

# Faith & Choices

News from the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice

Spring 2011

## A Message From Our President

### Let Voices of Faith Resound!

**A**ttacks on reproductive health care have escalated dramatically in the past few months, becoming more aggressive and dangerous.

Three states introduced bills that could permit the murder of an abortion provider to protect a fetus. Seven states considered abortion bans at an earlier point than ever before—including one that tried to pass a first-trimester ban that would virtually outlaw abortion. One state actually succeeded in passing a 3-day waiting period. In Congress, the House of Representatives voted to defund the nation's family planning clinics and to enshrine the discriminatory Hyde Amendment in law. And bills to further restrict or eliminate insurance coverage of abortion services though the new health insurance exchanges were introduced or passed in 28 states.

Wherever opponents of human rights and freedom choose to strike at women's health and moral agency, we must make the voices of America's mainstream faith communities heard. Please help by signing and returning our petition on page 5 and sending a generous contribution to enable us to defend the health care and human rights of millions of women.

Peace and Blessings,



Reverend Dr. Carlton W. Veazey



## Justice, Compassion, Dignity

**T**he Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice's new social justice campaign—*Insure Women, Ensure Our Future*—is uniting people of faith and our allies in defense of comprehensive health care coverage for women. Our faith-informed campaign calls for justice, compassion and dignity for all women, and especially the most marginalized and vulnerable. We are taking the lead nationally to urge state legislators to stop proposed legislation to ban coverage of abortion on the new state insurance exchanges being set up as part of the Affordable Care Act. Grassroots activists in more than half of the states have been

working with RCRC to stop this unprecedented legislative drive to jeopardize our health care choices and coverage.



"Few people are aware of the impact that this largely unknown strategy will have on millions of women, which is why education and advocacy are the main thrust of RCRC's campaign," said Reverend Carlton Veazey, RCRC's President and CEO.

See page 4 for a full report.

## Facts Are Powerful Things!

**R**RCRC speakers and activists do important work in educating people about the facts on religious support for reproductive choice. For many, RCRC offers the first glimpse that it is possible to be pro-choice and a person of faith.

Such was the case at Liberty University, the Virginia school founded by right-wing minister Jerry Falwell, and at the Ohio legislature. At Liberty, Frances Kissling, former RCRC Board member and a nationally prominent voice on reproductive issues, debated the head of a local "crisis pregnancy center." The setting was the Liberty University law school, which seeks to place legal



Frances Kissling



Rabbi Emily Rosenzweig

dialogue within the framework of "the Christian worldview." The topic was how abortion affects women.

Ms. Kissling, who headed Catholics for a Free Choice for 25 years and is now a Visiting Scholar at the University of

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### Facts Are Powerful Things!

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Pennsylvania Center for Bioethics, explained the personal nature of a decision about abortion and the fact that research shows no adverse effects. She emphasized the many different views about abortion, even within a particular religion. Her debate opponent said she believes “that God designed women” to bear children and emotionally recounted her personal regrets for an abortion she had as a teenager. Ms. Kissling stressed the complex reasons that women have an unintended pregnancy and that some decide to have an abortion. After the debate, Ms. Kissling was swamped by students wanting to discuss her views.

At the Ohio House of Representatives, the Ohio RCRC brought together members of the clergy to testify about their opposition to “The Heartbeat Bill,” which would ban abortion very early in the first trimester. Stressing diverse religious views about abortion, Rabbi Emily Rosenzweig of Temple Israel in Columbus urged legislators “to respect the women and men of all faiths who may hold an opinion different from your own and to end this attempt to strip us of the freedoms constitutionally guaranteed to us.” Reverend Allan Debelak of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Columbus said extreme bills are “yet another way to control the lives of women.” From the United Methodist perspective, Reverend David W. Meredith of Broad St. United Methodist Church said, “it is an establishment of religion to dictate for all who live in the Ohio a single viewpoint about God’s investiture of life and soul.”

