

# BSMS MONTHLY LECTURE SERIES

FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS



## Dr Marija Pantelic

### Do Human Rights Matter More Than Public Health? Lessons from the COVID-19 and HIV Pandemics

COVID-19 has pushed many of us to ask ourselves: Is public health more important than my personal freedom? Contact tracing, mandatory quarantine and isolation have been among the basic measures for controlling COVID-19 and other pandemics in the past. But are these measures infringing on our basic human rights? To what extent is it possible to protect our freedom and our health? It turns out that marginalised communities that have been at the forefront of HIV prevention (including LGBTQ+, sex workers and drug users) can teach us a lot about protecting both our health and our freedoms. This session will explore the role of our individual freedoms and collective responsibility in the pursuit for public health.

**Wednesday 4 November, 6:30pm - 7:30pm**

**Talk to be delivered online via Zoom video conferencing**

Tickets are free but must be booked online at: <https://bit.ly/2SkYGJQ>