

HELP PROTECT ACCESS TO REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES IN MASSACHUSETTS

Join MASS CHOICE and the Coalition for Choice
at a

Pro-Choice Lobby Day & NOON RALLY

Tuesday, February 28th
at the State House in Boston
in Doric Hall

- 👉 Visit your legislators between 10am & 2pm
- 👉 Briefings will be held in Doric Hall at 10am, 11am, 1pm and 2pm

Come to a training session on "How to Lobby Your Legislator"
Monday, February 27th

6-8pm at the Mass Choice office

Statler Building, Suite 1129. (Take the Green Line to Arlington St.)

Training session will include:

- ✓ information on the latest pro-choice bills
- ✓ the Massachusetts legislative process
- ✓ what to say to your legislator



Please call MASS CHOICE to register or if you have questions:

Promoting Reproductive Choices **NARAL**

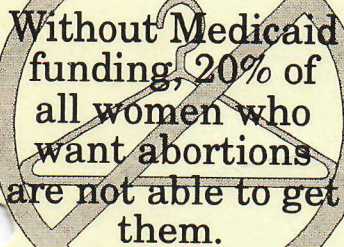


(617) 556-8800

All **WOMEN NEED ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES REPEAL THE HYDE AMENDMENT!**

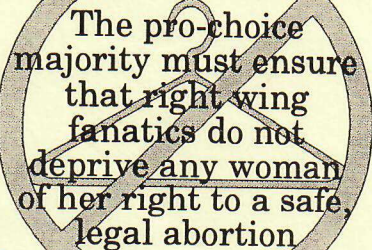
In 1977, the Hyde Amendment prohibited the use of federal Medicaid funding for abortion. That same year, Rosie Jiménez became the first known victim of the Hyde Amendment. She died as a result of a back-alley abortion because she could not afford a legal abortion. Just this week, Congress reaffirmed the Hyde Amendment, allowing funding only in cases of rape, incest, or to save the life of the woman. Today, we mark the deaths of all women who have died as a result of botched, illegal abortions and recommit ourselves to securing a women's right to choose.

ALL women deserve equal access under the law to full reproductive healthcare, including abortion services regardless of her age, race, economic status or geographic location.



Without Medicaid funding, 20% of all women who want abortions are not able to get them.

The National Healthcare Plan **MUST** provide coverage for full reproductive healthcare, including abortion, birth control, pre-natal care, and fertility for **ALL WOMEN** who want them.



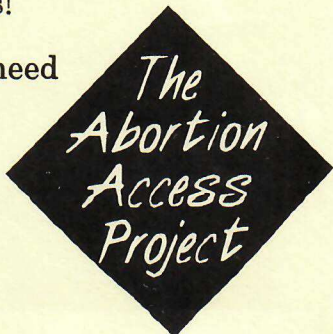
The pro-choice majority must ensure that right wing fanatics do not deprive any woman of her right to a safe, legal abortion.

TAKE ACTION NOW !

Become a part of the fight for women's lives !

1. Call your U.S. Senators at 202-224-3121 and your U.S. Representative at 202-225-3121. Demand that the national healthcare plan include full reproductive healthcare services, including abortion services for all women.
2. Call the White House at 202-456-1111 and demand that President Clinton veto any plan that does not include those services.
3. Call your OB/GYN and ask if she/he performs abortions. If not, change doctors!
4. Call your hospital and ask if it provides abortions services. If not, express the need to offer those essential services to women, and inform the Access Project of these serious problems.
5. **GET INVOLVED!** Call the Abortion Access Project through the Reproductive Rights Network (R2N2) at (617) 738-9479 or through NOW at (617) 782-1056.

Abortion Access Project is a coalition of organizations including the National Organization for Women (NOW), The Reproductive Rights Network (R2N2), other pro-choice organizations, numerous health care providers, and unaffiliated activists.



*The
Abortion
Access
Project*

WE'RE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN

Why is a group of men standing outside Fenway Park on a warm summer evening handing you a leaflet about... men's violence against women?