## Spreading The Word

### Social Media: Advocacy From The Comfort of Home!

By Deborah Washington,  
RCRC Mary Jane Patterson Intern

**S**ocial media is not just about finding high school classmates, sharing baby photos, and gossiping. As RCRC’s recent successes show, Facebook, Twitter, and youtube.com are powerful organizing tools for the pro-choice movement and for politically and socially aware individuals to fight for their causes.

RCRC’s “We HEART Our Pro-Choice Superstars” campaign used social media to make a unique statement to Congress. An e-mail blast, Twitter feeds, Facebook posts, and Facebook ads attracted more than 500 signatures for valentines. On Valentine’s Day, RCRC staff went to Capitol Hill to deliver 40 handmade cards to Representatives and Senators who have stood up for reproductive rights, even when it was not easy to do so, including Senators Sherrod Brown and Susan Collins and Representatives Nancy Pelosi, Cedric Richmond, and Judy Biggert. Their staffs were delighted at being recognized for their work—and our campaign received news coverage in The Hill newspaper.

The deceptively named “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act” was another case in point. RCRC posted an alert on our Facebook page, asking readers to contact their U.S. Representative to oppose it. When Christina Ramos, a pro-choice advocate, read the alert, she wrote: “Sigh. BIG sigh. Ugh.



*Social media works! RCRC staffers (L-R) Kelsey Van Nice, Angela Ferrell Baxter, Nicolette Paterson and Deborah Washington deliver valentines signed by hundreds of RCRC supporters to pro-choice legislators.*

Why won’t they just TRUST WOMEN!” Another activist, Tracey Henley, responded tongue-in-check: “Apparently because 1) We’re weak-minded, silly things who long to abort those sprogs as soon as they’re planted in us; 2) The ability to carry the future, literally, in our bodies renders us so powerful that we must be controlled at all costs.”

Facebook has hundreds of advocacy and interest groups set up to inform interested parties of current events and allow for interactive discussion. The exchange between Christina and Tracey was seen by dozens of activists who check the RCRC Facebook page. Many more hundreds follow our Twitter feeds.

While printed “hard copy” information is critical to communicating with our supporters, Twitter and Facebook have expanded the way RCRC shares critical information. What used to be shared via e-mail, phone, or an organizational website is now available to a potentially limitless

## WE’RE BLOGGERS!

**Join the dialogue about sex, theology, morality, and life.  
Check out our blogs and speak up!**

RCRC’s blog — <http://profaithandprochoice.wordpress.com/>

SYRF’s blog — <http://www.syrf.org/web/guest/blog>

Black Church Initiative’s blog — <http://rcrcbci.wordpress.com>

# Generation to Generation

## Teens' 'Backpacks' Reveal The Strength of Understanding

**M**ost students carry backpacks filled with things they need for a busy school day—books, snacks, sports equipment, a cellphone. But the teens who appear in the powerful drama “The Backpack Monologues” carry a heavier burden—poverty, fatherlessness, a parent incarcerated, sisters and brothers needing care, failing schools, domestic and sexual violence, dangerous neighborhoods, sexual orientation issues, depression, HIV/AIDS and, for many, becoming sexually active and risking unintentional pregnancy.

Even if there is little comfort at school or home, the teens who have taken part in the “Monologues” have friendship, understanding and hope in their “backpack” because of the innovative RCRC program Generation to Generation, which sponsors “The Backpack Monologues.” Generation to Generation is a teen pregnancy prevention project that uses a combination of strategies to reduce teen pregnancy, including cultural enrichment, spirituality, self-esteem building and intergenerational dialogue. Girls in middle school and high school, mothers and mentors meet weekly in churches or community centers for facilitated dialogue and comprehensive sexuality education, to assist them in making healthy



*The cast of “Backpack Monologues” celebrates another successful performance.*

decisions to prevent teen pregnancy and succeed in life.

