



Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics

A Journal of Qualitative Research

Call for Stories

#MeToo in Surgery: Stories from Women Surgeons

Symposium Editor Pringl Miller, MD, FACS

Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics will publish a collection of personal stories from women who are surgeons exploring the challenges they face in their field related to gender, gender discrimination, bias, and sexual harassment. Women represent just 20% of the US surgical workforce but 51% of the US population. While many of the challenges women who are surgeons face may be overt—hostility, objectification, pay inequity—others may be covert. A woman may find her career choices, communication style, or sense of authority influenced by her gender norms or expectations.

We seek stories from women who are surgeons who have first-hand experience of gender-related challenges in their professional life.

We want true, personal stories in a form that is interesting and easy to read. **Please share this invitation and guide sheet with appropriate individuals.**

In writing your story, please consider these questions:

- How do you think being a woman has affected the way you are treated in surgical practice?
- Do you modify the way you communicate in the workplace? If so, how and why?
- What do you perceive to be the critical barriers to women surgeons achieving equity with men in the workplace?
- Have you experienced gender bias, discrimination (either unintentional or intentional), or sexual harassment by a patient or colleague? How did you respond? If you reported the behavior, how was this handled by your department or by administrators?
- How has being a woman and a surgeon changed you? What role has being a woman surgeon played in your personal life and career choices?
- What changes need to be made in order for surgery to be more attractive to women? What advice do you have for other women surgeons or women considering a career in surgery?

You do not need to address each of these questions—write on the issues that you think are most important to share with others. If you are not a writer, tell your story in your own words and our editorial staff will help you.

If you are interested in submitting a story, we ask you first to submit a 300-word proposal—a short description of the story you want to tell. Inquiries or proposals should be sent to the editorial office via email: narrativebioethics@gmail.com. We will give preference to story proposals received by **March 15, 2019**. If your story is invited, we will ask you to submit it within 6 weeks of the invitation. Final stories are 4 – 10 double-spaced pages or 800 – 2000 words.

For more information about the journal *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics*, the guidelines for authors, and privacy policies, visit our webpage at: <http://nibjournal.org/submit/guidelines/>

We plan to publish 12 stories on this topic in our print edition; additional stories may be published as online-only supplemental material. We also publish 2 – 4 commentary articles that discuss the stories that are published in the journal. To see a finished symposium, please visit *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics*' page on [Project MUSE](#) and click on the unlocked, open-access issue.

Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics is indexed in PubMed and MEDLINE.

Johns Hopkins University Press published the journal and it is available in print and electronically to over 1,600 institutional subscribers via Project MUSE.