

Mother's Day Report

National Organization for Women

Mothers

"NOW [National Organization for Women] is a fierce supporter of the Paycheck Fairness Act, and other policies like paid leave, affordable childcare and healthcare, and family leave. On Mom's Equal Pay Day, we reaffirm our commitment to advocating for these initiatives which would ease the financial burdens on mothers and women in this country." ([NOW Demands Equal Pay for Mothers, June 4, 2020](#))

Children

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Parental Rights

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Abortion

"NOW is working toward accessible reproductive health care for all women and LGBTQIA+ people. NOW fully supports safe and legal abortion, affordable and effective birth control and other contraception, medication abortion, telemedicine for reproductive care, and reproductive health education for all. We fiercely oppose attempts to restrict reproductive freedom through underhanded legislation and regulations." ([Reproductive Rights and Justice](#))

Christian F. Nunes, National President of NOW, issued the following statement in response to President Joe Biden's State of the Union speech: "President Biden sent a clear message to women—protecting and strengthening reproductive freedom is a top priority for him and his administration....In his address, President Biden ultimately asked, what do we want for our country, and more importantly, what do we expect from our leaders? Are we a nation that passes laws where women have the independence to make their own decisions about their bodies, their healthcare, and their families' futures? Will our leaders stand up and ensure reproductive freedom for everyone? Or will the extremists continue to work to ban abortions, IVF, and even birth control and finally achieve a national abortion ban?" ([Tonight's SOTU Made it Clear that Women's Reproductive Freedoms Are on the Ballot This Year, March 7, 2024](#))

"From a public health point of view, abortion care, no less than contraception, is an essential measure to prevent the heartbreak of infant mortality, and to prevent another tragedy as well — maternal death." ([Abortion, Like Contraception, Is Essential Health Care That Saves Lives, May 13, 2014](#))

LGBT

"NOW is committed to fighting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in all areas, including employment, housing, public accommodations, health services, child custody, and military policies. NOW is committed to educational efforts that combat the adverse effects of homophobia, promote positive images in the media, and ultimately ensure civil rights protection for all. NOW asserts the right of LGBTQIA individuals to live their lives with dignity and security, and marriage equality for all." ([LGBTQIA+ Rights](#))

Gender Identity

"The hate campaign against trans women and girls participating on school sports teams claim 'unfairness', asserting that trans girls and women would create an uneven playing field. Rather than focusing on what this standard of 'fairness' might be, primary focus should be placed on the countless factors that can affect an individual's performance in competitive sports. Socioeconomic disparities, racism, and even genetic and biological factors all play a role in this arena. And yet, there is no mention of these disparities when arguing that trans girls and women shouldn't participate on teams that align with their gender identity. Sports depend on biological diversity. If it weren't for these diverse characteristics, then competitive sports wouldn't exist. It seems like this diversity is only a problem when women athletes, especially women of color and/or trans women are excelling in their respective sports. So how is this debate about 'fairness'?" (["Debate" about Trans Girls and Women in School Sports Spreads Transphobia and Bigotry Through the False Lens of "Fairness," May 5, 2022](#))

Feminist Majority

Mothers

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Children

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Parental Rights

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Abortion

"Feminist Majority Foundation affirms the right of every individual to access safe abortion care, regardless of income or zip code, which is why we unequivocally support repealing the Hyde Amendment, which prohibits pregnant people from using Medicaid to pay for their abortion care." ([Abortion](#))

"In terms of abortion, California law now protects doctors when mailing abortion medication to patients in states that have banned the procedure. Healthcare providers will also be protected when mailing pills for contraception or gender affirming care and will be allowed to file lawsuits against anyone that interferes with their right to provide legal care. Other states, such as Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, Maryland, and Vermont, are working to pass similar laws." ([New Year, New Laws on Gender and Abortion, January 2, 2024 Madelyn Amos](#))

"They advertise as so-called 'Crisis Pregnancy Centers' (CPCs) or 'Pregnancy Resource Centers,' but in reality, most are not medical facilities at all. Fake clinics will often pop up near actual abortion providers in order to draw clinic patients away and prevent them from receiving neutral and comprehensive medical advice. The goal of these fake clinics is to discourage people from seeking abortion care through the use of intimidation, misinformation, and coercion. There are thousands of these clinics nationwide, many of which actively receive federal funding through abstinence-only policies." ([Abortion: Our Work](#))

