



The Center for Reproductive Law and Policy

1992 - 2002: Tenth Anniversary Report



This Tenth Anniversary Report draws on particular themes and highlights specific strategies that CRLP has pursued in advancing our mission. All of this work, however, is held together by a single overarching goal: to secure the highest legal protections possible for reproductive rights as the basis for ensuring women's equality and full participation in society.

MISSION AND VALUES

The Center for Reproductive Law and Policy (CRLP) is a non-profit legal advocacy organization dedicated to promoting and defending women's reproductive rights worldwide. Reproductive rights, the foundation for women's self-determination over their bodies and sexual lives, are critical to women's equality. We believe laws and policies that protect and advance these rights are essential. They must allow women the freedom to decide whether and when to have children. They must respect women's ability to exercise their reproductive choices without coercion. They must also secure women's access to basic health services, including contraception, abortion, education, and safe pregnancy care. Ultimately, reproductive rights are imperative to ensuring justice for all members of society—women, children and their families.

CRLP Works:

- **Promoting reproductive rights for every individual**
- **Securing universal, safe and affordable contraception**
- **Guaranteeing safe, accessible and legal abortion**
- **Defending the rights of pregnant women, including the right to safe and healthy pregnancies**
- **Ensuring reproductive health care services are provided free of discrimination, coercion and violence**
- **Advancing the reproductive rights of adolescents**
- **Achieving equal access to reproductive health care for women facing social and economic barriers**
- **Protecting health-care providers from violence and coercion**
- **Eliminating traditional practices that harm women**
- **Defending the right to privacy and confidential doctor/patient relationships**



This Tenth Anniversary Report, and the work outlined in it, is dedicated to Janet Benshoof, visionary, founder and president of CRLP from 1992 to 2002.

Betsy Karel, Chair

A LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

In 1996, I joined CRLP's Board of Directors in large part because of how impressed I was by its dynamic leader, Janet Benshoof. In a period of four short years, Janet had built a strong organization with a dedicated staff of legal experts who were making a real difference in the lives of women from North Dakota to Bosnia.

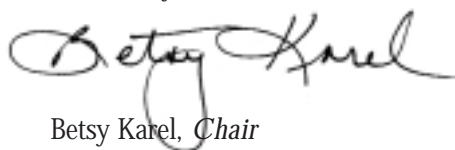
This year, after devoting more than 25 years to women's reproductive rights—including a decade as CRLP's President—Janet resigned from CRLP to devote herself to global women's and human rights issues without the distractions of administering an organization of our size and demands.

Janet is a passionate advocate for women's health and equality, and she has transformed the field of legal advocacy with her brilliance and creativity, her relentless pursuit of justice and her steadfast sense of humor. Accepting her departure has been the most challenging—and saddest—task I have had as Chair of the Board. But in the months since her departure, I have come to realize yet again that her indomitable spirit infuses this institution. She built a staff of unparalleled depth, talent and strength. Each week brings new successes—from Pennsylvania to Nepal—as well as new challenges. Yet, CRLP continues to advocate creatively and aggressively in the courts and legislatures and in venues around the world in its pursuit of women's rights.

Each of our victories is a measure of the esteem in which we hold Janet's principles, her passion and her achievements. Upon her departure, the Board unanimously designated Janet as President Emerita. However, we believe the best way to honor this remarkable woman is to continue pursuing the dream of universal human rights for women that prompted her founding of CRLP. In the years ahead, we will continue the work she began—and will build an even stronger and more enduring institution as our tribute to her.

This Tenth Anniversary Report, and the work outlined in it, is dedicated to Janet Benshoof, visionary, founder and president of CRLP from 1992 to 2002.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Karel". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Betsy Karel, *Chair*
Board of Directors



FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

In the decade since I helped Janet Benshoof found the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, I have seen a number of changes in the courts, in the legislatures and at this organization. But one thing has remained absolute and steadfast: our commitment to advancing women's reproductive rights.

CRLP's effectiveness in pursuing its mission has transformed this organization from a fledgling non-profit into a 67-person strong institution that can justly claim to be a leader in reproductive rights litigation and law reform worldwide. With 25 cases in 14 states, we have the largest caseload of any pro-choice organization in this country, and have implemented legal strategies that have defined the course of reproductive rights law in the past ten years.

On the international front, we have collaborated with more than 30 organizations in 38 countries to research reproductive health laws and policies, and to use international human rights law to advance women's reproductive freedom globally. Our legal expertise has also been the basis for advocacy in legislatures and other policymaking bodies at the state, national and international levels.

From the beginning, CRLP's commitment and effectiveness have been coupled with an ability to evaluate our efforts and adapt. With that in mind last fall, we began a series of conversations with staff, Board, colleagues and donors concerning our strengths, weaknesses and the best use of our resources. At the end of nine months, we emerged with a plan that recommits us to our fundamental mission, emphasizes our strengths and takes us in some new and exciting directions.

Our goals are simple. We seek to:

- Advance and maintain the highest legal protection for reproductive rights.
- Advance and protect access to reproductive health services by women confronting economic and social barriers, particularly ethnic and racial discrimination.
- Advance and protect adolescents' reproductive rights, with an emphasis on increasing their access to reproductive health services.
- Promote and secure pregnant women's rights, including the right to safe pregnancy.

Each of these goals encompasses an array of activities designed to have the greatest impact for the women most in need. Many of these activities build on the work that has made our reputation. Some—such as our renewed emphasis on the right to safe pregnancy and our broader focus on barriers to reproductive rights in the United States—take us deeper into areas we have pursued in the past.

With the rise of extreme, often sectarian, anti-choice groups around the world, CRLP's brand of creative legal advocacy is needed more than ever. The support of our donors and partners has made the last ten years just cause for celebration. With your continued support, CRLP will forge ahead to make reproductive rights—women's human rights—a reality.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. K. Goetz', written in a cursive style.

