



Asian
Communities for
Reproductive
Justice

Protect our youth. VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 85!

Prop 85 would amend the California Constitution to ban abortions for minors until 48 hours after a physician notifies their parents, except in a medical emergency, parental waiver or court approval.

Prop 85 is unrealistic.

- Parental notification may sound like a good idea, because all parents want to be involved in their children's lives. But in the real world, many teens live in families where they simply cannot tell their parents about a pregnancy because they fear shame, rejection, or abuse.
- 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.

Prop 85 endangers our youth.

- Parental notification laws cause pregnant minors to delay counseling and medical care, which results in late-term, high-risk abortions. Some teens try self-aborting, crossing state borders, or seeking illegal, unsafe abortions to avoid parental involvement.
- Some teens have been rejected or kicked out of the house for having sex or getting pregnant. Teens from violent homes could be further endangered if their parents discover that they are pregnant, especially if a family member caused the pregnancy. Some teens attempt suicide to avoid retribution from their parents.
- Supporters of Prop 85 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 are not proficient in English or are undocumented.

Prop 85 increases barriers to health care.

- Doctors know that teens delay or avoid seeking reproductive health services if they think their parents will find out. Prop 85 is especially burdensome for young people of color, who already face tremendous barriers to accessing health care.
- For youth who don't have health insurance, free and confidential reproductive health services are often their only source of health care. Prop 85 would prevent teens from getting all types of health care, including services to help prevent teen pregnancy.

Prop 85 allows government intrusion.

- Good family communication can't be mandated. But Prop 85 would let the government tell our families how to communicate. There's no evidence that mandatory parental involvement laws improve parent-child communication or facilitate conversations about matters related to sex.

Prop 85 is a crucial issue for young people and families in low-income communities and communities of color. It is **our responsibility** to ensure the health and safety of our youth by **speaking out** and **taking action** against this dangerous initiative.

On November 7, we can all make a commitment to protect our youth.
VOTE NO ON PROP 85!

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