

Reproductive Justice

City of Los Angeles, Commission on the Status of
Women
September 15, 2023



California Latinas for Reproductive Justice

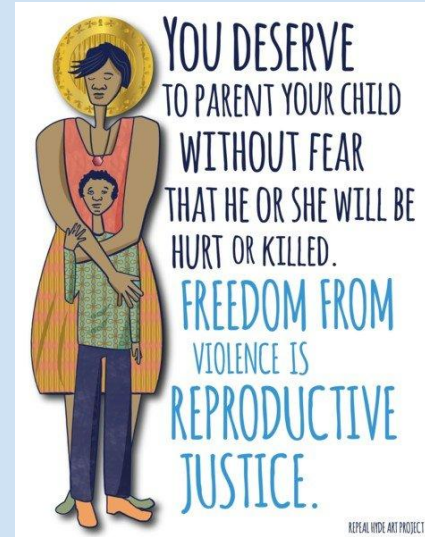
CLRJ is a Latina-led organization in California committed to honoring the experiences of our Latina/Latine communities to uphold our dignity, our bodies, sexuality, and families.



Reproductive Justice (RJ)

Reproductive Justice **equally** fights for:

- 1) Bodily autonomy
- 2) The right to have a child
- 3) The right not have a child
- 4) The right to parent the children we have in safe and healthy conditions, free from violence regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, ability, geographic location, physical appearance, or economic condition/background.



Abortion Timeline

- Pre-1847: Pregnant people give birth, terminate pregnancies and get reproductive health care with midwives (parteras/comadronas, granny midwives, relatives and designated community members)
- 1847 - Formation of the American Medical Association - increased scrutiny and restrictions on midwives, nurses and other health care providers (for no other reason than greed)
- 1880 - all states enacted restrictive abortion laws, with exceptions if a doctor said there was risk to the pregnant person or other reasons. Abortion stigma grows
- 1910 - abortion illegal in all states, exceptions determined only by doctors
- 1966 - Trial of SF 9 - CA amends prohibition to allow hospital committees to approve abortions
- 1967 - CA enacts “Therapeutic Abortion Law”
- 1969 - CA recognizes abortion law under CA constitution



Abortion Timeline

- January 22, 1973 - Roe v Wade decision of the SCOTUS legalizes abortion in all 50 states
- 1976 - Hyde Amendment - prohibits federal funding of abortions (military, IHS, DC, etc)
- October 3, 1977 - Rosie Jiménez becomes first known person to die of an illegal abortion in TX
- 1984 + - series of laws, and court rulings that place restrictions on abortion access in the US and beyond (Global Gag Rule - 1984); Gonzales v Carhart/Gonzales v PPFA - criminalization of 2nd trimester abortion (2007)
- September 2021 - TX implemented SB 8 - 6 week abortion ban. SCOTUS allows law to take effect
- 2022 - Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization - Roe v Wade overturned
- **April - August 2023 - series of rulings related to medication abortion access**

***Information from timeline taken primarily from Planned Parenthood Action Fund -*

<https://www.plannedparenthoodaction.org/issues/abortion/abortion-central-history-reproductive-health-care-america/historical-abortion-law-in-the-us-1850-today>



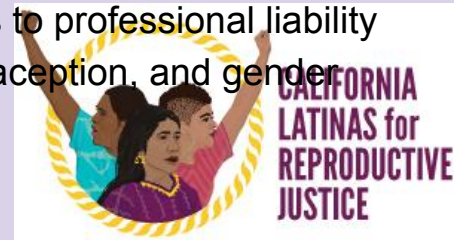
California Future of Abortion Council

- Comprised of over 40 reproductive freedom and sexual and reproductive health care allies, partners, and leaders
- works in collaboration with policy makers, researchers, advocates, providers, patients, and key constituents to determine potential challenges in the state and recommend solutions that will continue to provide access and stability for both Californians and those who may seek services here from out of state
- On December 8, 2021 the CA FAB Council released a blueprint outlining 45 policy recommendations policymakers can implement to better prepare California as the threat to abortion rights and access continues to grow. An amendment to this blueprint was issued in December 2022
- Currently there are 17 bills in the FAB Council legislative package



FAB Council Legislative Package 2023

- SB 36 (Skinner) Strengthens safe haven protections for abortion and gender-affirming care by prohibiting bail agents or bounty hunters from apprehending people in California and protecting access to public benefits.
- SB 345 (Skinner) Improves protections for providers who provide abortion and gender-affirming care and services.
- AB 254 (Bauer-Kahan) Provides privacy protections for digital data related to patients accessing abortion services in California.
- AB 352 (Bauer-Kahan) Enhances privacy protections for medical records related to abortion, pregnancy loss, and other sensitive services through electronic health record sharing and health information exchanges.
- AB 571 (Petrie-Norris) Ensures that licensed medical providers have access to professional liability insurance coverage without discrimination for providing abortion care, contraception, and gender-affirming care.