Writer-director Yorri J. Berry, who is the Children’s Minister at Covenant Baptist United Church of Christ in Washington, DC, created this unique dramatization after working with teens from underserved communities for several years. An educator, mentor and social justice activist as well as a minister, Ms. Berry says the monologues are an opportunity for teens to talk about their lives and the lives of their peers and begin to realize their dreams.

Generation to Generation has made a huge difference to those who have taken part in it. A 7th grader who delivers the monologue on domestic violence credits

the program—and Reverend Kim Bookard, the site coordinator for the program— with helping her with a decision about having sex. Unlike a friend who was “trying to be cool” and got pregnant at age 13, she followed “a whole other path” and has a brighter future ahead. A high school senior, whose monologue is titled “useless,” has been encouraged to envision her future and plans to become a psychologist as a result of the program. “People actually care about you,” she says, “every step of the way.”

For more information about Generation to Generation, please contact Reverend Penny Willis, Director of RCRC’s MultiCultural Programs Department, at [pwillis@rcrc.org](mailto:pwillis@rcrc.org) or 202-628-7700.

number of “friends” via social media.

Spiritual Youth for Reproductive Freedom (SYRF), RCRC’s education and advocacy program for youth and young adults, has seen a boost in participation since becoming visible on both Facebook and Twitter. SYRF activists are on campuses across the country and the SYRF Facebook page and Twitter feed allow them to connect with each other and stay informed about what is happening within their communities and on the national front. SYRF director Angela Ferrell Baxter has found that social

media is ideal for engaging, informing and mobilizing student activists who have limited time. All they need is a cellphone to organize protests and get petitions signed.

While not a “real life” experience, social media is an efficient, effective and exciting way of becoming involved. A scheduled march or a rally may be inconvenient; a planned protest may be intimidating. But the satisfaction of being able to voice concerns and be part of a community from the comfort and safety of home is quickly becoming the new norm.

**Text RCRC to 30644  
And speak for yourself.**



Get RCRC links quickly – just hold your smart phone up to the barcode.

# Public Policy Update

## Millions of Women Stand to Lose Coverage As Restrictions Grow

**A**long with much-needed change to health care coverage, the Affordable Care Act opened the door to one of the most serious threats ever to reproductive rights: attempts to further restrict or eliminate insurance coverage of abortion services. States are right now setting up health insurance exchanges where people of all income levels will buy insurance under the new system. Each state has the power to explicitly ban or limit coverage of abortion services. At press time, 28 states had passed or were considering bans on coverage by private insurers.

The damage to women's health care may well exceed that of individual state laws such as mandatory counseling and sonograms, forced delays, and bans on specific procedures.

### Devastating Impact

Restrictions or bans will potentially affect an estimated 14.5 million women who have private health insurance as well as millions of women who receive coverage through the federal government, including Medicaid recipients, government workers, women in the military and the Peace Corps, those covered by the American Indian health service, and women in federal prison. Contrast that to the fact that about 80 percent of private plans now cover pregnancy termination and the devastating impact of bans on insurance coverage becomes clear.

In January, we launched our new social justice campaign to stop insurance bans — *Insure Women, Ensure Our Future*—at our *Roe v. Wade* anniversary candlelight vigil at the U.S. Supreme Court. The campaign has swept across the country! Town halls, lobby days and workshops on the threat of insurance bans have been held in California, Florida, Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina. Spiritual Youth for Reproductive

Freedom (SYRF) campus activists have informed students about the threat at numerous campus events.

### “The Moral Basis”

“Through this campaign, we are further establishing the moral basis for a woman to make health decisions according to her own faith and conscience and engaging Americans of faith who've been marginalized by the Religious Right,” said RCRC's President and CEO, Reverend Carlton Veazey.