Ellen K. Goetz, *Acting President*

Before *Roe*, it is estimated that between 200,000 and 1.2 million illegally induced abortions occurred in the United States. Anywhere from five to ten thousand women died each year as a result, and countless others suffered severe physical or psychological injury.



ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS IN THE U.S.: SAVING *ROE V. WADE*

On January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized a woman's right to abortion based on the constitutional guarantee of privacy, and legalized abortion in the United States. The Court's decision in *Roe v. Wade* transformed the reproductive rights landscape, providing another anchor for efforts to achieve women's reproductive freedom. However, the decision soon became the focus of well-financed attacks by the anti-choice movement, setting in motion a legal battle to defend its core constitutional principles. While *Roe* has been the focus of their efforts, it is clear that the opponents of choice have a much broader agenda that includes limiting access to contraception and ending comprehensive sexuality education.

Nearly 30 years later, the battle still wages and the Supreme Court is one vote away from overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

CRLP has worked to save *Roe* and to uphold the highest legal protections for reproductive rights in the U.S. since we opened our doors in June 1992. Our first victory occurred less than a month later, when the Supreme Court reaffirmed *Roe's* central principles in *Planned*

Parenthood v. Casey, a case argued and won by then CRLP Vice President Kathryn Kolbert. But *Casey* also weakened *Roe*'s constitutional protections, granting states more power to restrict women's reproductive freedom.

CRLP has been on the "vanguard of the modern abortion rights movement since its birth."

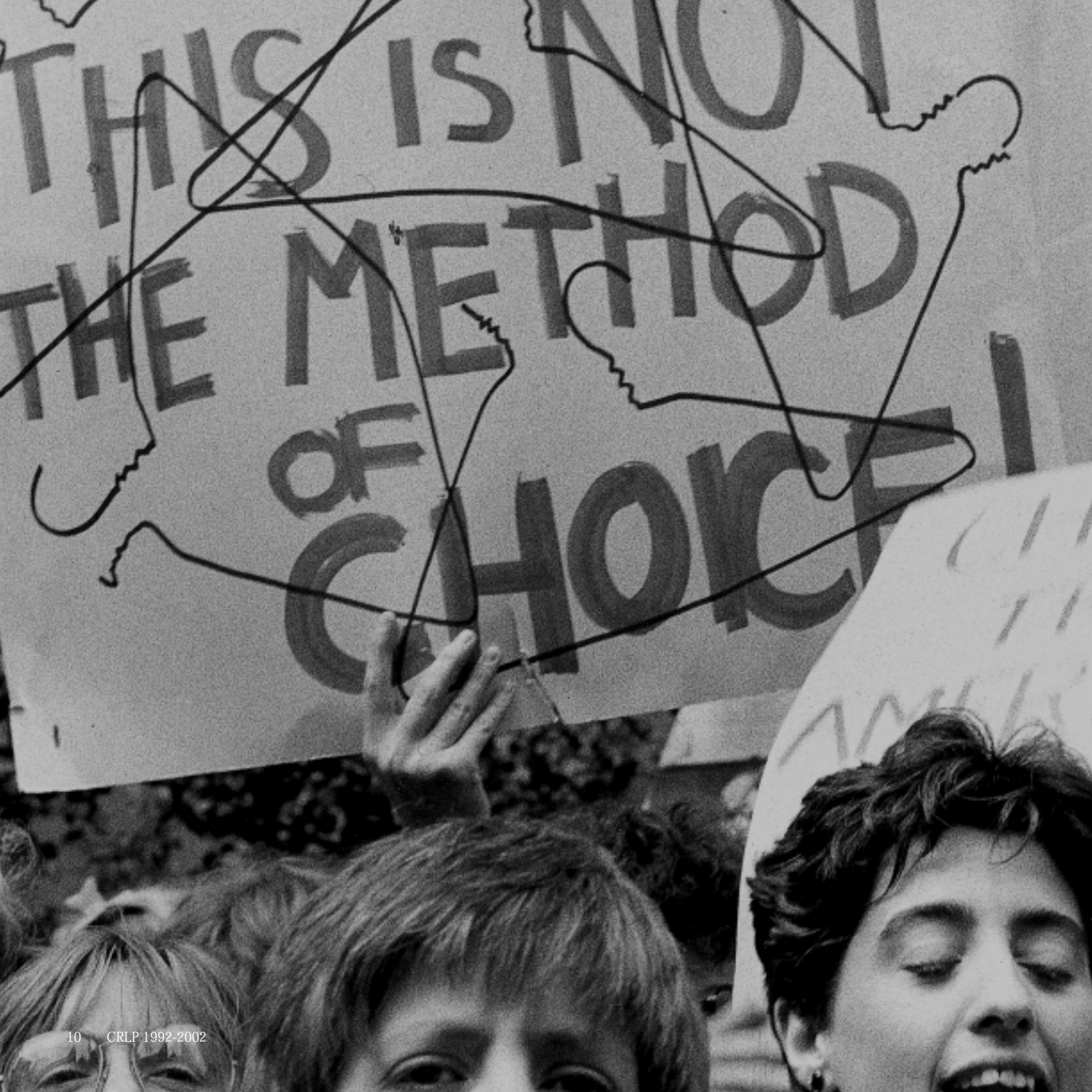
National Law Journal,
December 17, 2001

Medicaid funding restrictions, abortion bans, forced parental involvement laws, biased counseling and mandatory waiting periods, violence against abortion providers, attacks on pregnant women's rights: with the largest and most diverse caseload of any pro-choice group in the country, CRLP has aggressively and effectively countered the anti-choice movement in courts and legislatures around the country. We begin here:

Abortion Bans: Since 1992, CRLP has successfully struck down abortion bans in some ten U.S. states and territories. And that's not counting so-called "partial-birth abortion" (PBA) laws. As for PBA, we took more than a third of the 31 states that passed the bans to court. And with our Supreme Court victory in *Stenberg v. Carhart* in 2000, we rendered PBA bans unenforceable across the country.