"The Feminist Majority Foundation's 2018 National Clinic Violence Survey found that a comprehensive reproductive healthcare clinic located near a fake clinic was seven times more likely to experience high levels of severe violence and harassment than one that is not located near a fake clinic. Additionally, the survey notes that anecdotal evidence suggests that more fake clinics are collaborating with, or being directed by, anti-abortion extremists targeting abortion providers." ([Expose Fake Clinics](#))

LGBT

"There was a record-breaking number of anti-LGBTQ legislation introduced by Republican state legislators in 2023, with the American Civil Liberties Union recording at least 508 bills targeting LGBTQ healthcare access and inclusion in education. 84 of these were passed into law. Over 20 Republican-led states are now seeing these laws go into effect in the new year. As a result, the Human Rights Campaign reported that 35% of transgender youth live in states that have restricted

gender affirming care." ([New Year, New Laws on Gender and Abortion, January 2, 2024 Madelyn Amos](#))

Gender Identity

"People of all genders need access to abortion. Trans and non-binary people often face not only the effects of anti-abortion policies, but also are consistently left out of conversations about abortion access." ([Facts](#))

"Trans and nonbinary youth have an extremely high risk of depression, anxiety, and suicide. Studies indicate that 86% of trans youth have considered killing themselves and 56% reported a previous suicide attempt. Gender affirming care such as puberty blockers or hormone therapy have been shown to reduce gender dysphoria and improve mental health for trans and nonbinary youth. Bills blocking access to necessary healthcare interfere in the physician-patient-family relationship and criminalize pediatricians, while putting already vulnerable youth at further risk." ([North Carolina's GOP controlled state legislature overrides vetoes to pass anti-trans laws, August 17, 2023 Madelyn Amos](#))

Planned Parenthood

Mothers

Statement from Planned Parenthood President Dr. Leana Wen: "This Mother's Day, I march for moms because healthy children and healthy families start with healthy moms. Right now, our country faces a maternal mortality crisis — it is unconscionable that American women are more likely to die in childbirth than our own mothers and shameful that Black women continue to die at higher rates than White women. We must come together to call out these structural inequities and combat the stigma and structural racism that created this public health crisis. As one of few national health care organizations focused on serving and supporting mother's and families throughout a woman's reproductive life, Planned Parenthood marches with all those committed to improving health for mothers and children, and eliminating disparities in maternal and infant mortality." ([Planned Parenthood Joins March for Moms to Address State of Maternal Health Ahead of Mother's Day, May 11, 2019](#))

In a May 2023 article, Andrea Schmidt, the public affairs project manager for Planned Parenthood of Orange & San Bernardino Counties said, "May is full of Mother's Day tributes on social media and elsewhere. Those are nice, but if we really want to show appreciation for moms, we need to fight back against attacks on reproductive healthcare, bodily autonomy and abortion rights nationwide. To do

that, we need to make it less scary to talk about abortion." She also explained that "the fact is, abortion is incredibly safe, common and vital for strong parents and families. In fact, many women who have abortions are already parents and simply trying to be the best parent for the children they already have. So when we talk about abortion openly, we destigmatize it, making it less threatening." ([Los Angeles Times, "Commentary: Want to really help moms and kids in Orange County? Share your abortion story," May 10, 2023](#))

Children

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Parental Rights

"Young people have a right to make meaningful and informed decisions about their own bodies and lives. Nevertheless, Pennsylvania law requires parental consent for most people under 18 to access abortion care. Everyone's situation is different: some young people either cannot, or do not want to, involve their parents or legal guardian in their decision to have an abortion." ([A Guide For Young People Seeking Abortion Without Parental Involvement In Pennsylvania, 2018](#))

"Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts Patient Navigators are here to assist minors seeking information about the judicial bypass process and access to an attorney. The Navigators will serve minors whether they are seeking an abortion at Planned Parenthood or at another abortion provider." ([Planned Parenthood-Judicial Bypass](#))

"You have the right to decide to have an abortion if you are under 18. But Florida state law requires most young people under 18* to involve a parent or legal guardian in their decision. If you can't involve your parent or legal guardian, you have the option of asking a judge to let you get an abortion without involving a parent. This process is called judicial bypass." ([Planned Parenthood, Abortion Care for People Under 18](#))

