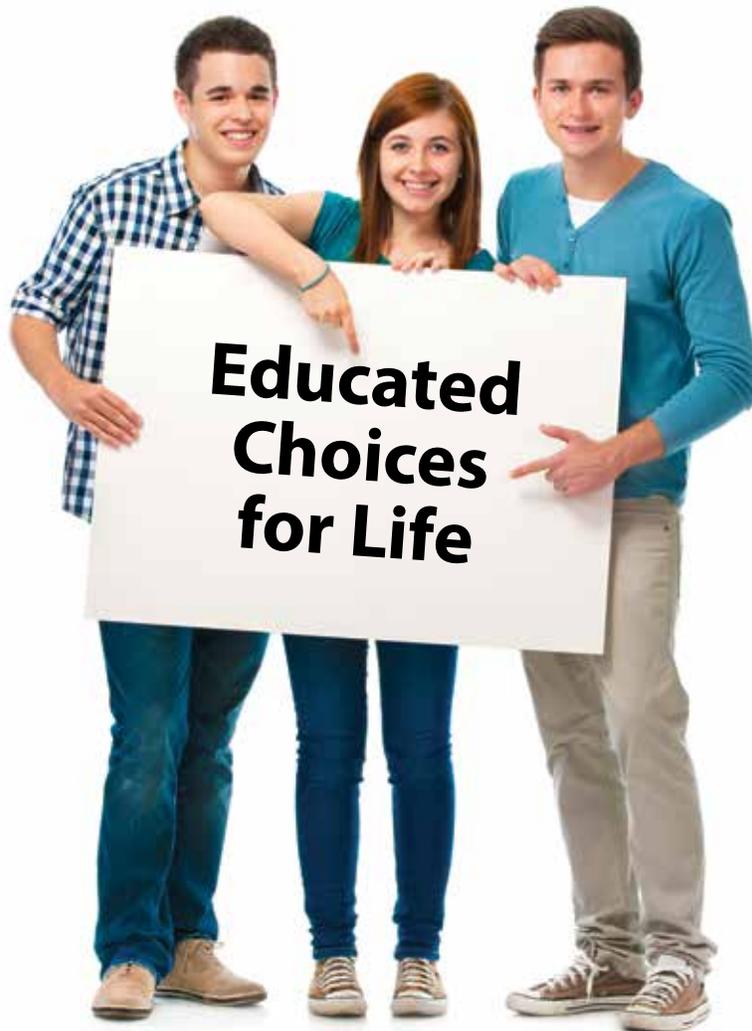




# Voices for Choice

**WINTER 2017**  
QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



*Citizens for Choice promotes reproductive justice through education, health care access and advocacy. We exist to inform and enable choice.*

# Voices for Choice

WINTER 2017 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER By Kimberly D'Urso President

### Women's March in DC 2017



Words cannot accurately describe what it felt like to be present at the Women's March on Washington last week, but I will try.

It was a knowing in your heart, your mind, and in your bones that we were all making history together, that it was extremely important to be there. In the throngs of more than a million people, there was energy, hope, passion and, yes, outrage. People converged from all directions of DC, becoming a multicultural ocean of pink hats and expressive signs, messaging the world that we stand together. You saw it. The world was watching.

What an honor to represent Citizens for Choice in Washington, DC. I am grateful to have participated. We accomplished much in one short week. We stood for women and we stood for justice. We stood for the world. United, we will not be divided.

I listened to many informative and interesting speakers, on topics ranging from women's health care to Syrian refugees to environmental activism. I made signs and sashes and sang with women from all over the country. I, along with Eli-

sa Parker of See Jane Do, visited Representative Doug LaMalfa's office and hand-delivered a letter from Nevada County, addressing our concerns as his constituents in District 1.

What really struck me in DC was the power of choice and how many different choices had to be negotiated for people to drive, bus, train, or plane to DC for the Women's March, especially in the middle of an inauguration. The resolve that took was inspiring and shows what humans accomplish when they have focus and are determined towards a cause.

I hope you enjoy the photos and I welcome any questions!

—Kimberly D'Urso, President



### Women's March on Washington: A Teen Perspective

On November 8th Donald Trump was elected president of the United States. This is a man who speaks about women as though they are objects, who has admitting to sexual assault, who has vowed to limit the power I have over my own body. Time and time again he has disrespected and demeaned women. Through his actions and his words, he has shown that he does not regard women as equal human beings and now he is our president. That thought disgusted and frightens me; so

when I heard about the March on Washington, I was extremely excited to go.

In the days after the march, I saw people on the internet expressing confusion as to why so many women and people chose to join the marches on the 21st. "There's nothing you can change, why are you making such a fuss," they said. "Stop whining," they said. But this march was about so much more than people complaining; it was about showing ourselves and our government that we are here, we are powerful

and will not tolerate the disrespect that our new president has shown us.

