



ADVOCACY IN ACTION

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

Tell Congress to Carry Out Unfinished Business



With a new Congress and administration on the horizon, the time is now for lawmakers to ensure women, children, and families are safe, healthy, and supported for the long term. Critical legislation and judicial confirmations have been stalled during the election season, and with only a few legislative days left in the 118th session of Congress, this could be the last opportunity to make a real difference on the issues that matter most.

This includes confirming fair, independent, and qualified federal judges who would protect our fundamental rights and uphold justice for all. This includes passing a federal budget that supports our communities without harmful anti-abortion, anti-LGBTQ+ restrictions. This includes extending critical food security programs and ensuring affordable, high-quality childcare so that every family has the support they need. And, this includes comprehensive disaster relief to provide urgent aid to communities impacted by natural disasters.

[Click here](#) to tell your Members of Congress: *It is time to act, while there's still time, to confirm fair, independent, and qualified judges; pass a clean budget; fund affordable, high-quality childcare; and deliver urgently needed disaster relief.*

Urge President Biden to Put the ERA into the Constitution

As you may know, the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) is a proposed amendment to the US Constitution that guarantees equal rights to all people regardless of sex. The ERA has progressed through the ratification process for decades and the Commonwealth of Virginia ratified the ERA in 2020, meeting the required number of 38 states for ratification. Now all that is left is for the ERA to be put into the US Constitution at the direction of President Biden. It is within President Biden's authority and responsibility to instruct the National Archivist to publish the ERA in the Constitution.



Putting the ERA into the Constitution is one of the most critical actions President Biden can take in his remaining days in public office, codifying an essential protection for women, girls, and the LGBTQ+ community. The ERA, which provides an explicit prohibition against discrimination on the basis of sex, would help

ensure no one faces discrimination just because of their gender and help protect against injustices such as gender-based violence, the banning of birth control, and unequal pay for women. As Jews, we believe we should always be striving for our vision of a more whole world, and publishing the ERA is a critical step in that direction.

Please [click here](#) to learn more and how you can contact President Biden.

Share Your Thoughts on the State of Reproductive Care



We've all likely experienced a rollercoaster of emotions over the last few weeks. But in the face of so much uncertainty, one truth is worth repeating: **Access to reproductive care, including abortion, is popular, and the American people do not want public officials making their health care decisions.**

We're fighting for a world where everyone can control their own bodies and make decisions for themselves, no matter your ZIP code, who you work for, where you go to school, how much money you make, or the color of your skin. Protecting reproductive health and rights at this moment means turning feelings into action.

We know we still have a long road ahead to take back our right to sexual and reproductive health care. Our friends at Planned Parenthood are asking supporters to let them know how they are feeling right now about the future of reproductive care.

Please [click here](#) to share your thoughts.

ADD YOUR NAME and Help Us Oppose Censorship of Our Public Libraries

Protect Missouri's Libraries! Join the Right to Read Coalition by [clicking here](#).

For those who have already joined, thank you! Check our member list to see who supports us...and if you've already joined by [clicking here](#).



Right to Read is a statewide coalition of 1,000 individuals and nearly 100 organizations. The coalition opposes legislative, state policy or other efforts to restrict access to materials at public and school libraries.

Censorship denies our First Amendment rights to access books that reflect our diverse community:

- Missouri ranked third nationally in 2023 for the number of books banned at school libraries.
- 60% of banned books in the U.S. include characters of color and discussed issues of race and racism or presented LGBTQ+ characters or themes.

Laws and policies enacted recently have led to book bans and harmful regulations on our libraries. **We expect more censorship efforts in Missouri in 2025.**

Add your voice to thousands of Missourians to fight censorship and book bans!

Please [click here](#) to add your name as an individual member of the coalition. For more information, please e-mail the coalition at righttoreadcoalition@gmail.com.

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. 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 ensure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2024! 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 2024.



- **\$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



summer of 2023.

Eighty-two percent of transgender Americans say they've experienced discrimination or harassment in the workplace at some point in their lives, according to a new study by the Williams Institute. This includes being fired, not hired, not promoted, or being subjected to verbal, physical, or sexual harassment because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The study is based on a survey of 1,902 LGBTQ+ adults in the workforce, including 86 transgender adults, conducted in the


[Click here](#) to read Trudy Ring's article from *The Advocate*, "82% of Trans Workers Have Suffered Discrimination or Harassment."

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!

Donate to Support NCJWSTL &
Transform Our Community

 Share This Email

 Share This Email

NCJWSTL

National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis

 Share This Email



NCJWSTL | 295 N. Lindbergh Blvd. | St. Louis, MO 63141 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!