



PROTECT OUR YOUTH: VOTE NO on PROP 4!

Prop 4 would amend the California Constitution to ban abortions for minors until 48 hours after a physician notifies their parents.

Youth need health care, NOT laws that create barriers to health care.

- Some teens delay or avoid seeking reproductive health care if they think their parents will find out. When our families face discrimination because we are immigrants or people of color, we ALREADY face lots of difficulties in accessing health care. Prop 4 makes it worse!
- For youth who don't have health insurance, free and confidential reproductive health services are often their only source of health care. Prop 4 would prevent teens from getting all types of health care, including services to help prevent pregnancy.

Youth need sexual health education, NOT laws that take money from schools and services.

- Youth need information and resources to support them in taking good care of themselves and making good decisions. Prop 4 could cause the government to spend money and resources on the court system instead of schools. That's why so many teachers and counselors in California are against Prop 4.
- Teens often get sexual health education from nurses and doctors. Prop 4 makes it less likely that they will go to the doctor. That's why doctors and nurses are against Prop 4.
- The government is responsible for making sure that have youth sexual health information and access to health care. Prop 4 makes the government responsible for communication in our families. Youth need the government to do its job – not ours.

Youth who are pregnant need support, NOT unrealistic laws that make it harder for youth to get help from adults.

- The majority of youth who are pregnant tell their parents so that they can get support in figuring out what to do. But good family communication can't be mandated. In the real world, some youth will be rejected, kicked out or violently abused by their parents. Prop 4 does **not** protect youth from these abuses, but it **can** start an investigation in our families that causes more harm than good – especially if our families are undocumented immigrants.
- Youth want the support of adults who they trust will help them. They will ask for help from adults who will help them stay safe. Prop 4 takes this decision away from our youth and our communities.
- The majority of parents do not talk to their children about sex. In many immigrant families, talking about sex is not appropriate even if teens want to discuss it with their parents.
- Parental notification laws cause pregnant youth to delay counseling and medical care, which results in late-term, high-risk abortions. Some teens seek illegal, unsafe abortions or attempt suicide in order to avoid parental involvement.
- Supporters of Prop 4 say that teens can bypass parental notification by arguing before a judge. But this is not a realistic option for scared, pregnant teenagers, especially if they do not speak English very well or are undocumented immigrants.

**On November 4, we can all make a commitment to protect our youth.
VOTE NO ON PROP 4!**

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