



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, 28 March 2024

**Global Movement to End Abortion Stigma.**

March 28th marks the inaugural day “Global Day of Action to Destigmatize Abortions”

**CHAPEL HILL, NC**—The Global Day of Action to Destigmatize Abortions Day aims to confront the pervasive stigma surrounding abortion and its intersection with other forms of discrimination. With over 35 reproductive justice organizations, feminist collectives and funders, stigma-busting artists, abortion healthcare providers, community workers and international networks co-convening this Global Day of Action, it promises to be a momentous step towards collective liberation.

Abortion stigma remains one of the greatest barriers to accessing safe and legal abortion worldwide. According to the [World Health Organisation](#), around 73 million induced abortions take place worldwide each year. This underscores the urgent need to address the stigma surrounding abortion and its detrimental impact on reproductive healthcare access.

“Stigma shames and silences people who seek abortions—and anyone even associated with abortion. Abortion stigma is complex, it’s multi-level, and it’s global. And it costs us dearly, causing needless suffering every day for millions of people. But it doesn’t have to be this way. We can imagine, and collectively work toward, a world free from abortion stigma,” says *Bilguissou Balde*, director of *Ipas Francophone*.

To commemorate this historic day, a week of virtual events has been organized, featuring webinars, social media discussions, and virtual roundtables. These events will discuss abortion stigma in accessing safe abortions, funding for abortion justice movements, and strategies for destigmatizing abortions.

Abortion advocates and allies are invited to join the events and raise awareness using our stigma-busting toolkit available at [March28.org](https://march28.org). This toolkit and other resources aim to destigmatize abortions, narratives, and practices, fostering a culture of respect, understanding, and reproductive autonomy.

“Global Day of Action to Destigmatize Abortions” also aims to build on the momentum established by “International Safe Abortions Day,” observed annually on September 28th.

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