

Why We Count on You

THANK YOU FROM STATE DIRECTOR AMY EVERITT

Dear Valued Member of the *1969 Society*,



What a year it has been! As I reflect upon the gains we have made in California, I want to thank you for your generous and steadfast support. As a member of the *1969 Society*, you are pro-choice California—and the successes of the past year are yours as much as ours.

I am pleased to present this annual impact review of NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation's key accomplishments and goals for the coming year. From the triumph for teen safety in the 2006 elections to the new pro-choice faces in our state legislature, the common thread was the dedication and generosity of our *1969 Society* members.

*“As a member of the *1969 Society*, you are pro-choice California—and the successes of the past year are yours as much as ours.”*

And though we have achieved so much, we must be ever-vigilant. The Supreme Court's ruling in the Federal Abortion Ban case came down just days after I learned I was expecting my first child. It shook me to know that if my pregnancy went terribly wrong, I might not

have access to a safe procedure to protect my health and guarantee my ability to have children in the future. And then I thought about our sisters, daughters, and friends here in California who, if faced with the same circumstances, now have the same restricted options as women in Mississippi or South Dakota. Despite all our successes, it sadly takes only one Supreme Court decision to roll them back.

That is why your support is so important—and so appreciated. Once again, thank you for your deep commitment to a woman's right to choose. We hope we can count on your continued support and membership in the *1969 Society*. You are pro-choice California—and together we can guarantee California's pro-choice future. Thank you.

Warmly,



Amy Everitt
State Director
NARAL Pro-Choice California

What You Achieved

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PAST YEAR

Protected young women's access to confidential health care

For the second year in a row, we defeated Proposition 85—a deceptive parental notification initiative endangering our most vulnerable teens. We mobilized volunteers statewide to pack phone banks and hit the streets going door-to-door, while our award-winning “Think Outside Your Bubble” commercial aired in the homes of California voters. **At the polls, a resounding “no” was heard as Californians defeated the initiative 54.1 percent to 45.9 percent—a margin even greater than 2005’s Proposition 73 defeat.**

Empowered teens to make healthy choices about sexual health

In partnership with California Latinas for Reproductive Justice and Assembly Member Mark Leno, we introduced the *Stronger Families for California Act* in order to prevent teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. **Activists statewide met face-to-face with more than 60 legislators in their home districts and in the Capitol urging them to support the bill.** Although a difficult budget year blocked the bill’s passage, the bill garnered strong support from a broad range of organizations, from the California PTA to the National Center for Youth Law.

Ensured California’s pro-choice majority was represented in the media

After the Supreme Court’s decision upholding the Bush Federal Abortion Ban, we served as a strong pro-choice voice calling attention to how this ban affects women’s health because it trumps California’s pro-choice laws. NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation spokespeople appeared in *The Huffington Post*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Marin Independent Journal*, KPBS San Diego’s *Full Focus*, *Your Call* with Rose Aguilar in San Francisco, and the Peter B. Collins Show in Monterey and Eureka.

Pioneered the use of new online technologies to reach the next generation

NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation utilized a new set of online tools to educate, mobilize, and inspire the next generation of pro-choice activists. In addition to our Choice Action Network e-mail list, we are engaging youth through text messaging, blogs, social networking websites—such as MySpace and Facebook—and video-sharing websites, including YouTube. **Our MySpace blog has more than 800 subscribers who are tuned-in and ready to take action.**

Empowered Californians to use the political process to protect choice

Across the state, NARAL Pro-Choice California mobilized activists to host more than 20 *From My House to the White House* Democratic and Republican presidential debate-watching parties with more than 310 attendees to educate voters about the candidates’ positions on choice. **In Napa, NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation gathered more than 200 civic leaders and community members to commemorate *Roe v. Wade* and learn how to lobby their legislators, ensure comprehensive sex education in schools, and protect women from anti-choice pharmacists refusing to dispense birth control.**

Served as a powerful resource for pro-choice legislators and candidates

Our new monthly memo to more than 600 pro-choice legislators and legislative staff serves as a valuable resource for the latest polling, political trends, and insider updates. In addition, our annual legislative briefing in Sacramento highlighted pro- and anti-choice bills in our state and nationwide. **In the 2006 elections, NARAL Pro-Choice California’s candidate endorsements provided pro-choice candidates with a critical edge, helping to propel five of our seven statewide endorsements to victory.**

In Visalia, a Central Valley community represented by anti-choice officials, a group of pro-choice high school girls is taking activism to the next level. After a training from the NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation, the girls visited local pharmacies to survey access to emergency contraception, gave a presentation to their school board on comprehensive sex education, and staged a rally in downtown Visalia. They even traveled to Sacramento to put their training to the ultimate test: to lobby their anti-choice Assembly Member, Bill Maze.