Abortion

"Abortion is a safe way to end pregnancy. There are two kinds of abortion in the U.S. — in-clinic abortion and the abortion pill. Some Planned Parenthood health centers provide one or both kinds of abortion. Abortion is very common. Nearly 1 in 4 women in the U.S. will have an abortion by the time they're 45 years old. The decision to have an abortion is very personal, and only you can decide what's best

for you. But we're here to help answer whatever questions you may have, and make sure you get the care you need." ([Planned Parenthood Abortion Services](#))

"Everyone has their own unique and valid reasons for having an abortion. Some of the many different reasons people decide to end a pregnancy include:

- They want to be the best parent possible to the kids they already have.
- They're not ready to be a parent yet.
- It's not a good time in their life to have a baby.
- They want to finish school, focus on work, or achieve other goals before having a baby.
- They're not in a relationship with someone they want to have a baby with.
- They're in an abusive relationship or were sexually assaulted.
- The pregnancy is dangerous or bad for their health.
- The fetus won't survive the pregnancy or will suffer after birth.
- They just don't want to be a parent." ([Planned Parenthood Considering Abortion](#))

LGBT

"We understand that the fights for LGBTQ rights, reproductive rights, and racial justice are linked. Despite the strides made toward equality in the more than 50 years since the 1969 Stonewall Riots, LGBTQ people — especially those who are transgender, people of color, or both — continue to be denied access to basic needs such as housing, health care, and employment." ([Planned Parenthood Recognizes LGBTQ Pride Month: celebrating progress, contributions, strength, and resilience of the LGBTQ movement, June 16, 2021](#))

Gender Identity

"Many people believe there are only two genders: man and woman. This is known as the gender binary. But that's not how every person experiences their own gender. If your gender is different from the 'male' or 'female' label on your original birth certificate, you may identify as transgender. If your gender doesn't fit into the gender binary, you may identify as nonbinary." ([Planned Parenthood, Transgender and Nonbinary Identities](#))

"Planned Parenthood believes you deserve high-quality, compassionate health care — no matter your gender identity. Most of our health centers provide hormone therapy and other gender-affirming services for transgender and nonbinary patients." ([Planned Parenthood, Gender Affirming Care](#))

"Gender affirming hormone therapy — including testosterone — isn't birth control. This means that trans men can get pregnant even if they're on testosterone (T) and even if they don't have their period. Pregnancy is possible as long as you have a uterus and ovaries, and are ovulating. It's also possible to ovulate even if you don't have a period." ([Planned Parenthood, Can transgender men get pregnant?](#))

"The young people affected by the anti-trans legislation passed this year, who will not be able to continue their hormone care, who will not be allowed to participate in school sports and, in some cases, will not even be allowed to use the restroom at their school, will be expected to practice resilience. Our society has come to expect LGBTQ people, especially minor youth, to undergo repeated mental, emotional and even physical trauma, and to come out the other side 'resilient.' Popular culture tells them, 'It gets better.' And then, for a month during Pride, the ones who survive such conditions are praised for their resilience. They are called 'brave.'" ([Planned Parenthood Statement, June 16, 2021](#))

"Planned Parenthood proudly provides gender-affirming care to patients 16 years of age and older — with or without insurance" ([Planned Parenthood Recognizes LGBTQ Pride Month, June 8, 2023](#))

Reproductive Freedom for All (Formerly NARAL)

Mothers

"As progressives, we acknowledge that the current economic system is exceptionally punishing of mothers, single mothers, and mothers of color whose wages, job opportunities, and economic advancement suffer due to the 'motherhood penalty.'" ([NARAL Statement of Principles, 2017](#))

Children

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Parental Rights

On parental-consent laws for minors receiving abortions: "Parental-consent and notice laws endanger young women's health by forcing some women—even some from healthy, loving families—to turn to illegal or self-induced abortion, delay the procedure and increase the medical risk, or bear a child against their will."

