

## **Legislation Watch - Take Action Today!**

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

**SB 106** - This bill aims to prohibits the performance of certain patient examinations upon anaesthetized or unconscious patients. Under



current Missouri law, there is no prohibition on doctors or medical school students performing pelvic, prostate or anal exams on unconscious patients without consent. This bill will be voted on TODAY at 11:45 AM in the <u>Missouri House Rules - Regulatory</u> <u>Oversight Committee</u>. Please contact the members of the House Rules - Legislative Oversight Committee by <u>clicking here</u> and urge them to vote **YES** on SB 106.

**SB 4**- This bill is commonly known as the "Parents Bill of Rights." If passed, this legislation would create a chilling effect on teachers regarding how they teach accurate historical events and curriculum. It has already passed the Senate and will be voted on in the **Missouri House Rules - Regulatory Oversight Committee** TODAY at 12:30 PM. Please contact the members of the House Rules - Legislative Oversight Committee by **clicking here** and urge them to vote **NO** on SB 4.

# THIS WEEK! 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 <u>click here</u> to register. For more information, please contact Jen Bernstein at <u>jbernstein@ncjwstl.org</u>

#### **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 <u>clicking here</u>. 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 <a href="mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org">jbernstein@ncjwstl.org</a>.

## **Urge Missouri Senators To Reject Guns In Houses of Worship Bill**

Clergy and congregations have the right to feel safe in their place of worship, but lawmakers may vote soon on a "guns everywhere" bill that would allow people to carry hidden, loaded guns in houses of worship and on public transportation.

HB 282 would allow people to carry hidden, loaded guns in houses of worship and on public transportation.



Missouri gun laws are some of the weakest in the country. Our state can not afford more bad gun legislation when we have no foundational gun violence prevention laws in place!

Please <u>click here</u> to urge your Missouri senator to vote NO on HB 282 if and when it comes up for a vote.

May Lunch and Learn - Legislative Session Wrapup with Amy Kuo Hammerman and Mandy Hagseth



Advocacy Chair

Thursday, May 18, 2023 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT



Mandy Hagseth The Missouri Family Health Council's Director of Policy & External Affairs

When: Thursday, May 18 | 12:00 - 1:00 PM CT

Where: Zoom RSVP Here

The 2023 Missouri legislative session will come to an end on May 12th. It became evident early in the session that as usual, NCJWSTL would be in the position of defending against a slew of legislation designed to harm women, children and families in our state. From the relentless attacks on trans kids to the attempts to undermine the initiative petition process, it has certainly been a doozy of a session. It can often be very difficult for the layperson to navigate its intricacies.

For our May Lunch and Learn, we are absolutely thrilled to welcome NCJWSTL State Policy Advocacy Chair Amy Kuo Hammerman and The Missouri Family Health Council's Director of Policy and External Affairs Mandy Hagseth. Both have been a constant presence in Jefferson City this session and will provide an insider's view on everything that happened in the Capitol this year.

Please <u>click here</u> to register for the May Lunch and Learn. Questions? Email Jen Bernstein at <u>ibernstein@ncjwstl.org</u> or call 314.993.5181

## **THIS WEEK! Planned Parenthood Lobby Day**

Lobby Day 2023 Lobby Day 2023 Lobby Day 2023 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 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 <u>click here</u> to register. If you are interested in going with NCJWSTL, please contact Jen Bernstein at <u>jbernstein@ncjwstl.org</u>.

## Missouri 2023 Voting Rights Day at the Capitol

When: Tuesday, May 2 | 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM CT Where: Missouri Capitol | 201 W Capitol Ave.

**RSVP** Here

Missouri voter advocates will hold a Voting Rights Day at the Missouri State Capitol Rotunda to draw attention to pending voting bills in Missouri - including moving proactive voter access measures as well as continue to call on lawmakers to stop the attacks on the citizen initiative process. Join advocates from across Missouri in a nonpartisan Pro-Democracy Day at the Capitol to hear what's at stake for voting rights in Missouri, get engaged,



and thank lawmakers who have stood up for our freedom to vote.

#### NCJWSTL will be there and we would love for you to join us!

Please <u>click here</u> to register. If you are interested in going with NCJWSTL, please contact Jen Bernstein at <u>ibernstein@ncjwstl.org</u>.

#### 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

<u>Click here</u> to see the A-List flyer. <u>Click here</u> to see the latest A-List Ad. Join the A-list <u>here</u>.

## **Interesting Reading**



Zoe Weissman remembers how it felt to be 12 years old on Feb. 14, 2018, terrified of what sounded like gunshots ringing out from Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla. She was at Westglades Middle School right next door thinking that no kid should feel the way she felt at that moment. Something had to change.

Today, Weissman is among those making that change.

Click here to read Kayra Dayi's article from Ms. Magazine, "Student Survivors of Mass Shootings Lead Fight for Gun Control: 'We Don't Need Thoughts and Prayers'."

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