



**ADVOCACY  
IN ACTION**

ADVOCATING CHANGE = ADVANCING LIVES

## THIS WEEK! Help Defend Democracy in Missouri - Join us for a Rally in Jeff City and Other Actions

You've likely already heard the alarming news: Governor Kehoe has called the Missouri Legislature back for a special session — not just to gerrymander our Congressional districts, but also to attack majority rule by dismantling the initiative petition process.

This is nothing less than an attempt to silence the voices of Missourians. We cannot afford to sit back while our democracy is chipped away.

Now is the time to stand up, speak out, and make your voice heard. Join us in defending fair representation and protecting the will of the people.



### Below are actions you can take:

- **Rally in Jefferson City on September 10th from 12:00 - 2:00 PM** - Join NCJWSTL along with thousands of Missourians around the state to remind our elected officials: Voters pick their politicians, not the other way around. If you would like to carpool with NCJWSTL, please contact Jen Bernstein at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org).
- **Call House Speaker Jon Patterson** at [573-751-0907](tel:573-751-0907) and **Senate President Cindy O'Laughlin** at [573-751-7985](tel:573-751-7985) and urge them to reject legislative proposals to gerrymander Missouri's congressional lines further.

*For any questions on redistricting and more ways to fight back, please contact Jen Bernstein at [jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org).*

## Volunteers Needed to Help Keep Abortion Legal in MO

Our Jewish values compel us to pursue justice, heal the sick, and care for the vulnerable. The budget passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump represents a betrayal of our American values and our Jewish moral principles. By cutting Medicaid and defunding Planned

Tell Congress:

**Restore and  
Protect Health  
Care for All**

ncjw National Council  
of Jewish Women

Parenthood, a critical provider of reproductive health care, including cancer screenings, STI testing, and prenatal care, this budget rips away essential health care from millions of people.

**We must urge Congress to change course.**

**The Protecting Healthcare and Lowering Costs Act** would reverse all of the health care cuts in the

budget, and the **Restoring Essential Healthcare Act** would reverse the provision to defund Planned Parenthood clinics across the country.

**[Click here](#)** to tell your lawmakers: reverse the harm and pass the Protecting Healthcare and Lowering Costs Act and the Restoring Essential Healthcare Act now.

## THIS WEEK! NCJWSTL's Hot Topics Brunch - Protecting the Missouri Nonpartisan Court Plan with Amy Collignon Gunn



**When:** Sunday, September 14 | 10:00 - 11:30 AM

**Where:** NCJWSTL

**[RSVP Here](#)**

For more than 80 years, Missouri's Nonpartisan Court Plan has kept politics out of our courtrooms, ensuring fair and impartial justice for all. But this vital system is constantly under threat from the Missouri Legislature. **Join us for coffee, bagels and an important conversation about what's at stake**, why this plan matters to every Missourian, and how you can help protect it for future generations.

**We are honored to feature Amy Collignon Gunn**, a longtime St. Louis attorney and one of the region's foremost experts on the Missouri Nonpartisan Court Plan. Amy brings her deep knowledge and passion for protecting judicial independence to this important conversation.

We hope you can join us for what will be an enlightening conversation!

*Hot Topics Brunch is free, but you must register to attend. Please **[click here](#)** to register. Questions? Contact Jen Bernstein at **[jbernstein@ncjwstl.org](mailto:jbernstein@ncjwstl.org)**.*

## Volunteers Needed to Help Keep Abortion Legal in MO

# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As we persevere in our commitment to protect abortion rights in Missouri, we are looking for volunteers to work the polls, knock doors, educate our communities, and notarize absentee ballots.



## 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](mailto: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](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 ensure that your name is on NCJWSTL's A-List for 2025!** 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 2025.

- **\$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



Although gerrymandering has long been a problem in the United States, the redistricting cycle after the 2020 census was the first since the Supreme Court's 2019 ruling that gerrymandered maps can't be challenged in federal court. Since then, Americans have witnessed gerrymandering escalate to unprecedented levels in many places — and the worst may be yet to come.

Here's what to know about partisan gerrymandering and how it impacts our democracy.

[Click here](#) to read Michael Li's article from the Brennan Center for Justice, "Gerrymandering Explained."

**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**

**NCJWSTL**

National Council of Jewish Women St. Louis



Share This Email



Share This Email



Share This Email



**2019 WINNER**  
**BBB TORCH Award**  
Celebrating Exceptional  
Ethics and Service  
BBB Serving Eastern & Southwest Missouri &  
Southern Illinois



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

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



Try email marketing for free today!