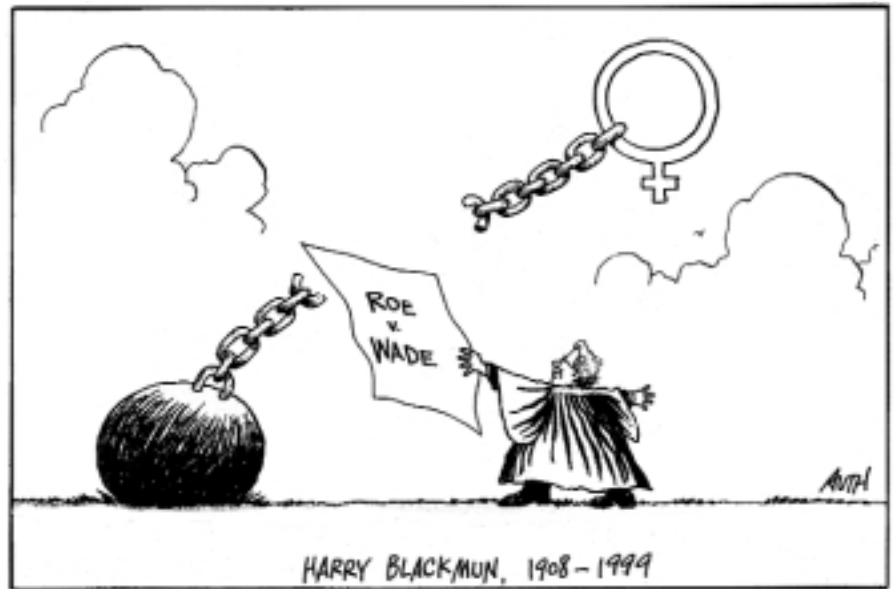
Medicaid Funding Restrictions: Since 1993, with our first victory in West Virginia, CRLP has used state constitutional law to win state Medicaid funding of abortion for poor women. To date, because of lawsuits that CRLP and other groups have brought, fourteen states have been ordered to provide coverage for all medically necessary abortions.

Mandatory Delays and Biased Counseling: In April 1993, CRLP filed the first federal lawsuit challenging a mandatory delay and biased counseling law under *Casey*. Since then, we have brought ten challenges to unconstitutional restrictions on women's access to abortion services in both state and federal courts, including our current cases in Florida, Indiana, Michigan, and Alabama.



With every victory in the battle to protect reproductive freedom comes a new legal challenge. Thirty years after *Roe v. Wade*, here is what is on the horizon:

The “Partial-Birth Abortion” Merry-Go-Round: In July 2002, the House of Representatives passed legislation that is almost identical to the Nebraska law struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court in CRLP’s *Stenberg v. Carhart*. The Department of Justice, in the meantime, has filed an *amicus* brief in the last PBA case on CRLP’s docket, arguing that Ohio’s law is constitutional. In other words, they’re back!



Medical Abortion: Each year, new legislation aimed at restricting medical abortion is introduced in state houses across the country. Having blocked Michigan’s ban on medical abortion, CRLP is ready to challenge similar legislation once it becomes law.

Avoiding the TRAP: Debuting in the late nineties, “Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers” (TRAP) laws segregate abortion providers from the mainstream medical community through a broad range of unnecessary and onerous regulations. CRLP is challenging TRAP laws in four states, and is ready to file suit against new laws once they are passed.



ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS ABROAD: SETTING A HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARD

Establishing reproductive rights as human rights has been the defining principle of CRLP's work to secure the highest legal protections for women's reproductive rights worldwide. We connect reproductive rights to a broad range of human rights treaties and declarations. And we show how these treaties and declarations play out in real life.

WOW—Six Years and Counting: Since 1996, CRLP has worked with partner organizations to produce comprehensive *Women of the World* (WOW) reports on the laws and policies that affect the reproductive lives of women around the globe. Policymakers and activists have used these reports—often the only reliable compilation of information available—to press for change on behalf of women from Albania to Guatemala to Zimbabwe.

Primers for the People: CRLP gives people on the ground the information and analysis they need to advocate for reproductive rights as human rights. In *Promoting Reproductive Rights: A Global Mandate* and other publications, we have interpreted major international agreements and set forth, in simple terms, the promises governments have made, what they've actually done and what they still have to do.

Women Jailed in Chile: In 1998, CRLP and the Open Forum on Reproductive and Sexual Rights exposed the human rights standards being violated by Chile's strict abortion law. Under the law, which bans all abortions—even those necessary to save the life of the woman—women are imprisoned for obtaining or inducing their own abortions.

Rape as a War Crime: In 1993, CRLP published a groundbreaking monograph, *Recognizing Forced Impregnation as a War Crime Under International Law*, laying a foundation for the codification of forced pregnancy and other gender-based violence as crimes against humanity and war crimes in the International Criminal Court treaty.

“Women’s reproductive rights are central to changing the place and conditions of women in society. . . . With the AIDS pandemic rapidly on the increase, remedial measures such as effective legal and social safeguards need to be taken more seriously.”

CRLP Partner Theresa Uchechukwu Akumadu,
Women’s Centre for Peace and Development, Nigeria

CRLP and its partners will continue to advocate for the inclusion of reproductive rights within the broader human rights framework.

