

Talking about the elephant in the room!

AGENDA

1. Pulse Check: Where are we?
2. State of Play re: Abortion Access
3. How to Talk About Reproductive Health & Rights
4. Leading with Values for Winning Messages
5. Let's Practice
6. Racial Justice & Reproductive Justice
7. Resources

State of Play

On July 11th, 2022 Judge Andrew Stone of the Third District Court issued a preliminary injunction on Utah's "abortion trigger ban," SB 174. He stated that Utahns would face "irreparable harm" and "increased health risks" if they were not able to access abortion care. With this injunction in effect Utahns can access abortions up to 18 weeks of pregnancy, and after 18 weeks with certain exceptions.

How we got here:

- On 6/24 the Supreme Court released its decision to overturn the precedent set in Roe v Wade, meaning abortion law is now decided by individual states
- **That evening the Legislative Management Committee informed the Utah Legislature that SB 174 was in effect. This bill bans all abortion in Utah except under specific exceptions.**
- In response Planned Parenthood Association of Utah filed a lawsuit on 6/25 against the state.
- On June 27th, Judge Stone issued a temporary restraining order, halting enforcement of SB 174
- With the overturn of Roe v Wade, the 18 week gestational ban HB 136 (Abortion Amendments) became law. That remains in place today.

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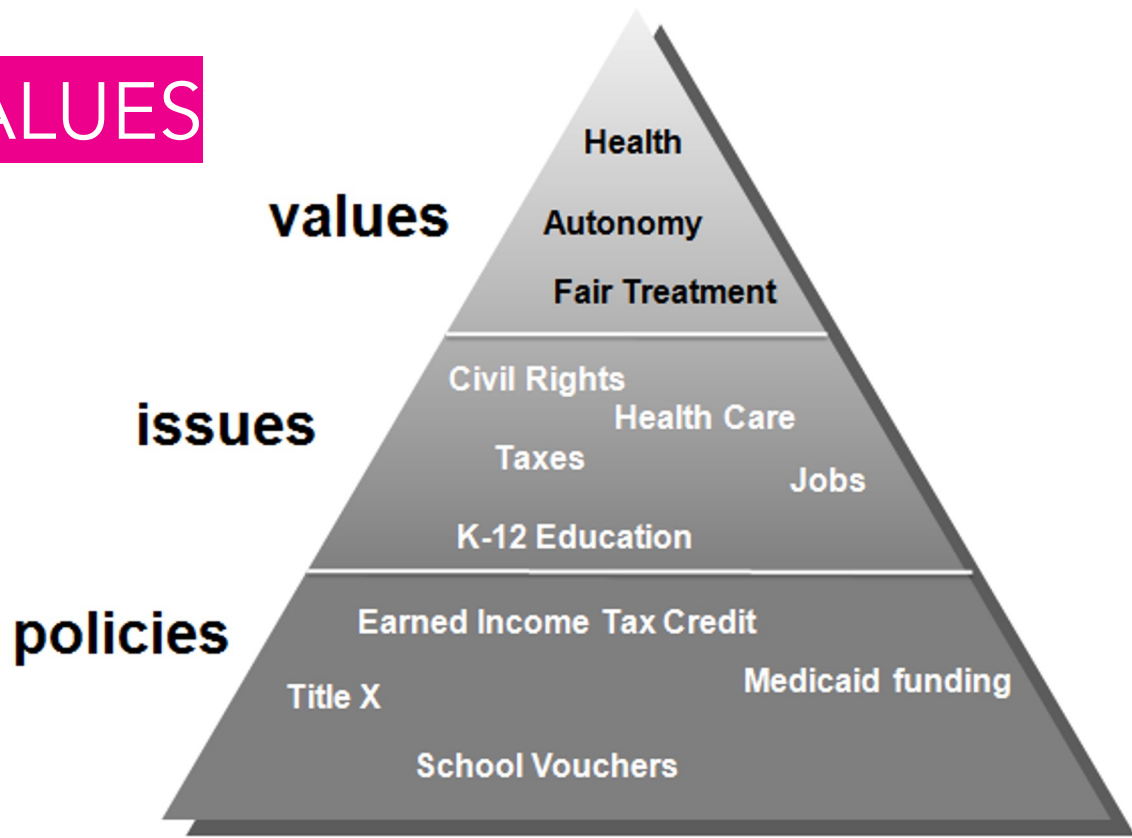
HOW TO TALK ABOUT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Wendy/Lynette

Summary of Key Findings from our research

- While many Utahns are likely to hold some anti-abortion beliefs, they respond to “pro-reproductive autonomy” arguments. Engagement and familiarity can make a big difference. Winning messages speak to values and personal experience.
- Utahns tend to agree with values around individuals and families making their own decisions, abortion care being safe, and abortion being regulated by medical providers – not politicians.
- In general lift this debate up to the fundamental question of who is making these personal, private decisions rather than debate specifics.
- Utahns find sex education lacking, and solidly support comprehensive sex education.

