



**ADVOCACY  
IN ACTION**

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

Not yet a member of NCJWSTL? [Click here](#) to become part of a growing network of courageous and compassionate individuals who improve the lives of women, children, and families every day. You don't have to be a woman or Jewish to join!

## THIS WEEK! July Lunch & Learn - Domestic Violence and the Court Watch Project with Carla Maley



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

Carla Maley

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

**Where:** Zoom

[RSVP Here](#)

Intimate partner violence, sexual assault, harassment, and stalking affect millions of Americans. On average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million individuals. It can happen to anyone regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, age and socioeconomic background.

For our July *Lunch & Learn*, we are excited to welcome Carla Maley of St. Martha's Hall, a domestic violence shelter and longtime NCJWSTL coalition partner. Carla will not only speak to us about recognizing signs of abuse, how to direct survivors to resources and how else to help, she will also talk about the Court Watch Project.

The mission of the Court Watch Project is to make the justice system more effective and responsive in handling cases of domestic violence perpetrated against women and children and to create a more informed and involved public. It's an entirely community based program that has made a profound difference in people's lives.

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

## Tell to Congress to Say NO to the American Confidence in Elections Act

This week, the anti-voter [American Confidence in Elections Act](#) (ACE) was introduced in Congress. This legislation would nationalize voter suppression tactics like Photo ID, disenfranchise voters - especially voters of color - and increase the influence of big money in our elections.



We believe Congress has an important role to play in safeguarding free and fair elections and ensuring all Americans have the freedom to vote. Rather than furthering this goal, the ACE Act would be a substantial step backwards. The Act would nationalize harmful and unnecessary restrictions on voting rights and roll back many of Washington DC's current pro-voter laws. Instead of proceeding with this legislation, Congress should take actions that will help voters and promote democracy such as passing legislation that will strengthen protections against discrimination in voting and expand access to the ballot for all communities.

*Please call your member of Congress today via the U.S. House switchboard operator at (202) 224-3121 and urge them to vote NO on ACE.*

## Share Your Concern about the Israeli Government's Proposal to Overhaul the Judiciary



National Council of Jewish Women believes in an Israel where all women, children and families should not just be able to exist, but thrive. A fair, independent, and qualified judiciary is a crucial element of a healthy democracy that centers dignity, equity and justice for all.

We are alarmed and deeply concerned at the proposal from the new government of Israel to overhaul the Israeli judiciary and override the powers of Israel's Supreme Court. This plan must not come to fruition. Especially not as members of the coalition government express their intent to restrict the rights of those of broad sectors of Israeli society — like women, Arabs and the LGBTQ+ community.

*Please [click here](#) to join NCJW in saying that this proposal to overhaul the judiciary must not be allowed to advance.*

## Behind the Bench: How State Court Judges are Selected

**When:** Tuesday, July 25 | 1:30 PM CT  
**Where:** Zoom  
[RSVP Here](#)

As the public has become increasingly interested in state courts, more people are examining judicial elections, but few are aware of how many judges are initially placed on the bench, even in open election states. This webinar will address the following questions: How do judicial nominating commissions (JNC) function? How are members of JNCs selected? Are they trained? How do they vet people who are interested in being judges? How transparent is the vetting process?



Russ Feingold, former US Senator from Wisconsin and current President of the American Constitution Society, will kick off the conversation.

## Tell us What's on Your Mind!

As NCJWSTL focuses on our **mission** to improve the lives of women, children and families in our community, we need your insights. We are considering launching a new initiative targeted at serving working mothers. This survey is open to all. Please help us understand our community's strengths, areas for improvement, and your experiences with local resources by participating in our brief survey.



**Please take the survey [linked here](#) by Tuesday, August 15th.**

Your valuable input will shape our initiatives and collaborations, and inform potential new efforts.

*We know you're time is limited -- the survey will take just 5-10 minutes to complete.*

We love hearing and standing beside you to make sure your voice is heard so together we can continue making a difference.

### NCWJSTL New Initiative Survey

## Get FREE Emergency Contraception at NCJWSTL!

NCJWSTL is thrilled to announce that we have partnered with the [Missouri Family Health Council](#) (MFHC) to distribute **FREE emergency contraception kits!** This effort is vitally important in the wake of last year's Supreme Court decision overturning Roe vs. Wade, especially in states like Missouri where abortion is illegal. Everyone should have the right to determine when and if they wish to start a family, and emergency contraception is vital in preventing unwanted pregnancies.



Also known as the morning-after pill, or by the brand name Plan B, the emergency contraception pill is an over-the-counter form of birth control that can be taken up to five days after unprotected sex to avoid pregnancy. The goal of this effort is to reduce geographic and financial barriers Missourians face in accessing emergency contraception pills.

While supplies last, MFHC, NCJWSTL and other partner organizations are offering free EC kits to anyone of any age. **Feel free to stop by the NCJWSTL office to pick up your kit - for you or a loved one.**

*If you have any questions, please contact Jen Bernstein at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org). You can also order an emergency contraception kit by mail by [clicking here](#).*

## 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.  
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Join the A-list [here](#).

## Interesting Reading



Katie Rinderle is the first known public school teacher to be fired under Georgia’s trio of censorship laws passed in 2022.

Public schools have become the political battleground between those who support the teaching of historically accurate, inclusive school curricula and right-wing politicians who seek to erase our nation’s uncomfortable history. These politicians – and the parents who support them – accuse public school teachers of indoctrinating the nation’s students with “woke” ideology. As a result,

teachers are in the crosshairs of classroom censorship laws and policies and a few activist parents seeking to enforce those laws as broadly as possible.

[Click here](#) to read Rhonda Sonnenberg's article from The Southern Poverty Law Center, "Georgia Teacher Fired for Reading Children's Book About Acceptance in Class."

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