Where You Will Take Us

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2008

Preserve and strengthen California's pro-choice majority in the legislature

In the 2008 state legislative races, NARAL Pro-Choice California will protect our pro-choice allies and work to defeat anti-choice incumbents. **Winning these elections and thereby adding to our state's pro-choice majority is the best way to continue advancing pro-choice policies in our state and block anti-choice attacks on a woman's right to choose.**

Mobilize pro-choice volunteer leaders in key regions statewide

NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation will launch Choice Corps California, beginning with San Diego in 2007. Choice Corps leaders will stand ready to recruit volunteers, serve as sources for journalists, set up face-to-face meetings with elected officials, and write blogs and letters to the editor. **Our grassroots volunteer base is our most valuable resource for mobilizing responses to local threats to choice in communities statewide.**

Galvanize Californians to act on their pro-choice values

It is critical that pro-choice Californians, as leaders in neighborhoods, schools, and homes, have the most up-to-date information about the real threats to reproductive freedom so they can effectively advocate for choice. NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation will host activist summits to commemorate *Roe v. Wade* in San Diego and, for the second year, the Napa and Sonoma Valleys. **Empowering Californians to use the political process to protect choice will ensure access to affordable birth control, medically-accurate sex education, and safe, legal abortion.**

Activate California's pro-choice Republicans to influence their party's values

More than 40,000 of NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation's activists are self-identified Republicans. Through community-based trainings and educational materials, we will engage this important, influential voice in California. **By forging a strong, bi-partisan coalition and empowering California's pro-choice Republicans, we can help push the Republican Party back to its original values of personal freedom and privacy while continuing to strengthen California's pro-choice majority in the legislature.**

Empower pro-choice activists statewide, from Eureka to San Diego

Despite our status as the most pro-choice state in the nation, California faces many obstacles. NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation will develop and distribute action toolkits on issues including crisis pregnancy centers that deceive women, hospital mergers limiting or eliminating access to reproductive health care, pharmacies refusing to fill valid prescriptions, and schools using our tax dollars for abstinence-only programs. **Giving activists the tools to take action in their communities will make choice and access to reproductive health care a reality in all of California's communities.**

Energize the next generation of pro-choice legal leaders

With a sizeable percentage of elected officials and legislative staff coming from a legal background, it is critical to actively engage them in efforts to protect and promote reproductive rights. NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation will continue to organize educational and social events for young attorneys in the San Francisco Bay Area highlighting the importance of protecting *Roe v. Wade* and other pro-choice laws. **Engaging emerging legal leaders will ensure the next generation of policymakers and judicial appointees is invested in protecting a woman's right to choose.**



Photo: Valerie H.

When Valerie in Roseville learned that her daughter's high school sex education class was using an abstinence-only textbook riddled with inaccurate and misleading information, she knew she had to do something. Through Valerie's activism and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation's support, the school board is working to ensure that students receive honest, accurate sex education.

“NARAL Pro-Choice California has played an incomparably important role in the growth, success, and sustainability of Law Students for Reproductive Justice. They provided a supportive office environment for our budding organization, which has now grown to have a presence on almost 60 law school campuses across the country where we foster the next generation of legal advocates poised to protect and expand reproductive rights at home and abroad.”

JILL ADAMS, Executive Director, Law Students for Reproductive Justice

When You Can Make a Difference

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE 1969 SOCIETY

“California was a beacon—a haven—of liberty, personal decision making, and good health care. And California I think has a special place in all our hearts, because if the worst were to happen, we would look again to California.”

—SARAH WEDDINGTON

You are pro-choice California—and we are counting on your continued membership in the 1969 Society through an annual gift of \$500 or more.

We need your support to guarantee California’s pro-choice future. Despite the real impact NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation are making across the state, attacks on a woman’s right to choose continue and the fate of *Roe v. Wade* remains uncertain in light of the new composition of the Supreme Court. If the worst were to happen, California must stand ready as the nation’s pro-choice leader.



Photo: Gregory Raphael

Sarah Weddington, the attorney who argued *Roe v. Wade* before the Supreme Court at the age of 27, at the NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation’s Napa and Sonoma Valleys *Roe v. Wade* Anniversary Luncheon and Action Summit.

In a community where abortion providers were forced to leave town, NARAL Pro-Choice California and NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation’s *Roe v. Wade* Anniversary Luncheon and Action Summit educated and empowered local residents to use the political process to protect choice. Anne, a co-chair of the summit, praised the event saying, “We are all now better able to reach into our community with a neutral, beckoning language about choice and the myriad of issues. I heard a number of women say, ‘Wait until next year. It’s going to be packed and I’m bringing all my young friends.’”

Photo: Denis Sutor





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“California sets the standard as the nation’s leading pro-choice state. NARAL Pro-Choice California is the organization that mobilizes voters to act on their pro-choice values and elect leaders—from the school board to the state legislature—who support policies that protect women’s freedom and privacy.”

NANCY KEENAN, President, NARAL Pro-Choice America

www.ProChoiceCA.org

NARAL Pro-Choice California Mission Statement

To develop and sustain a constituency that uses the political process to guarantee every woman the right to make personal decisions regarding the full range of reproductive choices, including preventing unintended pregnancy, bearing healthy children, and choosing legal abortion.

NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation Mission Statement

To support and protect, as a fundamental right and value, a woman’s freedom to make personal decisions regarding the full range of reproductive choices through education, training, organizing, legal action, and public policy.

NARAL Pro-Choice California Staff

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Members of the *1969 Society* may contact **Dana Textoris**, *1969 Society* program officer, at 415.890.1020 with questions or for additional information about NARAL Pro-Choice California’s programs.

Please make your membership donation payable to NARAL Pro-Choice California, a 501(c)(4) organization, or NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions to NARAL Pro-Choice California are not tax-deductible. NARAL Pro-Choice California, a 501(c)(4) organization with MCFL status, does not accept contributions from business corporations, labor unions, foreign nationals, or federal contractors; however, it may accept contributions from federally registered political action committees. Donations may be used for political purposes, such as supporting or opposing candidates. No funds will be earmarked or reserved for any political purpose. The first \$10 of your gift keeps your membership status active for another year. Contributions to the non-political, educational programs of NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation are tax-deductible. NARAL Pro-Choice California Foundation may accept contributions from all sources.



Annual Impact Review for the *1969* Society

You Are Pro-Choice California