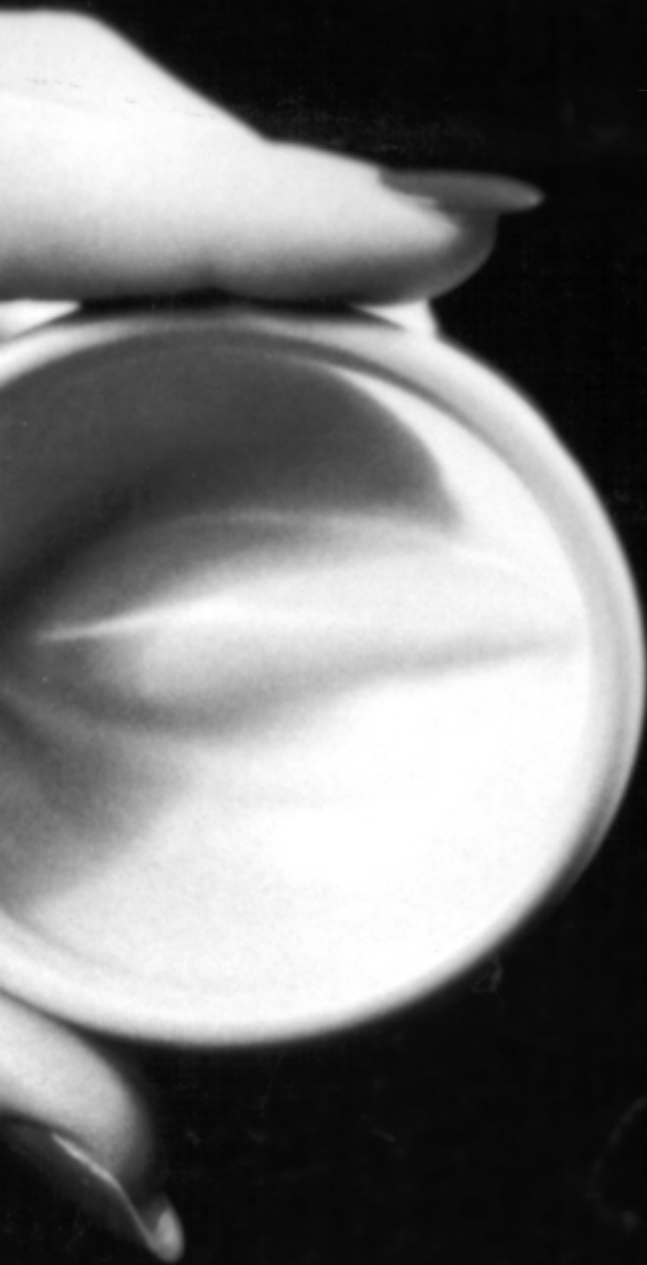
Bringing Rights to Bear: In the Fall of 2002, we will publish an analysis of the work of the UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies on sexual and reproductive rights. This report and companion advocacy kit will guide activists in understanding international agreements and in ensuring that their governments live up to the promises they have made to advance reproductive rights.

Safe Abortion in Nepal: In 2002, CRLP published *Abortion in Nepal* to document the human rights violations arising from that country’s strict criminal sanction of abortion. Nepalese activists used both our research and our accompanying advocacy kit to pressure parliamentarians to overturn the abortion ban. In March 2002, they did. But one in five Nepalese women in prison are there on charges related to this ban. CRLP will continue to work with local groups and politicians to secure the release of these women and to call for full implementation of Nepal’s new law.



The Next Generation of WOW: In the next several years, CRLP and its partners will produce new WOW reports on South Asia, East and Southeast Asia, and the Middle East/North Africa.





ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WORLDWIDE: GUARANTEEING CONTRACEPTIVE CHOICE

Worldwide, one in six women of reproductive age lacks information and access to a full range of contraceptive methods. As a result, more than one-third of all pregnancies—80 million every year—are unwanted or mis-timed. CRLP has spent the past decade developing legal and legislative strategies to guarantee contraceptive choice.

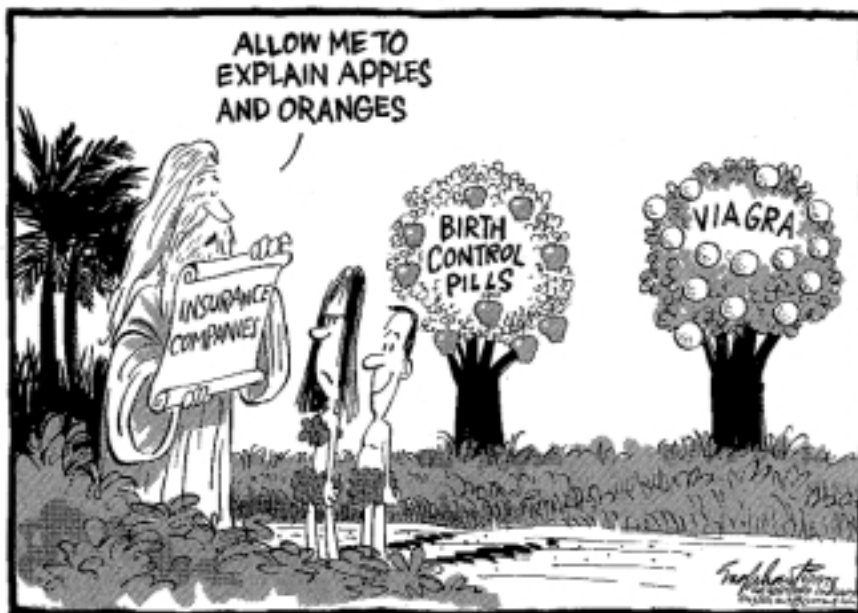
Mainstreaming EC: In 1994, CRLP petitioned the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to require that certain oral contraceptives be relabeled to include their potential use as emergency contraception (EC). Three years later, the FDA did just that, outlining the specific brands, and the proper dosages and procedures.

