

# CHOICES

Feminist Majority Foundation Campus Program E-Zine

September 12, 2006

www.feministcampus.org

Feminism is the radical notion that women are human beings" -

Cheris Kramer, author of *A Feminist Dictionary*, 1996.

## Message from the Campus Team: Students, CO's Kick Off Campaign to Defeat Abortion Ban

FMF Campus Organizers and South Dakota student leaders kicked-off a statewide student-led voter registration and mobilization campaign to register record numbers of young women and help defeat South Dakota's extreme abortion ban on the ballot November 7. Passed by the South Dakota state legislature and signed into law by SD Governor Mike Rounds, the ban is the most severe in the entire country. Subsequently, pro-choice South Dakota voters circulated petitions and placed the law on the ballot.

Named Referred Law 6, the harsh law bans safe legal abortions even for rape and incest victims. In addition, women diagnosed with potentially life-threatening illnesses would be prohibited from exercising their right to have a safe, legal abortion. Doctors in South Dakota would be subject to felony prosecution and five year sentences for providing safe abortions for women. In fact, doctors would be subject to criminal prosecution for even *recommending* a woman have an abortion to protect her health.

Student activists in the FMF's South Dakota State University affiliate, the Women's Coalition, along with student leaders from Augustana College, the University of South Dakota, Northern State University, and Black Hills State University are committed to defeating this ban. If you would like to Get Out HER vote on your campus to help support affirmative action, civil rights, and reproductive rights join other Campus Choices groups from around the country and sign up at [www.feministcampus.org/vote](http://www.feministcampus.org/vote).

## Federal Court Denies Injunction for Oklahoma Parental Notification Law

A three-judge panel of the 10th US Circuit Court of Appeals denied an injunction against an Oklahoma law requiring doctors to notify in writing a parent or guardian of a woman under the age of 18 seeking an abortion at least 48 hours before the procedure is performed. The Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR) filed suit on behalf of a Tulsa clinic to block enforcement of the 2005 law because it did not adequately protect teens from physically or emotionally abusive homes seeking an abortion who cannot involve their parents in the decision.

LEARN MORE [about this story in the current issue of Ms. magazine](#), "[Jane Doe's Choice](#)."



What DOES a feminist look like?  
Send us your photos in a feminist tee and  
you can be in the next issue of **CHOICES!**

FEM-worthy sites  
[www.feministcampus.org](http://www.feministcampus.org)  
[www.feminist.org](http://www.feminist.org)  
[www.msmagazine.com](http://www.msmagazine.com)  
[www.Feministing.com](http://www.Feministing.com)  
[www.bitchmagazine.com](http://www.bitchmagazine.com)  
[www.Womensmediacenter.com](http://www.Womensmediacenter.com)

## Chile: Birth Control Free for Women Over 14

The Chilean government recently decided that contraception will be publicly available for all women over the age of 14. According to Inter Press Service (IPS), all public health centers must dispense birth control, including EC, free of charge. The decree also ensures that younger women can, without authorization from their parents, obtain a prescription for birth control pills.

The Catholic Church and conservative politicians are already criticizing the decision that aims to give women of all ages and incomes control over their sexual and reproductive lives. Chilean President Michelle Bachelet, a pediatrician, responded, saying to the Santiago Times, "The obligation of the state is to provide alternatives, and the obligation of families, of each one of us, is to communicate with our children, explain things to them, and to teach them." Government Spokesperson Ricardo Weber expanded on the real need for Chile to provide these services, telling IPS that 14 of every 100 young people are sexually active by the age of 14.

The decision was made by the Chilean Health Ministry after the Chilean Center for the Development of Women asked for greater accessibility to EC. To get other feminist news stories like this one, sign up at [www.feminist.org](http://www.feminist.org).



