

# Reproductive Rights

## & the reformation needed

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### How is this relevant, and what SDG is it under?

Gender inequality is pervasive in society; through the pink tax and wage gap, women are treated unequally economically. However, discrimination extends past that: with the controversy surrounding abortion and reproduction, pertinent healthcare procedures have unethical limitations, and false information and advertisement mislead women across the country. Reproductive rights violations are an incredibly widespread symptom of gender inequality.

### How can individuals have an impact?

Though it is incredibly hard to affect policy as minors, education is effective in creating a generation that will improve on reproductive rights.

We are arranging to host a representative from a clinic and a health teacher here at IMSA for a sex ed GA open to all students. Health courses as knowledge on reproduction set up viewpoints on pertinent issues, and we want to give students *all* of the important information for them to make choices in the future, rather than just the information we believe is best.

Additionally, we will write an article covering information from the GA to be published in the Acronym for students who couldn't attend.

By educating young adults on their health, we can help to counterbalance the harmful effects of our nation's stance and inaction on reproductive rights. This will help prepare them for the future, on a small scale.

### How can policy help?

We created a five pronged policy centered around abortion rights, covering information, access, and more.

1. Lowering parental notification and consent age
  - a. Make PNA the age of consent in each state, currently different (11 req notification, 28 req consent)
2. Banning false and unfounded information in clinics
  - a. All information in counseling must be medically backed
  - b. 36 states require counseling; 12+ false information
3. Banning Crisis Pregnancy Centers
  - a. Currently legal (*NIFLA v Becerra*)
4. Full protection of first term abortions
  - a. Prevents heartbeat bills (Tennessee) by guaranteeing 12 actionable weeks
5. Mandatory rape education/counseling for minors
  - a. Counseling to help those pregnant from rape to counteract mental and physical effects

### Why is it important?

With its pervasive presence in policy, systemic sexism can affect females every day. Though all aspects are harmful, health impacts can literally be life or death. Using policy and education to reconstruct the treatment of female reproductive issues chips away at the core of systemic sexism in health. Protecting the right to choose, and be educated and safe in making that choice, will affect females inside and outside of health.

### Stats:

50% of the nearly 200,000 annual teen births prevent graduation  
~700 females die from childbirth each year  
Almost 50% of pregnancies are unintended