



# The Team Roe Times

Welcome The Team Roe Times. Our aim is to

- ◇ Create a sense of unity in the pro choice community
- ◇ Provide accurate and timely information regarding current and pending legislation
- ◇ Promote networking to share ideas, resources and projects
- ◇ Share news of communities and individuals across South Dakota
- ◇ Feature stories about organizations, individuals, websites and more
- ◇ Promote growth, excellence and integrity

## Second Verse, Same as the First...

The 2012 legislative session has been fast and furious, particularly when it comes to choice issues. We were excited to see the introduction of a resolution to recognize Reproductive Rights Awareness week, which unfortunately did not pass the House floor.

Next up, we saw the introduction of a bill (HB 1150) that would have required Crisis Pregnancy Centers to be truthful in their advertising and not falsely imply that they provide comprehensive reproductive health services. This bill unfortunately was killed in committee.

Two pieces of anti-choice legislation have been introduced, heard in committee, passed the House floor and will be moving on to the Senate in the coming weeks. HB 1185 is an attempt to ban abortion coverage in the healthcare reform exchanges. This ban would impact even those trying to purchase coverage with their own private funds.

HB 1254 is a bill that attempts to amend legislation from 2011 that requires women to visit an anti-choice Crisis Pregnancy Center and endure a 72-hour waiting period before receiving abortion care. The proposed

amendments attempt to mitigate legal concerns, but fails to fix some of the most egregious intrusions of its predecessor.

It is essential to be just as relentless in as our opposition when voicing our opinion on choice. Make sure you [continue to contact your legislators!](#)

~ Alisha Sedor



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## Administration Reaffirms Commitment to Contraception, Anti-Choice Senators Launch an Attack - [Sign the Petition!](#)

As many of you know, last Friday, President Obama announced that women of all faiths who work at religiously affiliated hospitals, universities, and service organizations can get contraceptive coverage, requiring insurance companies to pick up the costs.

Sen. Roy Blunt (R-MO) has introduced a measure that would allow ANY employer to refuse to cover ANY essential health benefit it deems “immoral.”

Rep. Joe Pitts (R-PA) -- of the infamous Stupak-Pitts abortion-coverage ban -- has said, “This outrage is one more reason why the President's health care law needs to be repealed.”

This measure is tied to the transportation bill (S. 1813) and the debate could come up at any time. It is [imperative that we let our Senators know](#) that the far-reaching consequences of this measure fly in the face of what Americans want.

This measure would

go beyond just birth control, allowing an employer to deny coverage for maternity care, testing for HIV, mental health services, screening for cervical cancer or any other procedure it deems immoral.

[Reach out to your Senators ASAP](#) to let them know you do not want them to undermine basic health-care benefits that millions of women are counting on.

~Alisha Sedor

**NWPC Candidate Training - [Register today!](#)**

Are you a woman interested in running for office? You should [check out National Women's Political Caucus' training](#) in Sioux Falls on March 3!

National Women's Political Caucus is a non-partisan grassroots organization dedicated to increasing pro choice women's participation in politics and creating a power base designed to achieve equality for all women.

This training is designed by women, for women, who are interested in running for office, learning how to run a campaign, or volunteering for a campaign.

The training will be held on Saturday March 3, from 9:30am-12:30pm at the Main Library downtown Sioux Falls. Registration is \$15.

The training will cover topics including

whether to run, creating a campaign plan, fundraising and connecting with voters.

It is essential to have as many positive voices for women's issues in Pierre as possible come 2013, so I hope to see many of you there!

~Alisha Sedor



**SD Campaign for Healthy Families PAC presents  
*A History of Legislation Affecting Reproductive Rights in South Dakota***

**Please join the  
SDCHF PAC  
for an  
educational  
event, Thurs  
Feb 16, at 7pm  
at SDSU.**

Members of the SDCHF PAC board of directors will present a brief history of abortion laws in South Dakota including the increase of laws restricting reproductive freedom in the last few years.

Topics will range from the 2006 and 2008 abortion bans to the attempt to place a ban on surrogacy and

how Governor Daugaard signed into law the **longest waiting period in the country.**

Do you know

- the cost of litigation to declare these bills unconstitutional?
- the cost of the referral campaigns?

Get the answers

to these questions and more on **Thursday, February 16 at 7pm** at the SDSU University Student Union, room 269, Walder room.

This must-see presentation is an event for supporters.

For more information, contact me at 605/695-1788 or [carmen@sdhealthyfamilies.org](mailto:carmen@sdhealthyfamilies.org)

~Carmen Toft

***No Woman, No Cry - Rapid City Screening***

Partnering with Planned Parenthood Global, DIA, WE, and WE CARE, PPMNS held a screening of *No Woman, No Cry* in Rapid City on February 4th.

*No Woman, No Cry* shares the powerful experiences of at-risk pregnant women throughout the world, illustrating the stories of women in

Tanzania, Bangladesh, Guatemala, and the US.

More than 340,000 women die each year during child birth, and 90% of these deaths are preventable.

Planned Parenthood had the opportunity to partner with Director Christy Turlington Burns to contribute to the film. The final segment features the

work of Planned Parenthood and Dr. Linda Valencia serving and advocating for the women of Guatemala.

If you are interested in a screening in your community, please contact me at [ctoft@ppmns.org](mailto:ctoft@ppmns.org).





On January 30, 2012 the South Dakota Advocacy Network for Women once again hosted Women 4 Women lobby day. Approximately 75 men and women from across the state

gathered in Pierre to show their support for women's issues and lobby their legislators.

The day featured

networking over lunch, break-out sessions on Women 4 Women's four key issues, and a legislative reception.