Family Planning in Guatemala: In 2000, CRLP published *An Unfulfilled Human Right* to document the Guatemalan government's failure to make family planning information and services accessible to women, particularly low-income, indigenous women. Our report put pressure on the government to safeguard the right of all Guatemalan women to family planning.

Global Legal Expertise: Since the early nineties, CRLP has offered expert legal analysis and support to state and federal activists working to monitor and challenge regressive legislation in the U.S. Internationally, CRLP's reports on the legal status of emergency contraception have derailed a key anti-choice strategy by distinguishing EC from abortion and highlighting legal support for increasing access to contraception.

From equal coverage to emergency contraception, CRLP will continue to ensure that reproductive choice begins well before a woman becomes pregnant.

Contraceptive Equity: Through its state and federal programs, CRLP will work with our coalition partners and other reproductive rights activists to host briefings and develop advocacy kits to ensure that the U.S. Congress passes the Equity in Prescription Insurance and Contraceptive Coverage Act. The U.S. Congress and 30 states have still not required insurers to cover contraceptive costs.



EC in Latin America: CRLP and its partners have asked the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to require the Mexican government to provide EC to all rape victims. We are prepared to present our case to the Inter-American Court on Human Rights if settlement efforts fail.

EC Over-the-Counter: CRLP has petitioned the FDA, on behalf of more than 60 medical groups, to make EC available over-the-counter.

EC Clearinghouse: CRLP will expand its role as a “clearinghouse” for emergency contraception, providing legal support, advocacy tools and technical assistance to lawmakers, reproductive health-care providers and reproductive rights activists in the United States and around the world.



ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS ABROAD: USING THE COURTS

When other legal advocacy efforts have faltered, CRLP and its partners have used international, regional and national courts to protect and advance reproductive rights.

The German Constitutional Court: In 1992, Germany's Constitutional Court deliberated over a case that would have banned all abortions. CRLP filed an *amicus* brief arguing against a ban on behalf of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, the Alan Guttmacher Institute, the Population Council, and other international reproductive health groups. Though the Court finally held that all non-therapeutic abortions were unlawful, CRLP's brief built bridges to prominent international organizations and set the stage for our collaborative work with local advocates.

The International Criminal Court: In 1997 and 1998, CRLP and its partners in the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice played a critical role in negotiations over the mandate of the newly formed International Criminal Court. Our work led the Court to label rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced sterilization, and other forms of sexual violence "crimes against humanity" and "war crimes."

A Regional Forum in the Americas: In 1999, CRLP and its partners secured a settlement before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) on behalf of a woman who was raped by a doctor in a Peruvian public health facility. In 2001, we reached a preliminary settlement in a second case before the IACHR on behalf of the family of a Peruvian woman who died as a result of a sterilization

procedure to which she did not fully consent. As part of this settlement, the government of Peru acknowledged that it had violated its international legal obligations.

Bodies on Trial: In 2001, CRLP published *Cuerpo y Derecho (Bodies on Trial)*, a Spanish-language publication that examines the judiciary's application and interpretation of legislation promoting women's rights in five Latin American countries: Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru. The publication provides scholars and activists with a tool for evaluating the limits and potential of litigation strategies, and for identifying reproductive rights violations that can be the focus of impact litigation.

CRLP will continue to explore diverse legal venues in our ongoing commitment to secure reproductive rights guarantees for women worldwide.

The Search for Justice in Mexico: On March 8, 2002, International Women's Day, CRLP brought another case before the Inter-American Commission on behalf of 13-year-old Paulina, who became pregnant after having been raped. Even though abortion in cases of rape is legal in Mexico, anti-choice politicians and activists systematically denied Paulina access to an abortion.

Guide to the Inter-American System: In 2003, CRLP will publish a guide for Latin American attorneys and activists on pursuing cases before the Inter-American System on Human Rights.

International Legal Systems: Using the individual complaint mechanisms of major human rights treaties, CRLP will soon submit its first case to the UN Human Rights Committee, which monitors governmental compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. We are representing a Peruvian teenager who was denied the right to abort a fetus with a fatal abnormality even though therapeutic abortions are legal under Peruvian law.

Regional Legal Systems: Following our successes in Latin America, CRLP is developing protocols for bringing cases of reproductive rights violations before European and African human rights systems.



ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WORLDWIDE: TAKING ON THE RIGHT WING

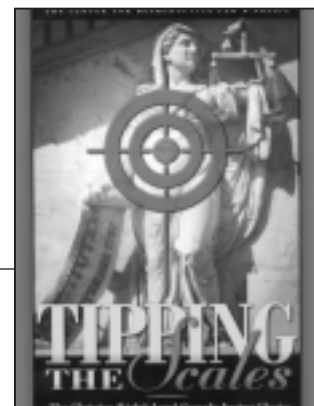
Around the world, right-wing activists have made the denial of women's reproductive freedom a cornerstone of their strategy. In the U.S., the anti-choice movement has used violence, fear tactics and political maneuvering to restrict a woman's right to choose. At UN conferences, the Bush Administration has withheld precious funding and allied itself with reactionary and conservative governments in its zeal to impose its anti-choice agenda on the world's women and girls.

Undoing the Breast Cancer Scare: In March 2002, CRLP struck a fatal blow to the anti-choice movement's latest scare tactic: the campaign to link abortion to breast cancer. In the first case of its kind, a North Dakota judge ruled in favor of CRLP's client, the Red River Women's Clinic, and against anti-choice activists who sued the clinic for distributing information stating that preeminent experts have found no established link between abortion and breast cancer.

