**HEALTH REFORM**

Women's Health at Stake... Again!

The ruling is in. In a historic decision, the U.S. Supreme Court confirmed that the Affordable Care Act is constitutional — a momentous decision that protects key provisions that improve women's health. But extremists in the U.S. House of Representatives wasted no time voting (again) for a full repeal of the health reform law. And opponents won’t stop at this symbolic gesture — they’ll continue attacking one provision at a time. We must prevail.

**WORK/FAMILY**

Not Settling for What’s “Politically Possible”

More than 200 advocates from across the country met in Washington, D.C. this week for our sixth annual summit on paid sick days and paid family and medical leave. It was an inspiring event with an incredible roster of guest speakers and panelists including House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA), Senator Tom Harkin (IA), Representative Rosa DeLauro (CT), SEIU International President Mary Kay Henry, National Domestic Workers Alliance President Ai-Jen Poo, Lake Research President Celinda Lake and Center on Budget and Policy Priorities Senior Fellow Jared Bernstein... just to name a few. Advocates shared best practices from successful state and local campaigns and
participated in a “day of action” to urge members of Congress to support paid leave and paid sick days proposals. More »

Your voice was heard! Check out our photo slideshow and see the hefty stacks of petitions (with more than 46,000 signatures) being delivered to offices on Capitol Hill. View photos »

GUEST BLOG

Michigan Representative Lisa Brown

State Representative Lisa Brown — now famous for being banned from speaking on the state house floor after saying the word "vagina" when talking about a bill restricting reproductive rights — describes the experience in the new Repro Health Watch:

“Women’s health care should never be a political game. And yet, any time there is a contentious election around the corner, that is exactly what it becomes. Never has that been more true than right now in Michigan.” Read more »

WORK/FAMILY

Looking Past the 'Having it

lights our way, we prevail. #workfamilysummit

"Organizing is about expanding the realm of what is politically possible." Ai-Jen Poo #workfamilysummit

Hillary Clinton: Get organized, get involved, and don't let anyone tell you it can't be done #hillarylunch12 http://ow.ly/cc1U4

Frightening: Future of sole abortion clinic in Miss. remains uncertain #reprohealthwatch ow.ly/bOjb8

Portland is gearing up to demand #paysickdays with strong labor and community support @familyforward @WorkingAmerica ow.ly/c285V

Urgent Action Alerts

Congress: Let's Make America More Family Friendly
Congress: Raise the Federal Sub-Minimum Wage!
America's Working Parents Deserve Paid Family Leave!!
**All' Distraction**

Last month, yet again, we witnessed a media firestorm over women’s roles in our workplaces and our families. This time, it was because one highly educated and highly successful mother shared her experiences in a cover story in *The Atlantic*. In doing so, she shined a spotlight on the conflict between work and family that so many employed women struggle with every day. This time, again, the conversation largely missed the point. [More »](#)

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**FAIRNESS**

**Ensuring Access to Justice after *Wal-Mart v. Dukes***

Last year’s Supreme Court decision in *Wal-Mart v. Dukes* was a devastating blow to the right of all workers to combat systemic discrimination in the workplace. In short, the Court said that Betty Dukes — a female greeter at Wal-Mart who received lower pay and fewer promotion opportunities than her male co-workers — could not join with other female Wal-Mart workers to hold the company accountable for unlawful and widespread discrimination through a class action lawsuit. In doing so, the decision created significant barriers to justice for future victims of discrimination. Now, Congress has a chance to undo the damage with the Equal Employment Opportunity Restoration Act. [More »](#)

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**Recent Media Coverage**

- **After Supreme Court’s Ruling, Obama Touts the Affordable Care Act’s Benefits for Women**, *Washington Post*, June 28, 2012
- **Women Want It All? It’s Time to Fight for It**, *MSNBC*, June 25, 2012
- **Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative: Barely a Ripple Now, Enormous Promise for Later**, *Health Affairs*, June 21, 2012
- **What’s at Stake for Women if SCOTUS Overturns the Health Law**, *Kaiser Health News*, June 19, 2012
- **Paternity Leave: Best States for New Dads**, *Huffington Post*, June 18, 2012
Women’s Health Advocate
Sandra Fluke

In the inaugural blog post for Repro Health Watch, Sandra Fluke describes the pervasive war on women across the country and calls on all activists to speak out:

“Confronted with these attacks on women’s health care access, women, and the men who support them, realize that we must stand up and amplify our voices not just in Washington but also at home. I firmly believe that speaking out is something millions of women across this country can, and ultimately must, do to protect our sisters today and our daughters tomorrow.” More »

Think the Wage Gap Is a Myth? Ask Your Doctor

A new study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association takes a closer look at the medical profession and provides evidence of the impact gender inequality is having on some of the country’s most elite female doctors. Despite a highly select and talented pool, when the researchers controlled for factors like specialty, productivity, work hours, leadership roles and other degrees, they found that female physicians are paid an average of $12,000 less per year than male doctors. It is deeply disturbing that women — even those who are what the researchers dubbed “cream-of-the-crop” physicians — can’t get a fair shake in the workplace. More »

Press Releases

"Vote to Repeal Health Law is Wrong Step for Women and Families"

"This is a Good Day for Women, Families, Our Economy and Our Nation."

Leading Women’s Organization Honors Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton

On One-Year Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's Decision in Wal-Mart v. Dukes, Women's Leader Urges Congress to ...

Father's Day Report Identifies Top States for New Dads in the Workforce

Physicians and Patient Advocates Applaud Milestone Announcement by CMS Regarding Comprehensive Primary Care Initiative

More »