The break-out sessions featured SDEA's Sandra Waltman discussing education, NARAL Pro-Choice America Policy Director Donna Crane covering reproductive rights, Dr. Rachel Headly on pay equity and Patty Brooks of the Compass Center discussing domestic violence.

The break-outs had attendees well-verse on the

issues and ready to discuss them with their elected representatives at the legislative reception that immediately followed.

Approximately 30 legislators from both sides of the aisle were in attendance.

It is so important to show a presence for our issues, and Women 4 Women 2012 did just that. We're already looking forward to next year's event, so put January 28, 2013 on your calendars!

~Alisha Sedor

**Letter: Contraceptive coverage ensured**

The following [recently appeared in the Argus Leader](#) care of Jesse Vavreck (thanks Jesse!)

Last week, President Obama ensured contraceptive coverage for millions of women across our country. Resisting a pressure campaign from anti-contraception groups, the Obama administration announced a requirement to cover family planning services with no co-pay. Those in opposition to

the requirement wanted to broaden the refusal rule to allow many employers, including universities and hospitals, to refuse to cover birth control. Over the course of their lives, 98 percent of women use birth control; those women deserve contraceptive coverage regardless of their employer.

I would like to thank the Obama administration for listening to medical

science and the opinion of the people and would encourage other constituents to do the same. It is important for the administration to hear from supporters who agree that birth control is basic, preventative health care and that we greatly appreciate their commitment on this ever-important issue.

~Jesse Vavreck

**“I would like to thank the Obama administration for listening to medical science...”**

**Unofficial TTRT Book Club — *The Baby Thief* by Barbara Bisantz Raymond**



This is the crazy, true story of an evil woman, southern politics, and adoption. I thought this book was fascinating from start to finish: this woman posed as social services to take babies away from mothers she thought unfit, she put photos of babies in the newspaper at Christmas-time asking for people to adopt them, and the gave

babies to judges, lawyers and law officials to gain favor in the community.

The author writes from an interesting perspective as she adopted her own daughter. Georgia Tann's antics of trickery and theft helped to shape many current adoption laws, for better and for worse. This book was expertly researched and well-written.

I recommend this book for those anti-abortion folks who think that adoption is the best choice for “everyone.” Georgia Tann tore apart many families in her quest for wealth and “good” families.

I'm certain our TTRT readers will enjoy this pro choice book as well. Happy reading!  
~Carmen Toft

## The Team Roe Times

A NARAL Pro-Choice South Dakota/  
PPMNS Collaboration

### Upcoming Events:

- 2/16 SDCHF PAC Educational Event - SDSU
- 2/23 NWPC Social - Monk's, Sioux Falls
- 2/25 Legislative Coffee - Holiday Inn, Sioux Falls
- 3/1 Choice Club - Sioux Falls
- 3/2 Last Day of the Legislative Session
- 3/3 NWPC Candidate Training - Sioux Falls
- 3/8 International Women's Day
- 3/15 SDCHF PAC Fundraiser - Brookings
- 3/23 SDCHF PAC Fundraiser - Sioux Falls

\*Please contact [Carmen](#) or [Alisha](#) if you would like your event added to this list.



**NARAL**  
Pro-Choice South Dakota



**Planned Parenthood**  
Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota Action Fund

### Contact:

[alisha@prochoicesd.org](mailto:alisha@prochoicesd.org)

[ctoift@ppmns.org](mailto:ctoift@ppmns.org)

### We're on the web!

<http://www.prochoicesd.org> (New and improved!)

<http://www.SDplannedparenthoodadvocate.org>



<http://www.facebook.com/naralsd>

<http://www.facebook.com/ppsdak>



[@NARALSD](#)

[@ppSoDak](#)

## Choice Words

### Terminology of the Choice Movement Defined

February's Choice Words: **“Hog-house” and “Smoke-out”**

The South Dakota Legislature has some unique terms and processes that are all its own. Two of my favorites are “hog-house” and “smoke-out.”

A “hog-house” is an amendment which removes the majority of or the entirety of the text of a bill and replaces it with new provisions. The new text could be completely against the original intent of the sponsor.

A “smoke-out” occurs when a bill fails in committee, but is brought to the floor for consideration at the request of the sponsor with the support of at least 1/3 of the legislative body.

## Susan G. Komen and Planned Parenthood—What a Week!

Even if you were literally living under a rock, it would have been impossible to miss the avalanche of activity surrounding the SGK decision to stop funding grants to Planned Parenthood affiliates for breast health, cancer screenings, and prevention education. Personally, I read as many articles as possible—and I'm certain I only made it through a third.

Planned Parenthood's supporters, including many, many of you in South Dakota (thank you!) leapt to our defense and the support was overwhelming. It's been a rough year for Planned Parenthood: last spring's battle over Title X funding, Rep John Kyl's statement that “abortion

is well over 90% of what Planned Parenthood does”, and the barrage of anti-choice legislation passed across the county as part of the War on Women. Watching the number of people take to the internet and tell their stories about how Planned Parenthood found their lump, that PP was the only health care they could afford, and how disappointed they were in the SKG decision was pretty special.

And just when we were figuring out how to replace the grant money that was lost so we could continue to provide preventative breast health care, SKG issued an apology and said that PP would again be eligible to apply for future grant funding.

We are now heartened that we can continue to work in

partnership toward our shared commitment to breast health for the most underserved women. We are enormously grateful that the Komen Foundation has clarified its grant-making criteria, and we look forward to continuing our partnership with Komen partners, leaders and volunteers. What these past few weeks have demonstrated is the deep resolve all Americans share in the fight against cancer, and we honor those who are at the helm of this battle.

~ Carmen Toft

