

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR GROUPS AND ORGANIZATIONS

If incorrect or missing, please change or complete any of the following information:

Official name of group or organization: _____

Organizational level: National _____ State _____ Local _____

Name of person filling out questionnaire: _____

(Your name will not appear in any publication or analysis of this questionnaire, but will help us know whom to contact if we have any questions.)

Your title or function in the group: _____

Your telephone number: _____

Your Fax number: _____

INSTRUCTIONS:

This survey is part of a larger study of groups and organizations that have participated in some way in shaping public discussion of problem pregnancies and abortion. For all of the questions, **we ask that you answer from the perspective of the organization**, rather than from your own individual perspective.

Most questions ask you to circle a number, check a box, or fill in a short response in the space available. When we request short explanations and the space provided is inadequate for your response, we welcome continuations. You may put any longer comments about your organization or this survey on the blank page at the end or on a separate sheet of paper.

The questionnaire should take approximately thirty minutes to complete.

Please return the questionnaire in the envelope provided and send completed questionnaires to:

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP AND COOPERATION.

1a . Organizations may have a variety of goals or a single clearly defined purpose. With respect to the abortion issue, how would you describe your organization's goals TODAY? (Check one)

- Taking a stance on abortion is our primary purpose for existing.
- Taking a stance on abortion is one of a number of important goals for us.
- Taking a stance on abortion is a minor part of our overall mission.

b. How about FIVE YEARS AGO? How would you describe your organization's goals at that point? (Check one)

- We did not exist five years ago.
- Taking a stance on abortion was our primary purpose for existing.
- Taking a stance on abortion was one of a number of important goals for us.
- Taking a stance on abortion was a minor part of our overall mission.

c. How about TWENTY YEARS AGO? How would you describe your organization's goals at that point? (Check one)

- We did not exist twenty years ago.
- Taking a stance on abortion was our primary purpose for existing.
- Taking a stance on abortion was one of a number of important goals for us.
- Taking a stance on abortion was a minor part of our overall mission.

2. Does your organization have programs or activities to achieve other goals related to the abortion issue that are not listed in the previous question? (Check one)

No Yes (Please specify) _____

3. Please read the list of statements below and circle the number that indicates to what extent the statement describes the actual activities of your organization.

| | <u>TRUE</u> | <u>FALSE</u> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| a. We seek to bring about change through electoral politics. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| b. We seek to bring about change through lobbying and petitioning public officials. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| c. We seek to bring about change by mobilizing the public through demonstrations, rallies, tabling, etc. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| d. We seek to bring about change through non-violent direct action, including disruptive action. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| e. We try to use court cases to set precedents on the abortion issue. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| f. We believe in trying to achieve our goals by whatever means are necessary. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| g. We believe in changing individual attitudes and behavior more than directly influencing public policy. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| h. We try to influence legal regulations on abortion more than changing individual attitudes and behavior. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| i. We prefer to communicate our views on abortion in moral rather than political terms. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| j. We prefer to take a strong symbolic stand on what we think is right rather than to compromise our ideals for small advantages. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| k. We seek to educate influential elites as the way to change public policy. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| l. We prefer to address the general public rather than intellectuals, politicians, and professionals. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| m. We focus especially on influencing women rather than men. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| n. We seek to have women play a more dominant role in deciding abortion issues. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |

4. A number of different goals and objectives on the abortion issue are listed below. Please CIRCLE the appropriate number to indicate which alternative best describes your organization's actual activities IN THE PAST TWO YEARS.

- 1 = Actively support** this goal with specific programs and activities.
- 2 = Support** this as a goal by joining with others but do not have specific programs and activities to achieve it.
- 3 = Neutral** toward this goal. It is not a relevant goal but you do not oppose it.
- 4 = Oppose** this as a goal by joining with others but do not have specific programs and activities to prevent it.
- 5 = Actively oppose** this with specific programs and activities.

| | Actively Support | Support | Neutral | Oppose | Actively Oppose |
|---|------------------|---------|---------|--------|-----------------|
| a. To educate the general public about the abortion issue or what you think should be done about it. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b. To influence the way the abortion issue is discussed in the national media. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c. To influence the way the abortion issue is discussed in the local and regional media. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| d. To address special groups (for example, doctors, religious groups, women) through media directed specifically to them. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| e. To influence court decisions regarding the abortion issue. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| f. To elect candidates for political office who favor your views on abortion or to defeat those who oppose your views. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| g. To provide an open forum for frank discussion on abortion issues. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| h. To conduct research on any aspect of the abortion issue. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| i. To provide counseling and other services for pregnant women that will encourage them to have their child. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| j. To provide counseling for pregnant women that makes them aware of their options, including abortion, but does not encourage any particular action or decision. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| k. To educate women of child-bearing age about reproductive health issues and about reproductive rights. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