In Washington, DC, RCRC policy staff represented pro-choice people of faith at hearings and working sessions held throughout February and March on insurance bans and other anti-choice and anti-

women proposals introduced in the House. To emphasize our pro-choice moral perspective, we delivered our powerful statement, signed by over 200 individual clergy and three religious organizations, to members of the committees working on these bills. Representative Louise Slaughter (D-NY), a staunch supporter of RCRC and leader of the House pro-choice caucus, collaborated with us to make sure the faith voice was present at the major press conference on the anti-choice bills. Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) acknowledged the support of Reverend Veazey in defending women's comprehensive health care.

In regular meetings with congressional offices, we share the message of compas-

## Count Me In!

### Support Insurance Coverage for Comprehensive Reproductive Health Care Services

Please sign RCRC's petition! Let elected officials know people of faith are committed to women's health care. You can sign and mail the card (page 5) to us at RCRC, 1413 K Street NW, 14th Floor, Washington DC 20005 or fax it to us at 202-628-7716 or sign online at [www.rcrc.org](http://www.rcrc.org).

[www.rcrc.org](http://www.rcrc.org)

*Insure  
Women  
Ensure  
Our Future*

 Religious Coalition *for* Reproductive Choice

sion, justice and religious freedom as we advocate for laws and policies that will allow women to have access to comprehensive health care.

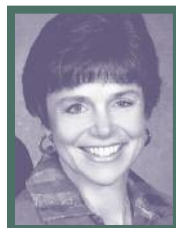
We have generated extensive media attention with our faith-informed messages and activities. Blog posts and articles have appeared in the Huffington Post, Religion Dispatches, The Wall Street Journal online edition, Opposing Views, Yahoo News, Washington Examiner, American Spectator, Ms Magazine online, RH Reality Check, and the American Association of University Women blog and in local news outlets such as the Indiana News Sentinel and Minnesota Star-Tribune.

## Meet Our Organizers!

**G**rassroots advocates provide the enthusiasm and organizing skills that propel RCRC's *Insure Women, Ensure Our Future* campaign for insurance coverage of comprehensive reproductive

health care. Two of our organizers explain what motivates them:

### Cathy Levy, Ohio RCRC



"I'm a long-time Presbyterian and a long-time interfaith advocate (I've been married almost 25 years to a wonderful Jewish man and his extended family!). I'm a big proponent of the concept that 'faith without works is dead,' so I've been volunteering and working in the non-profit world my entire career. My experiences over the years with the elderly, the disabled, the poor, the children, and the addicted have taught me that we all share much more in common than our first impressions might predict. Indeed, we are all citizens of the Kingdom of God!

My faith drives me to be pro-choice; my faith drives my compassion for the women, who often have to choose between

several very bad options. My faith also drives me to be pro-comprehensive sexuality education, to reduce the need for abortions by preventing unintended pregnancies. This will be the most effective way to drastically reduce the number of abortions, which my faith also drives me to seek.

The Ohio House is debating seven bills that restrict access to abortion, including the insurance exchange ban and the draconian "heartbeat bill" that would effectively outlaw abortion in Ohio. Immersing myself and the Ohio RCRC clergy in the fierce debate helped to sharpen my focus on Ohio RCRC's clear message that religious people care deeply about women's lives and about religious freedom and will fight for abortion to remain safe, legal, and insurable."

### Joy Whitten, Michigan RCRC

"When my father-in-law told me he was attending a conference about reclaiming his religion from the extremists who had taken over in the 1990s, something in me clicked.

That's when I realized that politically extreme people had somehow created the image that being religious and politically progressive were incongruous. I started being more aware of how many people, progressive, moderate, and conservative believed the stereotype that one cannot be pro-choice and religious.

I believe people who are pro-choice and religious need to hear messages that affirm their beliefs to counter the extremist rhetoric that being pro-choice means rotting in hell. People need to remember that clergy and people of faith worked to legalize abortion in order to ensure that women have access regardless of their income. The effort to ban abortion coverage through state exchanges threatens to unravel the reproductive justice for which religious people fought."