[\(Mandatory Parental-Involvement Laws Threaten Young Women's Safety, January 1, 2017\)](#)

"The forced childbearing among teenagers that can result from parental-consent and notice laws can have devastating effects on the health and life chances of young women and their children...." [\(Mandatory Parental-Involvement Laws Threaten Young Women's Safety, January 1, 2017\)](#)

Abortion

"Reproductive Freedom For All, formerly NARAL Pro-Choice America, has helped lead the charge for over 50 years in the fight for abortion rights, access to birth control, parental leave policies, and pregnancy protections." [\(History-Reproductive Freedom For All\)](#)

"NARAL's newly released reports underscore the urgent need to pass the Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA). WHPA would protect the right to abortion throughout the United States by creating a right for healthcare providers to provide abortion care and a corresponding right for people to receive that care, free from bans and medically unnecessary restrictions that single out abortion and block access." [\(NARAL Pro-Choice America Releases New Reports on Status of Reproductive Freedom in the States in 2021, January 21, 2022\)](#)

"We are in a moment of crisis with the future of reproductive freedom and abortion access at stake for all of us. It's incumbent upon each and every one of our leaders—from the White House to statehouses—to uphold and safeguard our freedom to make our own decisions about our lives and futures." [\(NARAL Pro-Choice America Applauds Biden-Harris Administration's Release of First-Ever National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality, October 22, 2021\)](#)

LGBT

"We support equality and full recognition of LGBTQIA+ civil rights across all matters, including employment, marriage equality, healthcare, and more." [\(About us-NARAL\)](#)

"Our fight for reproductive freedom is deeply interconnected with the fight for voting rights, democracy reform, LGBTQIA+ equality and civil rights, and so much more. We're proud to be allies to the individuals and organizations leading the way on these urgent issues." [\(About us-NARAL\)](#)

"Let's celebrate Pride Month this year by passing the Equality Act! LGBTQ+ Americans deserve to be protected from eviction and discrimination." ([Twitter, June 20, 2022](#))

Gender Identity

"Reproductive Freedom for All [formerly NARAL] supports policies to make sure everybody, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, has access to comprehensive health care and coverage—including for abortion, contraception, IVF, and gender-affirming care—free from discrimination." ("[About us](#)" page)

Center for Reproductive Rights

Mothers

"The U.S. continues to face a maternal health crisis, with rates of maternal deaths continuing to rise. The crisis disproportionately impacts Black women, who are nearly three times more likely to die than white women from pregnancy complications. Multiple factors contribute to the disparities that Black women experience, including structural racism, biased and discriminatory treatment from providers, limited access to quality care, and broader inequities in health that can lead to complications during pregnancy." ([U.S. Maternal Health & Rights Initiative](#))

Children

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Parental Rights

"The Teen Endangerment Act will harm young women by forcing parental involvement even in potentially abusive or dysfunctional family situations, by making it riskier for young women to obtain abortions, by interfering with the parent-daughter relationship, by trapping minors in a confusing maze of conflicting state laws, by forcing young women to choose between foregoing assistance from trusted relatives or friends or exposing them to potential criminal liability, and by ignoring the geographic and economic realities and flaws in state judicial bypass systems that cause some young women to seek an abortion out of state." ([The Teen Endangerment Act Harming Young Women Who Seek Abortions \(H.R. 748; S. 8, 396, 403\), July 2005](#))

Abortion

"The Center for Reproductive Rights works to protect and advance abortion rights around the world by removing restrictive laws and policies, promoting measures to improve access to safe and legal abortion, and countering efforts to undermine access to abortion care." ([Center for Reproductive Rights: Abortion](#))

"Human rights bodies and courts worldwide recognize that abortion care is essential health care and a critical aspect of women and girls' fundamental human rights. Everyone has the right to accessible, high-quality abortion care and no one should be criminalized for seeking or accessing abortion services. In recent decades, more than 60 countries have liberalized their abortion laws, recognizing the importance of reproductive autonomy in women's lives." ([Center for Reproductive Rights: Abortion](#))

LGBT

No meaningful policy statements on this issue.

Gender Identity

"Historic and modern restrictions on reproductive autonomy have often targeted women in particular. But such discrimination also has a pernicious impact on people of all gender identities who can become pregnant, including trans men and nonbinary people. More broadly, historic and modern reproduction regulation has controlled choices around pregnancy as a way to reinforce gender roles and other inequalities, making pregnancy a flashpoint for multiple types of discrimination." ([The Right to Reproductive Autonomy: Advancing Gender Equality in State Courts](#))