When I marched that day I was surrounded by more than a million people. Looking out at the crowd to a sea of people that stretched farther than the eye could see reminded me that I am not alone. There are millions of people who feel just as outraged and terrified as I do, and together we have a voice.

—Sasha Benson

Teen Representative for Citizens for Choice

## PUBLIC INTEREST By Kimberly D'Urso

### HR7: The Global Gag Rule—An egregious affront to women worldwide

One day after the celebration of 44 years of Roe v. Wade, and two days after the historic Women's March in DC, President Trump, surrounded only by men, proudly reinstated the Global Gag Rule, taking women back to 1984, the last time the Global Gag Rule was in place.

What is the Global Gag Rule (HR7) and what does HR7 do?

HR7 bans U.S. funding of all international family-planning organizations from providing safe and legal abortion access, distributing literature, counseling, or speaking about abortion as a family-planning option.

According to Bustle, in 2008, the World Health Organization estimated that 21.6 million women -- the majority of whom reside in developing countries -- have unsafe abortions every year. As a re-

sult, 47,000 maternal deaths occur. Sadly, 13 percent of all maternal deaths result from unsafe abortions. This Global Gag Rule leaves a gaping \$600 million gap in U.S. funding for safe and legal abortions.

The World's Response? Netherlands International Minister, Lilianne Plouman acted immediately in response to the Global Gag Rule, putting in place a plan to set up an "international safe abortion fund" to shore the \$600 million gap in U.S. funding. More than 20 countries have indicated their strong support, including South America, Europe and Afri-



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ca. Their goal is to keep existing international organizations like the United Nations Population Fund and the International Planned Parenthood Federation, supported, funded, and in place.



Asylum Down | Behind Closed Doors Fantasy Boutique \ BriarPatch Co-op | Classic Tattoo | Common Goals | Coopers CoRR (Community Recovery Resources) | Crazy Horse Saloon and Grill | DVSAC (Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalition) | Foggy Mountain Music | FoxHound Espresso & Coffee Broaster | Gary's Place Saloon | Goodtimes Boardstore | Grateful Ink Tattoo | HAALo | Ink Expressed Tattoo | Dr. E. Lernhardt, MD (PV) | McGees | Mine Shaft Saloon | The Open Book | Sierra Care Pediatrics (GV) | Sierra Care Physicians (PV) | Sierra College Health Services | Sierra Family Medical Clinic (NSJ) | Sierra Mountain Coffee Roasters | Tribal Weaver | Valentina's Organic Bistro and Bakery | WIC (Women, Infants, and Children)

## POSITIONS OPEN ON OUR BOARD!

Please contact us if you are interested in joining our valuable team of board members.

Below is a list of positions we wish to fill in order to be more effective with our mission.

We are an all volunteer board which meets one evening a month, with a vested interest in equality, reproductive justice and ensuring that the people in our community have access to reproductive health care in a safe, private and unbiased environment.

Please email us at: [info@citizensforchoice.org](mailto:info@citizensforchoice.org) and tell us about yourself!

### 2016 VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS

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# 2017 March on Sacramento

**"What a great experience! Lots of positive energy. Everyone so nice to each other, including law enforcement. Do let's keep up the good work."**

—Patricia Wolfe



**"I am proud to have been part of the Women's March yesterday with my husband and granddaughter! I heard that there were over 30 thousand people at the Sacramento March! To the March organizers - Great Job!!! This is just the beginning; we need to do more. We must stand up to abuse of power wherever we see it. Be strong and be vigilant."** —Debra Worth

(Deb Worth gave out around 75 condoms with our stickers at the Sacramento March)

**"I was very impressed. People were warm and polite. A mounted policeman said he has been doing this for a very long time and this was the biggest demonstration he has seen by far. We need to keep on top of things daily because the important issues need to be protected."**

—Margaret Munson

**"It was very positive, very energizing. Lots of love between everyone. We just came back feeling we could be committed to this movement and make positive changes."**

—Marnie Ratkovsky

**"We have work to do—let's get to it! This crazy time is inspiring many into action. Don't despair, organize. Be grateful that this is uniting many of us to engage in politics again, and for the first time. It is our time."**

—Kimberly D'Urso



Sharon O'Hara, Margaret Munson, Marnie Ratkovsky



Beverly Wilson, Claudine Calvet, Sharon O'Hara

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**Thank you!**

You help us provide services at *The Clinic!*, education programs like *Know It & Own It*, and advocacy for us all.

## eScrip E-scrip Contributions—They Really Help!

Contributions through December 2016 were \$200. Contributions may be made to Citizens for Choice through e-scrip at Safeway, Save-Mart, and SPD Market. Check at your favorite store to see just how to do it. For example, such contributions have been made at SPD by obtaining a key ring card. Your help will continue to support our work and keep the Clinic open. Thank you!

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