## Insure Women Ensure Our Future

Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice

As a person of faith and conscience who cares deeply about the health and well-being of all persons, I believe that women should have access to safe medical care throughout their lives, including abortion services if and when necessary. Including coverage for abortion services in the upcoming state insurance exchanges is important to make sure that all women can get the safe, legal medical care they may need.

Eighty percent of health plans nationwide cover abortion services. That coverage should not be denied in the insurance exchanges because some people oppose it. Taking away insurance coverage does not reduce the need for abortion. It only makes it harder for women to access the medical care they need.

I stand with the millions of pro-choice people who support insurance coverage of comprehensive reproductive health care for all women. By insuring women's full health care, we will be helping to ensure a brighter future for our families and communities.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

EMAIL (PLEASE PRINT)

# Faith in Action

## Minister's Powerful Call To Regulate Fake Clinics Helps Pass Bill



Reverend Matthew Westfox

*On March 2, 2011, by an overwhelming majority, the New York City Council passed groundbreaking legislation regulating the deceptive practices of crisis pregnancy centers. Reverend Matthew Westfox, RCRC's Director of Interfaith Outreach and Associate Pastor of All Souls Bethlehem Church in Brooklyn, was asked to testify at the hearing on the bill to convey his unique perspective as a clergy counselor.*

*RCRC congratulates the New York City women's advocates who successfully fought for this bill. In their words, "women will no longer have to question whether they are seeing a licensed medical provider when seeking reproductive health care services. This is not only a victory for New York women. It is setting precedent for the rest of the country." Reverend Westfox's testimony follows.*

Laura was in tears when she called me. A part of my ministry is to offer All Options Counseling to women and families who are dealing with unwanted, unplanned or otherwise difficult pregnancies and trying to decide what to do. Sometimes I meet with them in person, sometimes they come to me by phone. In Laura's case, she called me because she wanted to have an abortion, was preparing to have an abortion, but she kept having nightmares.

You see, Laura had been ready to have an abortion. She had thought about it, prayed about it—which is how she and I first came into contact—she had made

She called me ...  
wanting to know  
"how could someone call  
themselves a Christian,  
if all they do is lie?"

her appointment, and gone ahead, only to find out that her appointment wasn't with a legitimate reproductive health clinic after all, where she could get the termination procedure she had decided to have. It was with a crisis pregnancy center, where she was shown pictures and told in great detail about how much her "baby would suffer" and been told "I'm sure you love your baby and don't want to kill it." She called me because she deeply wanted to have the abortion, knew it was the only real option open to her in her situation—and yet every night she kept having nightmares, remembering all of the terrible, manipulative things they told her.

Where Laura was upset, Sophia was angry. She works at a grocery store and had to negotiate with both her boss and

one of her co-workers to get a day off when she could go to a clinic and have the abortion she and her husband had together decided she needed. When she realized she had gone to a place that couldn't provide the service she wanted—that she had wasted her day off and lost the income without purpose and that it might be three weeks before she could do it again—she was outraged. She called me, having found out about the counseling I do through her friend and wanting to know "how could someone call themselves a Christian, if all they do is lie?"

It's a good question. And while it is not my place to question the faith of others—not in my pulpit, and certainly not here—I want to say clearly that as a Christian minister who works every day with those who have spent long hours discerning what best to do, I know how much respect I have for anyone facing a difficult decision about pregnancy and how deeply I respect whatever option such a person or family might choose.

To attempt to convince someone to decide one way or the other is legitimate—but to do so through manipulation and deception, by luring women through your doors under false pretenses, and then to provide them with false information or emotionally damaging images meant solely to emotionally coerce a decision, is unjust and wrong. Most importantly, it is a violation of the basic human dignity of individual decision-making and respect for personal conscience that is at the heart not only of my own faith but also what is best about our city and our country. I join my fellow clergy of so many faith traditions and backgrounds in calling on the New York City Council to pass this legislation and compel crisis pregnancy centers to end their deceitful manipulation by stating clearly what they are and what they are not.