LEAD WITH VALUES



Pro Tips to Remember:

Conventional wisdom about Utahns' attitudes toward these issues is incorrect. This is a conservative, religious state, and those orientations are aligned with – not opposed to – reproductive health care.

When talking with Utahns about reproductive health care, sex education, or abortion remember:

- Use the word **decision**, not **choice**
- Use the term **abortion (care)**
- Reproductive health care impacts all of us, women, men and families. Use the word **people** instead of **women**
- Health care access is an important value to prioritize.
- The real experts are patients and medical professionals, not politicians with their own agenda.
- Utahns want education and health options to be comprehensive, medically accurate, and safe.
- Prevention is seen as responsible and allows people to plan.

Winning message about legislation

“Utahns do not need more restrictions on abortion, but pro-family policies that empower women, men, and families, like childcare, paid family leave, and access to health care.”

Identifies the problem – restricting abortion.

Offers a solution – there are policies that can help people.

Brings in men and families and takes the onus off of women to be solely responsible for family planning.

Gives specific policies that can help families.

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Let's Practice our Values Statement

RACIAL + REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE



There is no such
thing as a single-
issue struggle
because we do not
live single-issue lives.

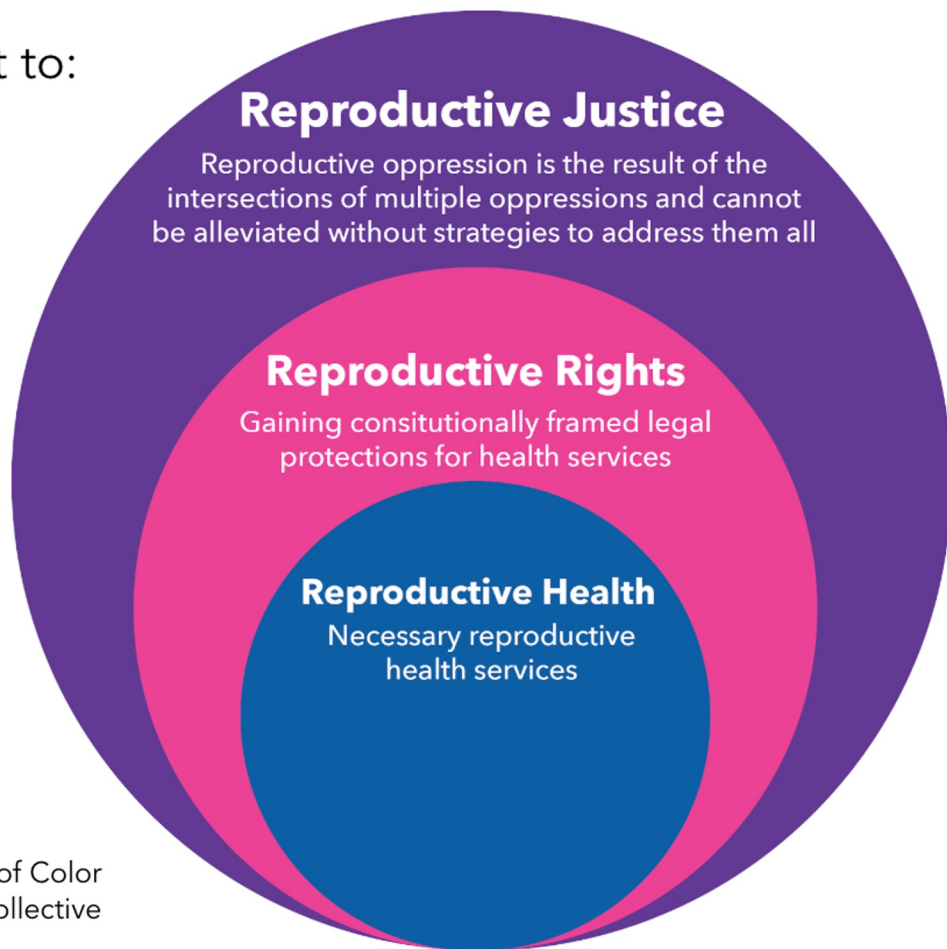
Audre Lorde

Reproductive Justice

Every person has the human right to:

1. Decide if and when they will have a child and the conditions under which they will give birth.
2. Decide if they will not have a child and their options for preventing or ending a pregnancy.
3. Parent the children they already have with the necessary social supports in safe environments and healthy communities, and without fear of violence from individuals or the government.