Working in Coalition: CRLP is a member of the steering committee for the "Joint Emergency Campaign." The Campaign seeks to raise the profile of reproductive rights issues, identify strategic battlegrounds to build the power of the pro-choice movement and ensure that no new anti-choice Justice is appointed to the Supreme Court.

Reclaiming the Debate: As a result of our media work during *Stenberg v. Carhart*, major newspapers and editorial boards stopped talking about "late-term" abortions and began to recognize so-called "partial-birth abortion" bans for what they are: deceptive schemes to outlaw all abortions. In *Ferguson v. City of Charleston*, we challenged the early depictions of a case about "crack-using mothers" to refocus media attention on reality: a case about the violation of pregnant women's rights to confidential medical care.

In 1998, CRLP produced *Tipping the Scales* to sound a wake-up call about the Christian Right's crusade against choice in the U.S. We identified the right-wing legal strategy to dismantle reproductive choice by highlighting the main players and the rules of their game.



Clinic Violence: In 1993, CRLP filed *Libertad v. Welch* in Puerto Rico to seek protection for abortion clinics against the often-violent tactics of anti-choice protesters. We won the case in 1998, and protesters were required to provide clinics with three days notice of their activities. Since 1992, CRLP has filed or been involved in 15 cases related to violence or harassment against abortion providers.

Exposing the Global Right Wing: CRLP has exposed the extremist views of U.S.-based right-wing groups to government delegates and activists participating in the five-year reviews of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development and the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women. And we've shined a spotlight on the efforts of the Holy See at the UN to undo international agreements that protect the reproductive rights of women and girls worldwide.

CRLP is dedicated to derailing whatever tactics our opponents devise.

Choose Life License Plates: CRLP has filed lawsuits against Florida and Louisiana for allowing the sale of "Choose Life" license plates, but not "Pro-Choice" license plates. The funds raised through these sales are given to anti-abortion organizations, particularly so-called "crisis pregnancy centers" that subject pregnant women to anti-abortion propaganda. The Florida program has raised in excess of \$1 million.

Securing Clinic Access in the U.S.: CRLP is working with coalition partners to expand access to abortion clinics by promoting legislation that creates buffer zones between anti-choice protesters and women visiting abortion clinics, and prohibits videotaping of the women entering these clinics.

The International George Bush: Re-imposing the Global Gag Rule, withholding funds from the United Nations Population Fund, undermining the Children's Summit: CRLP will continue to shine a spotlight on the Bush Administration's attempts to foist on the rest of the world an ultra-conservative social agenda that the vast majority of Americans would never support as domestic policy.



ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WORLDWIDE: SHADOWING GOVERNMENTS

All governments, including the U.S., have committed themselves to upholding human rights, both in their treatment of citizens and in their foreign assistance policies. But far fewer have implemented laws and policies guaranteeing those rights. CRLP has partnered with organizations worldwide to conduct the fact-finding and legal analysis necessary to hold governments accountable.

Hypocrisy in the U.S.: The day George Bush entered office, he reinstated the Global Gag Rule (GGR), barring overseas recipients of U.S. development funds from using their own money to advocate for abortion law reform or to provide information or services related to abortion. In response, CRLP's GGR campaign has highlighted the policy's impact on women's health as well as its toll on democracy, both at home and overseas. We brought our gagged Peruvian partner to testify before a Senate hearing in 2001. And a year later, we hosted European parliamentarians to speak about the negative impact of the Gag Rule on their overseas development assistance. We are now documenting the effects of the Gag Rule on legal advocacy efforts in select countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and South Asia.

Silence and Complicity in Peru: In 1999, CRLP and the Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights produced *Silence and Complicity* to expose a widespread pattern of human rights violations in Peru's public health facilities. We also documented government cover-ups of these abuses.

Monitoring Governments: CRLP has produced over two dozen “shadow reports” and a dozen “shadow letters” on the status of women’s reproductive rights in countries reporting to the UN about their compliance with international treaties. Our research and analysis have consistently influenced the UN’s Concluding Observations. For example, in 2000, the Human Rights Committee used information in our shadow report to express its concern about Argentina’s lack of contraceptive access and draconian and discriminatory abortion law. Our Argentine partner, Instituto de Genero, Derecho y Desarrollo, used the Committee’s conclusions to press its government for change.

Critiquing Reproductive Rights Law Worldwide: CRLP has provided commentary on draft reproductive health laws in more than six countries and critiqued the reproductive health provisions of population policies in Africa, Latin America, East and Central Europe, and Asia.

CRLP will continue to hold governments accountable for reproductive rights violations.

Spotlighting Governments: In 2002-3, CRLP plans to submit shadow letters on reproductive rights in Argentina, Burkina Faso, Poland, Romania, Brazil, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and the Russian Federation.

China’s “One-Child” Policy: CRLP is conducting a human rights analysis of a recently enacted Chinese law that formalizes the country’s “one-child” policy.

Guiding Lawmakers: CRLP is preparing a legislative tool kit for governments and reproductive rights activists seeking to enact reproductive health legislation.

Eyes on the U.S.: The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is supposed to support programs that promote and help guarantee reproductive health and rights. But the USAID’s legislative and policy framework keeps women from getting the help and assistance they need. CRLP and the Center for Health and Gender Equity are developing advocacy tools for critiquing and transforming the agency’s approach so that U.S. policy reflects well-established reproductive rights principles.



ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WORLDWIDE: MOBILIZING FOR CHANGE

Securing legal and policy guarantees for women's reproductive rights does not happen in a vacuum. Coalition building and information sharing are essential.

Pro-Choice Coalition: CRLP works closely with more than 17 organizations on Capitol Hill to establish federal reproductive rights guarantees for American women, including equal access to contraception and protection from so-called "partial-birth abortion" bans. We are partnering with countless other state-based groups to fend off the daily onslaught of anti-choice legislation in state houses and legislatures around the country.