# Conversations with Clergy



Reverend  
Antoinette Kemp

## “My Faith Is Why” I Am An Advocate

**R**everend Antoinette Kemp of Atlanta has worked with RCRC’s National Black Church Initiative since 2008, where she has engaged African American churches in offering RCRC’s faith-based sexuality education curriculum for youth and adults. A minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), she holds a master’s of divinity degree from Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta and is a world traveler who has been involved extensively in the interfaith community. We discussed the importance of her religious faith in her work for reproductive choice and justice.

*You have been intensely involved with the effort to defeat a racist campaign in Georgia that claimed African American boys were an “endangered species” and would close down women’s clinics. Please tell us what was involved.*

I’m drawn to advocacy particularly as it relates to the concerns of poor, marginalized and minority communities that become even more oppressed because of lack of knowledge, voice and presence. In my testimony about this legislation, I said that as a woman of color I was insulted by the implication that we did not have the intelligence to make healthy choices for ourselves and that, as a leader in the faith community, I had a responsibility to respond because 9 times out of 10 women with an unintended pregnancy come to faith leaders for counsel. We raised enough controversy so that the bill was defeated but it will be back.

***You’ve said your concern about reproductive justice comes in part from being an African American woman and religious leader. Please tell us more about that.***

Recently, I drove a young lady to Macon, Georgia, so she could receive the health care that she needed. She was 16, already had a 7-month-old baby, and lived in a group home. She had to get a judicial bypass. Her

feet were very cold—she only had flip flops—so we stopped and bought some shoes. I wanted her to feel secure and comfortable. It was my way of nurturing her. I let her know I would watch over her and care for her and assured her whatever decision she made it would be hers and if she changed her mind we could go back.

I think we typically fall short of what the gospel says to us. Jesus met people at their place of need, demonstrating through caring for them what it means to be a child of God. This to me is gospel, caring for the least of us. I have three daughters of my own and three granddaughters— and, being a woman of color in the South, I am deeply concerned about women’s rights and the systems that are still there that tend to silence us. This gave me an opportunity to give voice to this young woman and let her see that—with a fight and intentionality—we can gain what we’re entitled to as citizens of this country and God’s kingdom.

My faith is the reason why I do what I do.

## Pro-Choice Pro-Faith Resources for Your Community & Congregation

### Show Your Support!

- Pro-Faith, Pro-Family, Pro-Choice buttons (2” round)
- Pro-Faith, Pro-Family, Pro-Choice bumpersticker

Pro-faith, Pro-family, Pro-choice

Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice  
www.rcrc.org

- Prayerfully Pro-Choice bumpersticker  
Suggested \$2 donation each

### Educational Resources

- Words of Choice—a 24-page glossary of pro-choice language (\$5)
- Education Series Kit (\$10)
- Speak Out for Choice Activist Kit (\$5)

### For Women’s Clinics

Three RCRC brochures—sample of one each free to clinics on request

- Considering Abortion? Clarifying What You Believe
- Abortion: Finding Your Own Truth
- Prayers and Meditations for A Time of Decision

### Contributions

- I’m enclosing a special contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_.
- Send me information about supporting the Religious Coalition through my will or other planned giving strategy.
- Contact me with more information about becoming a monthly donor.

**You can also contribute on our convenient, secure online service at [www.rcrc.org](http://www.rcrc.org).**

### Resources

- Sign me up for action alerts.\*
- Send me the RCRC email newsletter.\*  
\* My email address is: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Tell me about Spiritual Youth for Reproductive Freedom (SYRF).
- I’d like information about “Keeping It Real!” the Christian sexuality education curriculum for African-American youth ages 13 to 17.
- I’m interested in joining the Clergy for Choice Network.
- I’m interested in joining Seminarians for Choice.