(Question 4 continued)

Please CIRCLE the appropriate number of indicate which alternative best describes your organization’s actual activities IN THE PAST TWO YEARS

| | Actively Support | Support | Neutral | Oppose | Actively Oppose |
|--|------------------|---------|---------|--------|-----------------|
| l. To pass legislation that would decrease or remove restrictions on abortion or would guarantee legal access to abortion. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| m. To provide greater access to safe and legal abortions for women in areas where abortions are difficult to obtain. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| n. To prevent doctors, clinics, and hospitals from performing abortions. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| o. To keep existing abortion clinics open and able to provide abortions to women who seek them. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| p. To provide greater access to abortion for women who can not afford the financial cost. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| q. To prevent women who are seeking abortions from gaining access to clients or hospitals where abortions are performed. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| r. To help women who are seeking abortions to gain access to clinics or hospitals where abortions are performed. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| s. To provide abortions directly. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| t. To provide contraceptive services directly. ----- | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

5. Among the goals that your organization is actively seeking, which of those listed in QUESTION 4 have the highest priority? (choose up to three).

Letter of goal (a to t above)

_____ most important

_____ second most important

_____ third most important

_____ no single goal has priority

6a. One can attempt to influence public opinion and policy on abortion in different ways. For each of the activities below, please indicate how many times (0 to 10) your group has engaged in them during the PAST TWO YEARS, if at all. If 10 or more times, please enter the number 10. Write the number from 1 to 10 in the space below.

- _____ a. Distributed literature (brochures, leaflets, mailings).
- _____ b. Presented lectures, films, or slide shows.
- _____ c. Held conferences, seminars, workshops, or educational meetings.
- _____ d. Sponsored or co-sponsored a rally or demonstration.
- _____ e. Engaged in disruptive actions (for example, blocking access to clinics where abortions are performed or disrupting senate meetings).
- _____ f. Canvassed door to door, talking to residents.
- _____ g. Placed advertisements in the mass media.
- _____ h. Held press conferences.
- _____ i. Issued press releases.
- _____ j. Prepared letters or opinion pieces for newspapers or magazines.
- _____ k. Participated in debates on radio or television.
- _____ l. Initiated and cultivated contacts and relationships with journalists.
- _____ m. Held or participated in vigils or prayers services.
- _____ n. Visited legislators or other public officials to present views.
- _____ o. Participated in planning or strategy meetings with legislators or other public officials.
- _____ p. Participated in letter writing or signature gathering campaigns.
- _____ q. Initiated or participated in court cases.
- _____ r. Initiated or participated in boycotts.
- _____ s. Provided counseling or other services to pregnant women.
- _____ t. Collected money to pay for abortions.
- _____ u. Provided training sessions for organizers and activists.
- _____ v. Conducted research studies.
- _____ w. Participated in party caucuses or primaries.
- _____ x. Gave money to a political party or candidate.
- _____ y. Endorsed candidates for public office.
- _____ z. Other (please specify) _____

b. From the list of activities in question 6a. please pick the three that your organization values the most and put the letter (a to z) of the activity in the rank order below:

Letter of activity (a to z above)

_____ Most important.

_____ Second most important

_____ Third most important.

7. Organizations differ in how central the mass media is in their strategy. Please read the list of statements below and CIRCLE the number that indicates how true each statement has been for your organization in the PAST TWO YEARS.

| | <u>TRUE</u> | <u>FALSE</u> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| a. We do not try to use the media to get our message across. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| b. Influencing national media coverage of the abortion issue is central to our strategy. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| c. Influencing local and regional media coverage of the abortion issue is central to our strategy. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| d. Influencing media directed at a specialized audience (for example, a particular religious or professional group) is central to our strategy. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| e. The national media is strongly biased against our cause. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| f. Local media have been more sympathetic to us than national media. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| g. National media have been more sympathetic to us than local media. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| h. Overall, the media play a large role in shaping how most people think about any issue. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| i. The national media is more sympathetic to our opposition than to us. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| j. Regardless of the issue, the media cannot be trusted to represent fairly what people are saying about it. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| k. Most media in this country are controlled by people who promote a specific point of view. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |

8. The following statements refer to how much contact there is between people in your organization and journalists. Please read the list of statements below and CIRCLE the number that indicates how true each statement has been for your organization in the PAST TWO YEARS.

| | <u>TRUE</u> | <u>FALSE</u> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| a. Journalists often call us for comments on matters relating to the abortion issue. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| b. The mass media have very little interest in us or in anything we do. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| c. We have regular contacts with some journalists and know whom to call if we are doing something newsworthy on the abortion issue. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| d. We prepare press releases when we are doing something newsworthy on the abortion issue. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| e. We hold news conferences when we are doing something newsworthy on the abortion issue. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| f. If we are carrying out some activity of interest to the general public, we prepare a press kit for distribution to journalists. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| g. We have people on our staff who have experience working as journalists and understand how the media operate. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |

9a. Does your organization belong to any networks, coalitions, or umbrella groups that coordinate activity on the abortion issue? (Check one)

None Yes, we belong to (*specify*): _____

b. Apart from these umbrella organizations, are there any other groups with which your organization has cooperated in the last two years on a specific program or campaign on the abortion issue? (Check one)

None Yes, we have cooperated with (*specify*): _____

c. Has your organization provided help or advice to other groups on the issue of abortion in the past two years – for example, by providing money, facilities, or training? (Check one)

None Yes, we have provided support to the following (*specify*): _____

d. In the past two years, has your organization had any contact with groups that OPPOSE your position on abortion that you would characterize as cooperative, constructive, or consensus seeking? (Check one).

None Yes, we have had such contact with (*specify*): _____

e. Are there any individuals or groups that are particularly well suited to mediate between opposing parties on the abortion issue? (Check one)

No Yes (*specify*): _____

f. (If yes on “e”) Has your group had contact with any of these individuals or groups in the past two years? (Check one)

No Yes (*specify*): _____

g. Which groups or organizations do you consider to be the MOST INFLUENTIAL in the public debate on abortion, regardless of your relationship or agreement with them. (Please list in order of importance and be as specific as possible.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

10. Please read the statements below and CIRCLE the number that indicates how true each statement is for your organization.

| | <u>TRUE</u> | <u>FALSE</u> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------|
| a. Our views on abortion reflect a broader religious commitment that we share. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| b. Our views reflect a shared political perspective that applies to many other social issues. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| c. Our members agree on little other than their views on abortion. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| d. What unites our members is a common interest in women’s issues. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| e. Our members share a common belief that pluralism and diversity are more important than consensus. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| f. Our members share the general view that government should be actively involved in influencing social conditions. | 1--- 2 --- 3 --- 4 --- 5 | |
| g. Our views on abortion reflect a broader belief system which can be described as: | | |

11a. In the debate on abortion, different groups may not even agree on what the debate is about. What does your group believe to be the basic issues at stake in the abortion debate? Please name NO MORE THAN THREE basic issues that in the view of your group are most at stake in the public debate. If possible, list them in order of importance beginning with the most important.

b. Looking at the coverage of abortion in the media, what is the most common way in which they define the basic issue at stake in the abortion debate?

12a. Within your organization, is there at this time significant disagreement about the amount of organizational time and energy spent on the abortion issue in comparison to other or wider issues these days? (Check one)

- No significant disagreement.
 - Yes, some want to focus **more** time and energy on abortion
 - Yes, some want to focus **less** time and energy on abortion.
 - Yes, some want more, some want less. (Please explain) _____
-

b. Within your organization, is there at present significant disagreement about the overall way that the group thinks about the abortion issue? (Check one)

- No significant disagreement
- Yes, some want a more pragmatic strategy
- Yes, some want more insistence on basic principles and a clearer stand
- Yes, mixed

c. Within your organization, is there at present significant disagreement about the overall way that the group thinks about the abortion issue? (Check one)

- No significant disagreement
- Yes, and they are encouraged to express their opinions within the group
- Yes, but they are encouraged to keep their views private to avoid division
- Yes, but they are neither encouraged nor discouraged from expressing their opinions

d. Within your organization, is there at present any significant disagreement about specific elements of the way that the group thinks about the abortion issue? (Check one)

- No significant disagreement
 - Yes, a number of specific elements are controversial within the group
 - Yes, just one or two particular elements are controversial (Please specify): _____
-

e. Has your organization changed in the ways that it presents its views on abortion to the general public? (Check one)

- No
 - Yes, we have become more pragmatic, emphasizing more popular elements of our overall program
 - Yes, we have become more principled, insisting on more fundamental elements of our overall program
 - Yes, we have changed, but in some other way (Please specify): _____
-

(Question 12 continued)

f. Has your organization changed in the way it thinks about the abortion issue overall? (Check one)

- No
- Yes, we relate abortion to a broader range of issues than we did before
- Yes, we focus more specifically on abortion and relate it to a narrower range
- Yes, we relate abortion to **different** issues than we did before

(If you checked yes to the above, please specify) _____

13a. At different times and places, the opportunity to make an impact on public policy varies. How much opportunity has your group had to influence a public policy about abortion at the federal level today? Five Years ago? Twenty years ago? (Please put an 'x' in each column)

| Federal Level | TODAY | 5 YEARS AGO | 20 YEARS AGO |
|----------------------------|-------|-------------|--------------|
| Very High | | | |
| High | | | |
| Moderate | | | |
| Low | | | |
| Very Low | | | |
| Non-existent | | | |
| Does not apply/ Don't know | | | |

b. How much opportunity has your group had to influence a public policy about abortion at the state and local level today? Five years ago? Twenty years ago? (Please put an 'x' in each column)

| STATE/LOCAL LEVEL | Today | 5 YEARS AGO | 20 YEARS AGO |
|----------------------------|-------|-------------|--------------|
| Very High | | | |
| High | | | |
| Moderate | | | |
| Low | | | |
| Very Low | | | |
| Non-existent | | | |
| Does not apply/ Don't know | | | |

c. What do you think accounts for any changes in your group's impact on public policy over the years?