International Family Planning Coalition: Since 1992, CRLP has partnered with other like-minded organizations to maintain and increase U.S. bilateral funding for reproductive health worldwide, eliminate restrictions such as the Global Gag Rule, and urge the U.S. government to fulfill its funding commitments to the United Nations Population Fund.

Mobilizing in Poland: In 2001, CRLP and the Federation for Women and Family Planning sponsored a tribunal to highlight the human rights costs of Poland's restrictive abortion law. We continue to work with our partner to develop advocacy strategies for legal reform.

Ratifying CEDAW: On July 30, 2002, after intense lobbying by CRLP and 82 other women's rights groups, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee recommended U.S. ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). CEDAW is the only comprehensive international treaty guaranteeing

women's human rights, and the Senate vote represented significant progress in the effort to keep the U.S. in step with the international community. If the U.S. does ratify CEDAW, it will join the 170 nations—including all industrialized nations—that are already one step ahead of us.

From state legislatures in the U.S. to global conferences at the UN, CRLP will continue to mobilize advocates and policymakers to advance the cause of women's reproductive freedom.

Moving Government: CRLP's state legislative counsel is working with local advocates to encourage state legislatures to promote reproductive rights by, for example, requiring equitable contraceptive coverage or protecting abortion clinics from the often violent protests of anti-choice activists. Our federal legislative counsel provides critical legal analysis on abortion bans, the Child Health Insurance Program, Medicaid restrictions, emergency contraception, and other reproductive rights issues.

Global Coalition Building: CRLP currently works with 37 partners to advance reproductive rights worldwide. We will continue to expand our partnerships with women's groups around the world as part of a global network of advocates committed to reproductive freedom.

Mapping Abortion Laws: Our widely reprinted posters on the world's abortion laws have literally put reproductive rights on the map for government and civil society actors alike.



Making Waves in Cyberspace

The CRLP website is our most dynamic tool for sharing the wealth of our research and analysis on reproductive rights issues, along with the latest news from around the world.

Since its launch in 1998, **www.reproductiverights.org** has drawn visitors from around the world, offering access to more than 1,400 documents such as legal briefs, fact sheets and human rights reports.

In 2001 alone, more than 130,000 copies of CRLP books and reports and more than 120,000 copies of fact sheets were downloaded, 20 percent in French and Spanish. In 2002, CRLP expects visitors to download more than a half million documents.



ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WORLDWIDE: CONFRONTING BARRIERS

Discrimination based on race, class and ethnicity has blocked millions of women worldwide from exercising the full range of their reproductive choices. In the U.S., CRLP has fought long and hard to remove double standards for abortion funding and to establish affirmative government obligations toward poor women. Around the globe, we've exposed the disproportionate impact that restrictive laws have on the reproductive rights of poor women and minority women.

Medicaid Funding Bans: Abortion restrictions in government-funded health programs have a serious effect on poor women. Since the early nineties, CRLP has taken the lead in bringing cases under state constitutions to strike down Medicaid bans. In addition, we have forced nine states to abide by federal law, which now requires Medicaid funding for abortion in cases of rape and incest in addition to cases of life endangerment.

Working for the Government: In May 2002, in the first case of its kind, CRLP persuaded a trial court to order the federal military insurance program to pay for an abortion for our client, Maureen Britell, whose fetus suffered from a fatal abnormality. The judge declared the military's policy "irrational and cruel."

Women in U.S. Jails: CRLP has consistently worked to ensure the rights of another class of women who depend on the government for health care: prisoners. In our most recent case, we are representing a Louisiana woman who was denied an abortion by prison officials.

“I have witnessed firsthand the disastrous effects of restrictions on access to abortion both within the United States and worldwide. For women who are unable to gather the resources necessary to pay for the procedure, the funding ban imposes all the harm of an outright criminal prohibition.”

Jane Hodgson, M.D., CRLP board member and founding member of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, risked jail to challenge a criminal law prohibiting abortion before *Roe v. Wade* was decided.

Discrimination in El Salvador: In 2000, we published *Persecuted*, a human rights analysis of the disproportionate impact that El Salvador’s restrictive abortion law has on low-income women’s health and on their risk of criminal prosecution.

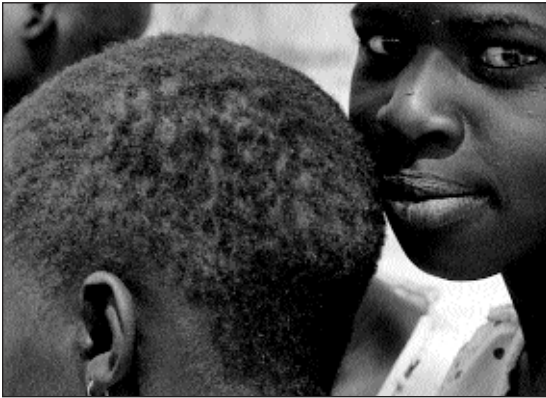
CRLP v. Bush: In June 2001, CRLP sued the Bush Administration for re-imposing the Global Gag Rule (GGR), thereby prohibiting foreign organizations receiving U.S. development funds from using their own money to provide information or services related to abortion, or to advocate for abortion law reform. The GGR severely limits the reproductive health services available to low-income women around the world. In addition, it violates the free speech rights of American reproductive rights and human rights advocates.

CRLP will broaden our domestic focus as we continue breaking down barriers to reproductive freedom for women around the world.

Fighting Economic Barriers: CRLP will continue to challenge funding barriers for Medicaid recipients in the U.S., including our current cases in Florida, Arizona, Texas, and Indiana.

Challenging Racial and Ethnic Discrimination: CRLP will work to confront reproductive rights violations created by racial and ethnic discrimination in the U.S., establishing the networks and partnerships necessary to develop effective legal strategies.