**For more RCRC resources, or to order online, visit our online store at [www.rcrc.org/issues/resources.cfm](http://www.rcrc.org/issues/resources.cfm) or email [info@rcrc.org](mailto:info@rcrc.org)**

**Please mail this form, along with payment, in the enclosed envelope.  
Thank you for your support!**



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**MISSION STATEMENT**  
 The Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice brings the moral power of religious communities to ensure reproductive choice through education and advocacy. The Coalition seeks to give clear voice to the reproductive issues of people of color, those living in poverty, and other underserved populations.

## Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice Member Organizations

The names of members are in bold.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Christian</i>  | <b>Women's Rabbinic Network of the Central Conference of American Rabbis</b> |
| <b>United Church of Christ General Board of Church and Society, United Methodist Church</b> | <i>Reconstructionist Jewish Reconstructionist Federation</i>                 |
| <b>General Board of Global Ministries, Women's Division, United Methodist Church</b>        | <b>Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association</b>                              |
| <b>Episcopal Church</b>   | <b>Society for Humanistic Judaism</b>  |
| <b>Presbyterian Church (USA)</b>  | <i>Caucuses/Organizations</i>  |
| <i>Caucuses/Organizations</i>   | <b>American Jewish Committee</b>   |
| <b>Catholics for Choice</b>   | <b>American Jewish Congress</b>  |
| <b>Christian Lesbians Out Church of the Brethren</b>  | <b>Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith</b>                                |
| <b>Womaen's Caucus</b>  | <b>Hadassah, WZOA</b>  |
| <b>Disciples for Choice</b>   | <b>Jewish Women International</b>  |
| <b>Episcopal Urban Caucus</b>   | <b>NA'AMAT USA</b>   |
| <b>Episcopal Women's Caucus</b>   | <b>National Council of Jewish Women</b>                                      |
| <b>Lutheran Women's Caucus</b>  | <b>Women's American ORT</b>  |
| <b>Methodist Federation for Social Action</b>   | <b>YWCA of the USA</b>   |
| <i>Jewish</i>   | <b>National Service Conference of the American Ethical Union</b>             |
| <i>Conservative</i>   | <b>Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations</b>                   |
| <b>Rabbinical Assembly</b>  | <b>Continental Unitarian Universalist Young Adult Network</b>                |
| <b>United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism</b>   | <b>Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation</b>                             |
| <b>Women's League for Conservative Judaism</b>  | <b>Young Religious Unitarian Universalists</b>                               |
| <i>Reform</i>   |  |
| <b>Central Conference of American Rabbis</b>  |  |
| <b>North American Federation of Temple Youth</b>  |  |
| <b>Union for Reform Judaism</b>   |  |
| <b>Women of Reform Judaism, The Federation of Temple Sisterhoods</b>                        |  |

**We Have A New Address!**  
 Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice  
 1413 K Street NW, 14th Floor  
 Washington, DC 20005

**Make Your Voice Heard in Washington!**  
 Send your email address to publicpolicy@rcrc.org and you'll receive our action alerts.

## GET INVOLVED!

- **Visit [www.rcrc.org](http://www.rcrc.org)** to contact members of Congress and sign up for news alerts.
- **Support RCRC financially.** Use the enclosed envelope or contribute safely and securely online at [www.rcrc.org](http://www.rcrc.org).
- **Contact us about planned giving.** Remembering RCRC in your will is an investment in the future!
- **Check out our blogs and speak up!**  
 RCRC's blog — <http://profaithandprochoice.wordpress.com/>  
 SYRF's blog — <http://www.syrf.org/web/guest/blog>  
 Black Church Initiative's blog — <http://rcrcbci.wordpress.com>

## FAITH AND CONSCIENCE

Pro-choice religions are among the most trusted institutions in the United States. These traditions, with more than 20 million members in the U.S., support reproductive choice as the most responsible position a religious institution can take on this issue. The Episcopal Church, Presbyterian Church (USA), United Church of Christ, United Methodist Church, Unitarian Universalist Association, and Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructionist Judaism all have official statements in support of reproductive choice as a matter of conscience. Religious and religiously affiliated organizations from these and other traditions are members of the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice.