

GRAND ROUNDS

Thursday, October 19, 2023

Location: Zoom (please [RSVP](#) for link)

4:30pm- 6:00pm EST

Please RSVP [here](#) or to

bioethics@stonybrookmedicine.edu

The D Words: A Conversation about Death, Dying and Doulas

Monica Raiss & Joni Marra, Esq., CH

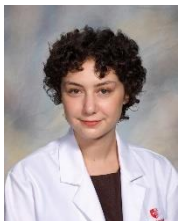
Imagine that as a physician, you enter the exam room and deliver the news to your patient: the test results confirm a terminal diagnosis. Your patient may receive the news with life-altering fear for the death and dying process.

Now, imagine that you are the end-of-life patient. Fear, anger, guilt or shame may flood what you think, feel, say, and do. Studies have shown that the top two fears of end-of-life patients are the fear of 1) pain and 2) being a burden to others.

Critical, time-sensitive decisions await you. Will you continue medical treatment, remain at home, enter hospice? Will you engage a Death Doula? What exactly is a Death Doula?

Join us to explore:

- Understanding the role of a Death Doula
- Facing a fear of death and embracing the end-of-life journey
- Giving the gift of preparation to self and loved ones (physically, emotionally, spiritually, legally)
- Navigating the dying process of Shock, Stabilization and Transition
- Exploring what to do and not do when accompanying the dying



Monica Raiss is a third-year medical student at the Renaissance Stony Brook School of Medicine. She is a NEDA-certified Death Doula, having completed her end-of-life training through Going with Grace. Her focus of interest is the transformative potential of death work within traditional medical settings.



Joni Marra is retired as an attorney and owner of her wellness practice, Inward Bound, LLC. She received her Death Doula certification through the International Doulagivers Foundation, based in New York. Joni encourages others to understand and prepare for the death and dying process in order to give the precious gift of preparation to those who survive us.