

BARACK OBAMA ON CHOICE



“A woman’s right to make a decision about how many children to have and when – without government interference – is one of the most fundamental freedoms we have in this country.”

Barack Obama is committed to ensuring access to the full array of reproductive health services – beginning with common-sense preventive care like comprehensive sexuality education, family planning services, and prenatal care, and extending to preserving a women’s right to choose an abortion. Barack Obama has been a consistent champion of reproductive choice; he has received 100% ratings from choice groups throughout his career in the Illinois State Senate and the United States Senate. As president, he will make safeguarding women’s rights under *Roe v. Wade* a priority. He opposes any constitutional amendment to overturn that decision.

Preventing Unintended Pregnancy

Barack Obama is an original co-sponsor of legislation to expand access to contraception, health information and preventive services to help reduce unintended pregnancies. Introduced in January 2007, the Prevention First Act will increase funding for family planning and comprehensive sex education that teaches both abstinence and safe sex methods. The Act will also end insurance discrimination against contraception, improve awareness about emergency contraception, and provide compassionate assistance to rape victims.

Supporting Communities of Color

According to the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, over half of Latina and African American teens will get pregnant at least once before age 20. To combat unintended pregnancies in communities of color, Barack Obama introduced the Communities of Color Teen Prevention Act of 2007. This bill provides grants to public and private non-profit entities for community-based intervention efforts targeting schools, families, and the media to promote and strengthen communication and services regarding teen pregnancy. It establishes grants for the creation of a National Clearinghouse to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate information and technical assistance to those seeking to reduce rates of teen pregnancy. Finally, this legislation supports research on teen pregnancy in communities of color.

Empowering Women to Prevent HIV/AIDS

Barack Obama has been a leader in the global fight against AIDS. He introduced the Microbicide Development Act, which will accelerate the development of products that empower women in the battle against AIDS. Microbicides are a class of products currently under development that women apply topically to prevent transmission of HIV and other infections.

For more information, please visit www.BarackObama.com.

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