Source: SisterSong Women of Color
Reproductive Justice Collective



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IS

GENDER IDENTITY IS

BUILDING FAMILY ON YOUR
OWN TERMS IS

RACIAL JUSTICE IS

ENDING INCARCERATION IS
SUPPORTING TEEN PARENTS IS

FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE IS

FOOD SECURITY IS



IMMIGRATION JUSTICE IS

ACCESSIBLE ABORTION IS

SUPPORTING BIRTHPARENTS IS

PAID LEAVE IS

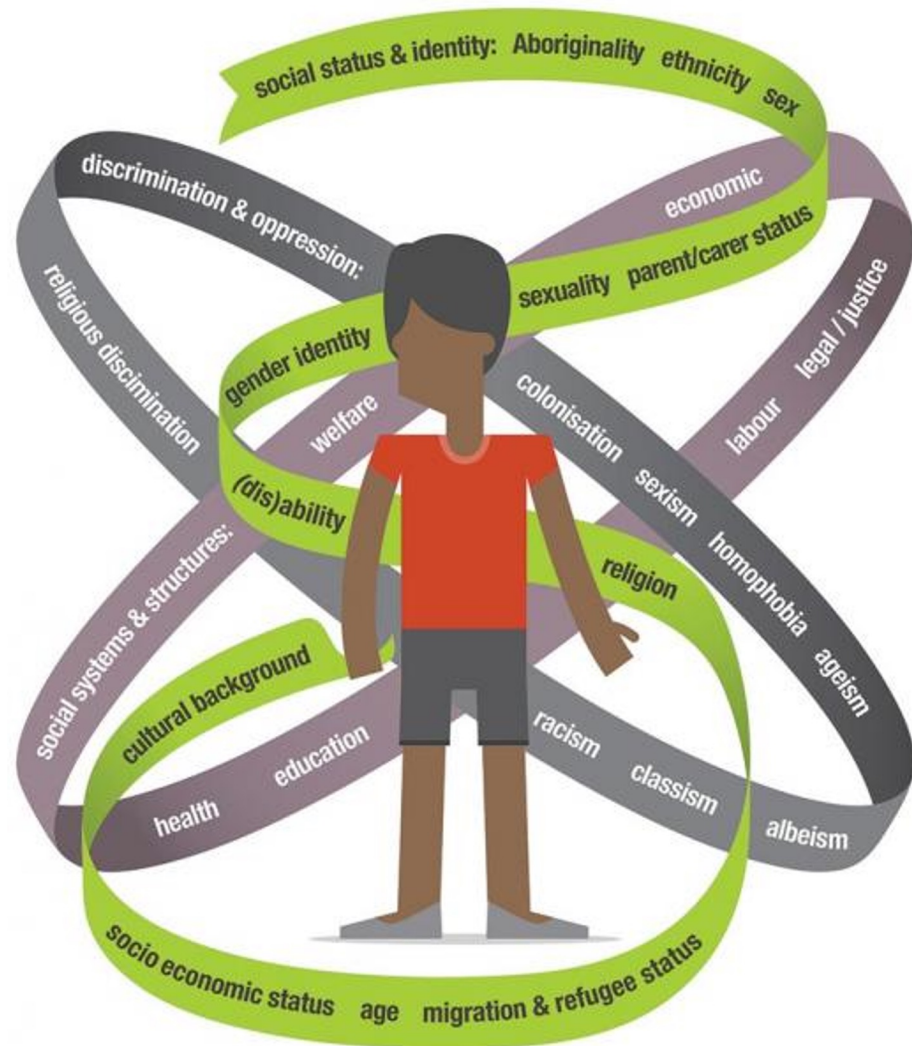
DISABILITY JUSTICE IS

QUEER FAMILIES ARE

SAFE COMMUNITIES ARE

DECOLONIZATION IS

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE.



What is Reproductive Freedom?

Reproductive freedom is the freedom to make decisions about if, when, and how to have children and start a family. It incorporates a systems approach to give context to individual decision making.

All people have the right to control their sexual and reproductive health - reproductive freedom acknowledges and seeks to eliminate the barriers to health care that many people face due to systems that marginalize Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, women, and people living in poverty.

Reproductive freedom includes access to sexual and reproductive health care such as STI testing and treatment, contraception, and a range of pregnancy options, including abortion care and prenatal care. For those who choose to have children, reproductive freedom includes the right to raise one's family in a safe, healthy environment.

Repro Roundtable

The Repro Roundtable is a coalition of advocates working to protect abortion access and promote policies that improve sexual and reproductive health.

Members include:

Planned Parenthood, ACLU Utah, Alliance for Better Utah, American College of OB-GYN's (ACOG), Utah Academy of Family Physicians, League of Women Voters of Utah, and other groups that join our efforts during the legislative session.

Resources

@ppacutah.org plannedparenthood.org/utah

For abortion care

- [Abortionfinder.org](https://abortionfinder.org)
- [Ineedana.com](https://inneedana.com)

For Counseling

- [All-options.org](https://all-options.org) (Spanish/English)
- [Exhaleprovoice.org/afterabortiontalkline](https://exhaleprovoice.org/afterabortiontalkline)
- Text line 6177492948

Self Managed Resources

- [Plancpills.org](https://plancpills.org)
- [Mahotline.org](https://mahotline.org)

Messages backed by research in Utah

- Focus Groups conducted by Cicero Group - Summer 2019
- Polling conducted by Dan Jones & Associates - Winter 2020
- Message testing via Facebook & Instagram by Community Boost - Fall 2020
- Findings summarized and contextualized in partnership with Lake Research Partners

Thank you!

Annabel.Sheinberg@ppau.org