

# North Carolina NOW

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Post Office Box 24995 • Raleigh • North Carolina • 27611 • Telephone • (919) 834-4073

December 2012

Dear Friend:

January 22, 1973 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the landmark Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision that gave all American women access to safe, legal abortions for the first time. But before the ink was dry, organized opposition began working to undermine and ultimately reverse Roe v. Wade and turn back the clock. Over time the opposition to legal abortion has grown violent and increasingly extreme. The 2009 murder of Dr. George Tiller in Kansas while serving his church outraged the nation.

Today, as the 2012 elections made clear, the most extreme opponents of legal abortion are in the driver's seat and have written the platform of one of our major political parties. **Their demand is for a total ban on all abortion with no exceptions, giving constitutional protection to fertilized eggs redefined as "persons," and even redefining abortion itself to include some of the most widely used methods of contraception.**

The trivialization of rape and the denial that rape can cause pregnancy is a by-product of this hateful agenda. Its radical goal is to rewrite federal and state laws and to amend state constitutions and the U. S. Constitution to impose their dogmas on all American women. **And Roe v. Wade is what stands in the way of implementing this heartless, anti-woman agenda.**

Nationally, the most vocal anti-abortion radicals went down in defeat. Unfortunately, the same is not true in North Carolina. Although the issue of women's reproductive rights was not prominent in our state elections, the final tabulations make it clear that prochoice forces have suffered a setback.

**Here in North Carolina, it is critical for prochoice people to be visible and make our voices heard.** North Carolina NOW is sponsoring a prochoice signature ad supporting women's reproductive rights to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision. The two-page ad will run in the centerfold of the 16 January 2013 edition of the *Independent*, a weekly newspaper serving the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill area. The exact wording of the ad will read:

**"We, the undersigned, support women's right to safe, legal and accessible birth control and abortion. We condemn acts of violence and intimidation directed at women and their health care providers. We agree that these rights extend to all women regardless of economic status and, as taxpayers, affirm our support for family planning services and funding for abortions for indigent women."**

Copies of the ad will be distributed to all members of the NC General Assembly shortly after the legislative session begins in January.

**We need you to join with prochoice people around the state to stand up for women's reproductive rights today!** Please fill out and return the form on the back of this letter along with your contribution today. If you do not want your name to appear in the ad, indicate your wish on the form. Please be as generous as you can. We deeply appreciate your support.

For NC NOW,



Gailya Paliga  
President

North Carolina NOW  
(N. C. National Organization for Women)  
P.O. Box 24995  
Raleigh, NC 27611

NONPROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
RALEIGH NC  
PERMIT 2425

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Resist the hard right--  
Sign up today!**

**SIGN UP FOR CHOICE!**

*"We the undersigned, support a woman's right to safe, legal, and accessible birth control and abortion.  
We condemn the acts of violence and intimidation directed at women and their health care providers.  
We agree that these rights extend to all women regardless of economic status, and,  
as taxpayers, affirm our support for family planning services and for abortions for indigent women."*

- YES, I want my name in the ad (print name below as it should appear).  
 NO, I don't want my name to appear, but I want to help.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

DAY PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EVENING PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my donation for the Pro-Choice Signature Ad:

\$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$35    \$25    \$10    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is an additional donation to support the NC Women's Lobby:

\$500    \$250    \$100    \$50    \$35    \$25    \$10    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Visa   Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

MasterCard   Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable to NC NOW and mail to: Raleigh NOW, P.O. Box 25331, Raleigh, NC 27611**

**Mail by 7 January 2013 to insure that your name is printed in the ad.**

Contributions to NC NOW are not tax deductible because we take action to promote social change.