



**ADVOCACY
IN ACTION**
NCJW
ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

Legislation Watch - Take Action Today!

NCJWSTL is closely monitoring the following legislation this week and we are asking you to take action:

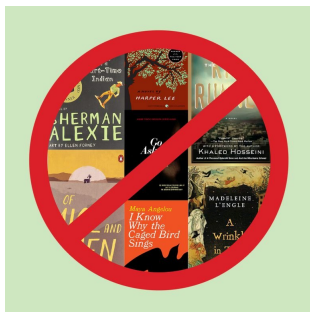
SB 45 - Currently, low-income pregnant and postpartum women receiving benefits through MO HealthNet for Pregnant Women or Show-Me Healthy Babies are eligible for pregnancy-related coverage throughout the pregnancy and for 60 days following the end of the pregnancy. Under this act, MO HealthNet coverage for these low-income women will include full Medicaid benefits for the duration of the pregnancy and for one year following the end of the pregnancy.

This bill will be voted on TODAY at 1:30 in the [Missouri House Rules - Legislative Oversight Committee](#). Please contact the members of this committee this morning by [clicking here](#) and urge them to vote **YES** on SB 45.



**NCJW
ACTION
ALERT**

Donate Your Banned Books to NCJWSTL!



Did you know? NCJWSTL has a **Little Social Justice Library** in our office front vestibule where our members have the ability to check out books on a variety of social justice issues. It has been a wonderful resource for those interested in learning more about our advocacy priority issues.

Because fighting censorship and book banning is always the right thing to do, we are excited to announce that we are creating a **Little Banned Books Library** as well. As a Jewish organization, we are well aware of the ramifications of banning books. The vast majority of current banned books deal with "uncomfortable" issues like race, LGBTQ+ themes and the Holocaust.

To do our part in making banned books available, **we need your donations**. You can find a list of some of the most commonly banned books by [clicking here](#). We are happy to take donations of both new and used books. Just bring them to the NCJWSTL office!

For more information, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org.

SIGN THE PETITION: Don't Defund Missouri Libraries!

Missouri legislators recently voted to completely defund the state's public libraries in retaliation for a lawsuit over its recent illegal book ban law. The state legislators believe they are above the law and set the new budget for libraries to \$0.



State Aid helps libraries provide relevant collections, literacy based programming, and technology resources to their communities. Missouri's rural libraries rely the most heavily on this funding to serve their communities, and they will be crippled by this drastic budget cut.

Don't let these retaliatory cuts stand! Please [click here](#) to sign the petition.

THIS WEEK! April Lunch and Learn - Criminal Justice with Lindsay Runnels



Thursday, April 20, 2023
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT

Lindsay Runnels

When: Thursday, April 20 | 12:00 – 1:00 PM CT

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

Lamar Johnson was convicted in 2004 of shooting a man several times in broad daylight. No physical evidence connected him to the incident. After spending 13 years in prison, the state's attorney's office concluded that eyewitness testimony during the trial was flawed and that the two witnesses who identified Johnson as the gunman had said that he merely "looked similar" to the shooter.

One of the attorneys instrumental in securing his freedom is Lindsay Runnels, whom we are thrilled to welcome as our April Lunch and Learn speaker. Runnels is an attorney at Morgan Pilate, LLC in Kansas City, Missouri. She specializes in trial and post-conviction criminal defense, innocence, and civil rights litigation. She is a former clinical professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law and University of Missouri-Columbia School of Law where she was the director of the Wrongful Convictions Clinic in partnership with the Midwest Innocence Project.

Please join us to hear about this incredible effort to free an innocent man and what we can do to advocate for others who are wrongly convicted.

Please [click here](#) to register for the March Lunch and Learn. Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org or call 314.993.5181

Planned Parenthood Lobby Day

When: Thursday, April 27 | 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM CT

Where: Missouri Capitol | 201 W Capitol Ave.

[RSVP Here](#)

From banning abortion to attacking transgender youth to "defunding" Planned Parenthood, the far-right

Lobby Day 2023

Lobby Day 2023

Lobby Day 2023

politicians who dominate our gerrymandered state legislature are sending a message to the next generation of Missourians that our state is not a place to grow and thrive. But we have a different message: Together we will fight back, build power and create a better Missouri for everybody.

Please join us to lobby with our coalition partner Planned Parenthood and advocate for the rights of every Missourian to control our bodies, lives and futures!

Please [click here](#) to register. If you are interested in going with NCJWSTL, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org.

The Language of Abortion: How to Talk With People Who Don't Believe What you Believe



When: Sunday, April 30 at 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM CT **Note New Timing**

Where: Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

More than ever, it's now a critical time to talk about abortion with your friends and family – even if you disagree about the issue. The U.S. Supreme Court took away our constitutional right to abortion and robbed our ability to control our bodies and future healthcare decisions. **Discussing it openly is one way you can fight back.**

We know these are not easy conversations to have with those who may not share our same perspectives on abortion. This is why NCJWSTL is excited to partner with American Association of University Women (AAUW) and Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice to offer a workshop on how to confidently talk about abortion, give you the tools necessary to have what may be difficult conversations, and increase the possibilities for positive outcomes.

Our speakers are **Brian Silva**, Vice President of Outreach and Engagement at Americans United for Separation of Church and State and **Dr. Diane Rosen**, a local OBGYN. The program will be moderated by NCJWSTL Past President **Marlene Hammerman**, who has been entrenched in the abortion rights battle for decades.

Please [click here](#) to register. For more information, please contact Jen Bernstein at jbernstein@ncjwstl.org

Take Action & Join the A-List

Now more than ever you will want to make sure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2023! Join us as we stand together and speak out about the issues that matter most.

Together we can make a difference!

A-List sponsorship ads sustain our collaborative efforts to educate the community and elected officials about issues integral to our



mission, such as birth control access and voting rights. The full-page ads will run in the St. Louis Jewish Light during 2023.

- **\$18** includes your name in the ad.
- **\$54** makes you an Advocate Plus with your name in bold.
- **\$72** makes you a sponsor with your name distinguished in color

[Click here](#) to see the **A-List flyer**.
[Click here](#) to see the latest **A-List Ad**.
 Join the A-list [here](#).

Interesting Reading



The Biden administration announced Wednesday that it's moving to close a loophole in medical privacy laws that allows healthcare workers to report patients to the police if they suspect them of self-managing an abortion. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) doesn't require healthcare workers to make these reports, but it doesn't prevent them from doing so, either. The move comes amid a push from advocates and after reporting explained the dangers of the privacy loophole and the chilling effect it can

have on health care in a post *Roe v. Wade* America.

[Click here](#) to read *Susan Rinkunas's* article from *Jezebel*, "*Biden Administration Moves to Ban Healthcare Workers From Reporting Abortions to Police.*"

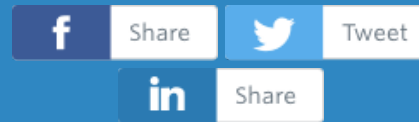
Donate to Support NCJWSTL & Transform Our Community

NCJWSTL | 125

CREATING CHANGE AND IMPACTING LIVES SINCE 1895



Share this information with your social network!



Be sure to follow us on Social Media!

