

## **Context**

Abortion is front-and-center in the 2020 election and is a [critical issue](#) for voters. With reproductive freedom under full-blown assault, the stakes have never been higher. The Republican party, anti-choice candidates, and right-wing groups have employed an intentional disinformation campaign about abortion in an effort to distract from their hugely unpopular agenda of banning abortion. Democratic candidates must make clear their commitment to ensuring every woman can make her own decisions about how, if, and when to raise a family. Seventy-seven percent of Americans support *Roe v. Wade*, and while Republicans are pushing an extreme agenda to ban abortion completely, fewer than a quarter of even their own supporters agree with that stance.

## **Global Gag**

- The global gag rule is a harmful policy that forces people to go without care.
- It is wrong for the United States to force a healthcare provider in another country to choose between limiting the advice they can give to patients and keeping critical funding.
- By forcing healthcare providers to withhold information about legal health services, the global gag rule violates the trusted relationships between a woman and her provider – sometimes at the cost of her life.
- Trump's global gag rule will put life-saving health services, particularly sexual and reproductive health services, out of reach for people and communities who already have limited access to affordable, high-quality health care. This policy impacts women, girls, LGBT people, and other individuals that face barriers to care and who rely on U.S. global health assistance to access life-saving services.

## **Hyde Amendment**

- The Hyde Amendment is an unfair law that makes it harder for people enrolled in Medicaid, in the military, or in other circumstances to access abortion.
- However we feel about abortion, politicians shouldn't deny a woman health coverage just because she is poor. Restrictions on abortion coverage have a disproportionate impact on low-income people, especially women of color, immigrant women, and young women.
- Whether she is enrolled in private or government-funded health insurance such as Medicaid, every woman should have coverage for a full range of pregnancy-related care, including abortion.
- A woman struggling to make ends meet needs to be able to make important personal decisions based on what is best for her circumstances.
- When a woman needs to end her pregnancy, it is important that she has access to safe medical care. Providing insurance coverage helps ensure that she will be able to see a licensed, quality health provider.
- A woman who wants to get an abortion but is denied is more likely to fall into poverty than a woman who can get an abortion.

### **Private Insurance Coverage**

- A woman who is able to make decisions about her reproductive health care, including having children, has more control over her economic security.
- Deciding if and when to have a child is one of the biggest economic decisions a woman can make.
- For women, economic security is extremely difficult to achieve without the freedom to decide if, when, and how to raise a family.
- Denying a woman the full range of health care, including abortion, jeopardizes her economic well-being and her ability to determine her own future.

### **Restrictions on Abortion**

- The decision of if, when, and how to have a child is deeply personal and not one to be made by politicians. A woman, along with those she loves and trusts, must make the best decision for her life and circumstances. Politicians should not interfere.
- I oppose abortion restrictions that will endanger and punish women or recklessly take personal medical decisions in complicated situations out of the hands of women, families and their doctors.
- Abortion bans prevent health care providers from giving their patients the best health care possible in what can often be a very difficult situation.
- A woman's health, not political interference, should guide important medical decisions throughout her pregnancy.
- One-size-fits-all restrictions hurt real people going through complicated issues.