The tragic events of the O.J. Simpson case have helped to focus unprecedented national attention on the subject of men's violence against women. This violence has long been a major social problem. But perhaps as a result of this tragedy, more men will begin to see "domestic violence" as a **men's issue** that we have a responsibility to address.

Unfortunately, many men in our society have heretofore remained silent about the outrageous level of harassment and violence our sisters have to live with. It is time to break this silence. We need to encourage each other to stand up and speak out against all forms of abuse. We need to send a clear message to abusive men—our brothers, friends, teammates, classmates—that we don't approve of their behavior.

Many of you are in a terrific position to make a big difference. Hundreds, if not thousands, of you are influential in the lives of young boys and adolescent males. Many of you coach Little League or Pop Warner. Others of you are high school hockey, basketball, football, or baseball coaches. Still others among you are Boy Scout leaders, camp counselors, youth workers, and teachers.

Many of you are women whose leadership and example have helped to expand young girls' and boys' consciousness about what being a woman today means.

Many of you are men who are in a position to provide strong role modeling and direction to young males who are learning how to relate to women. You're leaders. As such, you play an important role in the development of your players', students', and campers' attitudes about manhood. Many of you have sons who will learn more about being a man from you than from anyone. If you speak out strongly against men's violence against women, you will have an affect.

How bad is the problem?

The sad truth is, young American males growing up today are learning to be violent—through the media, the sports culture, and elsewhere—as a means of resolving disputes, proving their masculinity, and increasingly, in order to dominate and control women and children. The numbers only begin to tell the story:

- According to the FBI, approximately four women per day are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends. In Massachusetts in 1993, hotlines for battered women received 96,774 calls.
- One of every three women will be the victim of rape or attempted rape in her lifetime. On average, a woman is raped in this country every six minutes.
- 3-4 million women in the U.S. are battered each year by their male partners, 1 million of whom require medical attention.
- One in four girls and one in seven boys will be sexually abused by age 18.

How can we begin to reverse the escalating violence?

Speak out against it! If you work with kids, initiate discussions about sexism and violence against girls and women. Confront sexist comments or jokes by saying that abusing women in any way is not funny. Men also need to reflect on and work toward changing our own sexist behavior and attitudes.

Young boys need to hear from men they look up to and respect that violence against women—be it verbal, emotional, or physical—is never acceptable. They need to hear that it's not cool, that men who are secure in themselves treat women, (or gays and lesbians, or people of different races, or anyone else) with respect and dignity. They need to hear that violence and abusive behavior will not be tolerated. They need to get the message that being sexist or violent toward women is not what being a man is about.

SUGGESTED READINGS on SPORTS and VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Burton Nelson, Mariah, *The Stronger Women Get, The More Men Love Football*. New York: Harcourt Brace, 1994.

Funk, Rus Ervin, *Stopping Rape: A Challenge for Men*. Philadelphia: New Society Publishers, 1993.

Messner, M., *Power at Play: Sports and the Problem of Masculinity*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1992.

Miedzian, Myriam, *Boys Will Be Boys: Breaking the Link Between Masculinity and Violence*. New York: Doubleday, 1991.

RESOURCES for ANTI-SEXIST MEN

Emerge* (a counseling service for men who batter)**
18 Hurley St. #23; Cambridge, MA 02141 • (617) 422-1550

Common Purpose, Inc.* (a multi-cultural agency with treatment for batterers, training, and public education)
P.O. Box 88; Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 • (617) 524-7717; 945-1871; 863-5592

Real Men
P.O. Box 1769; Brookline, MA 02146

WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

Mass. Coalition of Battered Women's Service Groups
210 Commercial St. 3rd floor; Boston, MA 02109 • (617) 248-0922

Jane Doe Safety Fund
(800) JANEDOE [(800) 526-3363]

Roxbury Multi-Service Center / Community Program Against Sexual Assault (CPASA)
317 Blue Hill Ave.; Dorchester, MA 02120 • (617) 427-4470 ext. 444

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center*
99 Bishop Allen Drive; Cambridge, MA 02139 • Hotline: 492-RAPE

*Bilingual services available

**African-american-only groups available

This leaflet is sponsored by **Real Men**, an anti-sexist men's organization founded in Boston in 1988. We are an activist educational and political group. Our goal is to encourage men to speak out against sexism and all forms of male violence against women. To this end, we provide speakers, sponsor forums, distribute literature, and organize public political actions. For more information, write to: Real Men P.O. Box 1769 Brookline MA 02146



National Organization for Women — Massachusetts

971 Commonwealth Ave. • Boston, MA 02215 • (617) 782-9183 • FAX: (617) 782-4127

April 8, 1994

Ellen Convisser
President

Toni Troop
*Vice President
Action*

Rachel Richards
*Vice President
Legislative*

Dianne Beuke
Treasurer

Angela
Beauchamp
Secretary

Dear NOW Member,

For many years, we wrote you to ask for your support in combatting the right wing in the form of Operation Rescue. And you responded in force by joining local phonetrees, participating in clinic defense, providing financial support and lobbying elected officials. Met with this asserted and unyielding pro-choice strategy, Operation Rescue has ceased blockading clinics and has almost disappeared in Massachusetts.

Now we must all pull together again. Only this time, the battleground has moved from the clinics to the public schools.

While not as overt as the terrorism in front of the clinics, the potential damage of their agenda to all of us is no less threatening. No doubt, you have heard of the right wing's efforts to reintroduce the teaching of **creationism** and **abstinence-only sex education**. While these groups publicly focus on issues of sexuality, their agenda is actually much broader. By attacking school breakfast programs and bilingual education, they reveal their disdain for low-income and immigrant families. By attacking feminism and multi-cultural education, they attempt to undermine the status of women and people of color.

In the past few years local groups have formed under such benign names as "Concerned Parents and Citizens of Braintree" and "Caring Parents of Concord." In reality, the only thing these groups seem concerned with is the promotion of religious based education. They seem undaunted by the basic tenets of our country such as the separation of church and state, religious freedom and civil rights.

These groups have had mixed success in Massachusetts. While Lexington residents defeated efforts to remove condoms from the high school, a proposed AIDS curriculum for the Braintree schools were dramatically defeated. Bouyed by public attention and national support, these groups plan to couple their activity to effect school policy with an electoral strategy to infiltrate the local school boards.

Some run as "stealth" candidates, masking their true agendas; others campaign openly on reactionary platforms. In either case, we face serious threats at the local and state levels. With your help we can make sure these attacks do not go unanswered.

Massachusetts NOW has already begun tracking right wing activity in the state and networking with other progressive groups involved in these efforts. We need your help to bring this campaign to the grassroots level and into every community

Acton Area
NOW

Berkshire
County NOW

Greater
Boston NOW

Cape Ann
North Shore
NOW

Hampshire
County NOW

Greater
Lawrence NOW

Lexington Area
NOW

Lowell NOW

MetroWest
NOW

Nantucket
NOW

South Shore
NOW

Greater
Springfield
NOW

Worcester NOW

A "PRO-CHOICE DAY OF ACTION" RALLY

The health care reform bill gives us an opportunity to advance women's health care. Comprehensive reproductive health care services, including abortion, must be covered by any national health package.

RALLY WITH MASS CHOICE

Thursday, July 7th
5:30 - 6:30 pm
at the State House Steps

FEATURING

Kathryn Kolbert
Vice President
Center for Reproductive Law & Policy

Meizhu Lui
Boston Access Project Coordinator
Health Care For All

Joyce Cunha
Executive Director
Mass Choice (a NARAL affiliate)

Also featuring

Maria Falzone, comedian
Michael Smith, comedian
(& Host of "1 in 10" on WFNX)

&

The Female Hip Hop Dance Group
Funky Girl Club!!!

For more information call Mass Choice 617-556-8800



CALL

THE PROJECT STAND UP

for WOMEN NOW
INTERNATIONAL



CLINIC DEFENSE HOTLINE

703-866-5322

To get the latest news on abortion clinic attacks and the anti-abortion fanatics around the world, call the hotline for bi-weekly updates every Tuesday and Friday. If you have information which should be broadcast on the hotline, call Project Stand Up for Women NOW at 202-351-0066. Don't wait, call NOW!