Status of Abortion Access in California

- Latine communities are supportive of abortion access
- Roe was never enough!
- Abortion care is a constitutionally protected rights for minors
- We don't really have abortion restrictions
 - Hyde Amendment (federal workers, military personnel, sovereign nations, federal prisoners)
 - Medi-CAL for all including undocumented folks
- Proposition 1 (2022 ballot measure): Constitutional Amendment - the right to have an abortion and the right to choose or refuse contraceptives is now “enshrined” in the constitution, meaning it is explicitly stated - before there was language around “right to privacy.”



What about Los Angeles?

Fiscal Year 2021-2022 - 810 Healthline Callers Supported

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 - 1,421 Healthline callers supported (43% increase)

Location

- 977 callers reported living in California
- 405 callers reported calling from outside of California

- The top 5 CA counties that our callers are from:
 - Los Angeles County - 239
 - San Diego County - 65
 - San Bernardino County - 57
 - Riverside County - 56
 - Orange County - 39

**data from ACCESS RJ - www.accessrj.org*



A word on anti-abortion centers (CPCs)

CPCs use deceptive marketing strategies to lure vulnerable pregnant people to their offices, where staff push an anti-abortion agenda instead of offering legitimate healthcare resources and information. These groups provide few or no real medical services and systematically mislead clients about what services they do provide, potentially delaying care and creating unnecessary risks to women's health. CPCs or anti-abortion centers across the country are receiving tens of millions of tax dollars to coerce people from ending their pregnancies.

FACT Act (CA 2015) struck down by SCOTUS in 2018 - sought to protect pregnant people from the deceptive and harmful practices of CPCs

The number of CPCs in California (179) is 20% higher than the number of abortion care clinics

LA City Ordinance (2022) - allows the city to fine a "pregnancy center" up to \$10,000 if it is caught falsely advertising the services it provides.

CA Attorney General - CPC Alert:

<https://oag.ca.gov/news/press-releases/attorney-general-bonta-issues-consumer-alert-warning-californians-crisis>



Resources

- ACCESS RJ - <https://accessrj.org/>
- Planned Parenthood Action Fund - <https://www.plannedparenthoodaction.org/>
- NNAF - <https://abortionfunds.org/>
- Shout Your Abortion -
<https://shoutyourabortion.com/resources/#abortion-pills-at-home-abortion>
- Black Women for Wellness - <https://bwwactionproject.org/>
- California Latinas for Reproductive Justice - www.clrj.org
- Abortion on Our Own Terms
 - IG: @abortiononourownterms
 - Twitter: @AbortionOOOT
- World Health Organization (WHO) -
<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789240039483>



What can we do??

- **Be informed from accurate sources and COMBAT** abortion stigma! TALK about abortion with friends, family, social media platforms – and call out misinformation and disinformation
 - Don't be afraid to say abortion :)
- **CHANGE/REFLECT ON** - how you discuss/think about who gets abortions - the VAST majority of us support abortion access
- **SHARE** your abortion story if possible
 - CLRJ, Shout Your Abortion, We Testify
- **FOLLOW** us and other RJ orgs on social media and in join us in reimagining something much better and beyond Roe!
- **VOTE**
 - People who can't vote have the power to influence those who can
- **DONATE** to local abortion fund
 - ACCESS RJ
 - NNAF



Thank you!

Contact Info:

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Follow us and join the conversation!

Webpage: californialatinas.org

Facebook: [CALatinas4RJ](https://www.facebook.com/CALatinas4RJ)

Instagram: [Latinas4RJ](https://www.instagram.com/Latinas4RJ)

TikTok: [@latinas4rj_](https://www.tiktok.com/@latinas4rj_)