## Activists in the Field: Arizona Affiliates and FMF Team Tackle Student Vote Obstacles

A group of Arizona State University Students and FMF Campus Organizers Sandi Lyman and Olivia Ortiz attended a hearing in federal court on August 30th in Phoenix challenging the enforcement of a new state law, Proposition 200. The law is disenfranchising thousands of students, especially out-of-state students, and Latinos in Arizona by requiring an Arizona driver's license or other specific proof of citizenship (an original birth certificate or a current passport) before permitting them to register to vote, even though students have a constitutional right to register and vote where they attend school. On September 11<sup>th</sup>, a federal judge declined to issue a temporary injunction that would block the law. This decision is immediately being appealed. FMF activists and faculty supporters at Northern Arizona University, Prescott College, ASU, the University of Arizona and Mesa Community College are still working to educate and turn out record numbers of students to register and vote as part of the FMF's Get Out HER Vote Campaign.

## In the Know...

### bell hooks: the Power of Feminism

Free and open to the public!  
bell hooks is one of America's most indispensable and independent thinkers and one of the foremost Black intellectuals in America today. Described as a "Black woman intellectual, revolutionary activist," hooks has focused attention on the myriad forms of racism, from subtle to blatant, in the United States. **October 2, 2006, 7:00 PM Fountain Street Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan.**

More info at <http://wmwsc.org/>.

### Did You Know...

In Pakistan women who report being raped are often imprisoned and then sentenced to death for adultery or extramarital sex. An estimated 80% of women in Pakistani jails are there on adultery convictions.

## Meet the Interns!

Interns are valuable assets to the Feminist Majority Foundation and Ms. Magazine. Each semester young women from around the country join us in our Arlington, VA and Los Angeles, CA offices to work on the Campus Leadership Program, Voter Registration Drives, Violence Against Women, Global Reproductive Rights, and Ms. Magazine. Interns contribute news stories, help plan fundraisers, and research public policy for our 7 websites. This fall we are happy to welcome 10 new interns.

Natalia Abrams- Junior, UCLA  
Mikaela Chandler- Senior, USC- LA  
Rachel Fugate- Senior, University of Iowa  
Sarah Lambeth- Senior, USC-LA  
Allie McDonald- Senior, UCLA  
Stephanie Ng- Sophomore, George Washington University  
Jessica Orozco- Senior, UCLA  
Lauren Schniderman- Junior, Goucher College  
Jennifer Wang- Junior, UCLA

To find out how you can become an intern at the Feminist Majority Foundation or Ms. Magazine, visit [www.feminist.org/intern](http://www.feminist.org/intern)



Some of the FMF and Ms. Interns!

Save the Date  
**March 24-25, 2007 for FMF's  
National Young  
Women's Leadership Conference  
on Reproductive Rights in  
Washington, DC.**

Let your voices be heard! Send updates on your group's activism to [CHOICES@feminist.org](mailto:CHOICES@feminist.org)

## Create Change on Your Campus

Through the **CHOICES** Campus Leadership Program FMLAs and affiliates can choose from the following national campaigns for Fall 2006:

**Get Out HER Vote**- With our nation at war, the right to abortion and birth control in jeopardy, global warming increasing, and attacks on affirmative action, it is time for young feminists across the country to register and vote during the 2006 mid term elections! Check out our website [www.feministcampus.org/vote](http://www.feministcampus.org/vote) to download our GOHV kit and to get voter registration information.

**October 15-21, 2006 Young Women's Week of Action for U.S. and Global Reproductive Rights:**

Host a campus forum on the links between decreased family planning funding, the global gag rule, and the exploitation of poor women and children in sweatshops both domestically and globally. Invite speakers from feminist and international groups, such as the UNFPA, United Students Against Sweatshops, and the Feminist Majority Foundation.

**November 6-10, 2006 EC Week of Action:** The Food and Drug Administration has recently approved the sale of Emergency Contraception (EC) without prescription for women 18 and older, however many women still do not know about EC. FMLAs and affiliates from across the country will use this week to educate their campus, especially new students on EC and how they can get it through the student health center and local pharmacies.

To find out more about these campus campaigns and more check out [www.feministcampus.org](http://www.feministcampus.org) or contact your Campus Organizer at [campusteam@feminist.org](mailto:campusteam@feminist.org)

*Not a member of an FMLA or affiliate, become one today. Contact us at [campusteam@feminist.org](mailto:campusteam@feminist.org)*

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