14. In what year was your group founded? 19 _____

15. Several different types of organizations are listed below. Please check the ONE that best describes your group or organization.

- a. A human service organization
- b. A social movement organization.
- c. A research or academic organization.
- d. A labor union.
- e. A religious organization.
- f. A political party.
- g. A professional organization or association.
- h. A government agency.
- i. Other (Please describe) _____

16a. Some organizations are national while others are local; some are independent while others are chapters or affiliates of a larger organization. Please check the descriptions below that best fit your group.

- A local group (go to 16b) A statewide or national group (go to 16c)

b. (If local)

- Primarily a group of friends living or working together
- A network of people organized around a conference or publication
- An independent group working at a local level
- A local affiliate of a statewide or national group
- Other local group (*Specify*) _____

d. (if statewide or national)

- A regional affiliate of a national group
- An independent statewide group
- A statewide or national coordinating committee for other groups
- A national federation or coalition of state and local groups
- An independent national group without local affiliates
- An independent national group with local affiliates
- A committee, caucus, or task-force within a larger organization
- Other (*Specify*) _____

16. How does your group define membership? (Check one)

- a. Those individuals who pay dues
- b. Individuals who participate regularly in our activities
- c. Both a. and b.
- d. Groups and organizations that are affiliated with us
- e. Other (*Specify*) _____

18a. Following this definition, approximately how many members does your group currently have?

Number of members today _____
Don't know number of members today _____

b. Approximately how many members did your group have in 1990?

_____ Number of members in 1990
_____ Organization did not exist in 1990
_____ Don't know the number of members in 1990

c. To the best of your knowledge, about what percent of your members fall into the following categories? We don't expect precise or accurate knowledge, just your best guess. (Please note that since some categories may overlap, these categories need not have to add up to 100%).

% of

_____ Women
_____ Students
_____ People of color
_____ Blue collar workers
_____ Professionals and managers
_____ Retired people
_____ People with a before tax family income under \$25,000 per year
_____ People with a before tax family income over \$100,000 per year
_____ Group does not have individual members

20. What was the approximate annual budget of your group this past year?

\$ _____

21. Some organizations employ paid staff members while others rely solely on volunteers. How many paid staff members are currently work in your group?

_____ We have no paid staff _____ Yes, we DO have paid staff [see below]:
_____ Number of full time paid staff
_____ Number of part time paid staff

22. Do you have volunteers who work regularly for your group of who do so for special events or occasions?

_____ No _____ Yes (if yes) _____ Number of regular volunteers
_____ Number of volunteers for special events or occasions
_____ Don't know

23. Does your group have particular committees or sub-groups that have specific functions? (Check one)

- No
- Yes, one to three
- Yes, more than three

23. If your group has any particular individuals, committees, or sub-groups that deal with any of the following areas, please list them in the space provided. (List all that apply)

- a. Media or public relations _____
- b. Abortion (overall) or special aspects of it (legal, medical, etc.) _____
- c. Special functions relating to abortion work (lobbying, litigation, etc.) _____
- d. Others _____

Request for Documents

Earlier we request written material reflecting your organization's present and past views on the abortion issue. If you or someone else in your group has not already provided it, will you please enclose the following material with the completed questionnaire in the envelope provided?

1. A current document – that is, a pamphlet or other brief written statement – that best reflects your organization's views or thinking about abortion. (Check one)

- Already provided
- Enclosed with this questionnaire
- No such document is available

2. A document – prepared in the mid to late 1980s – that best reflects your organization's views on abortion at that time. (Check one)

- Already provided
- Enclosed with this questionnaire
- No such document is available
- Inapplicable. We are not operating in the mid to late 1980s or were not concerned with the abortion issue at that time.

3. A document – prepared in the mid to late 1970s – that best reflects your organization's views on abortion at that time. (Check one)

- Already provided
- Enclosed with this questionnaire
- No such document is available
- Inapplicable. We are not operating in the mid to late 1970s or were not concerned with the abortion issue at that time.

On the reverse side, or a separate sheet of paper, please add any comments that you believe will help us to understand your group or organization that have not been covered in this questionnaire.

YOUR COMMENTS

**WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME
AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION**