bridging the most difficult and divisive issues.”

Reviewer C: “She truly stands out among her peers for her outstanding research and scholarly achievements, her long-standing commitment to teaching, her clinical excellence, and her impressive leadership abilities...The comments made to me regarding the care given by this physician are nothing but superlative, highlighting the exquisite judgment required to deliver the kind of care we desire for our friends and family...One example of her innovative and successful clinical work is an effort she led to move surgical miscarriage management out of the operating room and into the office. This work has resulted in several national presentations, six peer reviewed publications, and serves as a national model...Her related work on the stigmatization of abortion providers has led to important contributions in her field and will continue to do so...Dr. Harris’ ultimate aim is to ensure that individual patients can receive the care that they need and that the polarization around abortion is diminished. She has made extraordinary progress toward that challenging goal, and her scholarly contributions are remarkable and diverse...She is certainly a seasoned leader who knows how to develop and facilitate change...I believe that Dr. Harris is an extraordinary physician, researcher, scholar, and educator.”

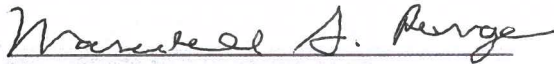
Reviewer D: “I greatly admire Harris’ work and think that she is one of the smartest and intellectually courageous people I know...Lisa Harris’ work presents the very best in interdisciplinary thinking...Harris’ work as a teacher and mentor has been instrumental in transforming the way in which the University of Michigan offers abortion care...The numbers of individuals mentored by Harris are dizzying...She is one of the leading voices pushing for more complex conversations about women’s reproductive control...She has offered new ways of thinking about abortion stigma around the globe, has modeled non-polarizing, civil ways to engage around the issues that divide people, and brought much needed nuance and complexity to conversations about abortion. She is a true pioneer in this area whose vision, courage, interdisciplinary skills, and ethical commitment are unrivaled...I can say that Harris’

work has been groundbreaking on the Institutional level and in clinical care. She illustrates the best of what an academic approach can bring to clinical care and the movement for Reproductive Justice.”

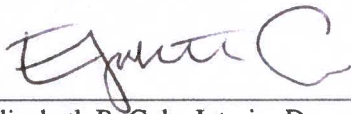
Reviewer E: “There is absolutely no question in my mind that Dr. Harris is a unique resource in medical education and one of the most creative thinkers about the role of social issues in medical care...Dr. Harris is clearly a talented communicator with a clear vision regarding the importance of empathy and complexity and the need for social justice. She has the capacity to move others while teaching them...Dr. Harris has set the agenda for new directions in thinking and talking about patient care -about abortion, yes, but also about many other kinds of services...Her work on abortion stigma has been groundbreaking and has initiated an entire industry on this topic...Her ability to distill new concepts from confusing material allows her to speak to many audiences, in this case to both the social scientists and the medical profession...Such contributions are entirely characteristics of Lisa Harris’ value to the reproductive health field: she sees the bigger picture; she provides us with news ways of organizing our thoughts; and she teaches all of us.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Harris is an exceptionally capable and productive scholar and educator with a national and international reputation in the field of reproductive health and justice. Her work has influenced physicians, nurses, pharmacists, clinical psychologists and social workers as well as activists, advocates, ethicists and policy makers. Her research and words have had global reach and impact. I am pleased, therefore, to recommend Lisa H. Harris, M.D., Ph.D. for promotion to professor of obstetrics and gynecology, with tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and professor of women’s studies, without tenure, Department of Women’s Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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