Exposing Coercive Sterilization: CRLP is investigating claims of the coerced sterilization of minority Roma women in Eastern Europe.



ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WORLDWIDE: PROTECTING ADOLESCENT RIGHTS

Though nearly half of all people in the world are under the age of 25, only a small percentage is accorded reproductive rights. Worldwide, ten teenage girls undergo an unsafe abortion every minute. The risk of dying from complications related to pregnancy or childbirth is 25 times higher for girls under 15 than for women in their mid-twenties.

Parental Involvement Laws: 43 U.S. states have adopted laws that require a young woman to notify or obtain the consent of one or both parents before she can obtain an abortion. These laws force many young women to obtain illegal or unsafe abortions, carry unwanted pregnancies to term, or travel long distances to states without parental consent requirements. CRLP has successfully challenged numerous parental involvement laws across the country, and has cases currently pending in Alaska, Florida and Oklahoma.

Confronting FC/FGM: In 2000, CRLP teamed up with Sudanese activist Nahid Toubia and her organization, Rainboq, to publish a definitive global survey of laws and policies governing female circumcision/female genital mutilation (FC/FGM). At least two million young and adolescent girls—primarily in northeastern and sub-Saharan Africa—are at risk of undergoing FC/FGM each year.

Securing International Guarantees: In May 2002, the United Nations held a historic Special Session of the General Assembly focused exclusively on children. During the summit, CRLP worked long and hard to prevent the Bush Administration and other conservative governments from rolling back the reproductive rights granted to adolescents in UN documents. Our work helped establish vital links between abstract human rights guarantees and specific protections for young people struggling with HIV/AIDS, unwanted pregnancy, sexual violence, exploitation, and child marriage.

Title X: If anti-choice activists had their way, Title X—the landmark act that provides federal funds for family planning services, especially to adolescents—would be riddled with parental notification or consent requirements. CRLP is working with our coalition partners to make sure that never happens.

Adolescents' reproductive rights will continue to drive CRLP's work.

Jailing Grandparents: The Child Custody Protection Act, which the House of Representatives passed in 2002, would make it a federal crime to cross state lines with a minor to obtain an abortion if the minor lives in a state with a parental involvement law with which she has not complied, and if the person transporting her is not her parent. Complicated enough? CRLP is monitoring the legislation and will challenge it if it is enacted.

Working the System: CRLP will provide information and advice to adolescents, advocates and abortion providers in states that require parental involvement but allow for the option of a “judicial bypass” of the laws' requirements.

State of Denial: In 2001, CRLP and the Harare-based Child and Law Foundation produced a report that exposed the government's lack of public information and services for Zimbabwe's adolescents, who constitute 36% of the total population. We will continue collaborative work in Zimbabwe on adolescents' rights, including a possible national lawsuit to challenge that nation's parental consent requirement.





ADVANCING REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WORLDWIDE: SECURING PREGNANT WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Complications that arise during pregnancy cause the deaths of at least 510,000 women every year and lead to debilitating illnesses for many more. Yet the health, safety and rights of a pregnant woman often take a back seat to that of the fetus.

The Right to Confidential Medical Care: Since the early nineties, CRLP has been a leader in challenging the prosecution of pregnant women for alleged harm to their fetuses. With our Supreme Court victory in *Ferguson v. City of Charleston* (2001), we struck down a drug testing scheme targeting certain pregnant women that was developed by local police and prosecutors in collaboration with doctors at one South Carolina public hospital. As a result of this policy, women—virtually all of whom were African American—were arrested right out of their hospital beds, sometimes just after delivery.

Pregnant Women's Rights: In 1997, the Supreme Court of Florida dismissed the homicide prosecution of CRLP client Kawana Ashley, a low-income pregnant teen who shot herself in the stomach because she couldn't afford an abortion. The Court ruled that a pregnant woman could not be criminally charged for self-destructive behavior that results in the death of her fetus.

HIV and Pregnant Women: At the July 2002 International AIDS Conference, CRLP distributed a paper outlining key concerns for HIV-positive pregnant women. We called on the international community to protect the specific health needs of HIV-positive pregnant women and to conduct more research on the unknown impact that drugs such as AZT and pregnancy itself have on their health.

CRLP will continue to ensure that pregnant women's rights are protected before, during and after childbirth.

Maternal Mortality Worldwide: In late 2002, CRLP will launch our Safe Pregnancy Project with the first of four reports that address maternal mortality using a human rights framework. Our first case study will focus on Mali, which has one of the world's highest rates of maternal mortality. Our second report will focus on Romania, specifically minority Roma women who suffer from much higher rates of maternal mortality and discrimination in pregnancy-related services. Our final two reports will examine countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia.

Widening our Focus: CRLP will develop legal and legislative strategies to ensure the protection of pregnant women's rights and women's rights to safe pregnancy under U.S. and international legal norms. In light of our victory in *Ferguson*, we will also develop model legislation to safeguard consent requirements for drug and HIV testing.

HIV/AIDS and Reproductive Rights in Africa: CRLP will launch a project that will review legal protections for HIV-positive pregnant women in sub-Saharan Africa.

Dying to Give Birth

- Every day, more than 1,400 women die from largely preventable pregnancy-related causes, 99% of them in low income countries.
- Pregnancy or childbirth is the leading cause of death for women aged 15 to 49 in low- and middle-income nations.
- A woman's lifetime risk of dying from pregnancy is: 1 in 16 in Africa; 1 in 65 in Asia; 1 in 130 in Latin America and the Caribbean; 1 in 1,400 in Europe; and—in remarkable contrast—1 in 3,700 in North America.
- In the U.S., minority and low-income women face the highest maternal mortality rates. African-American women die during pregnancy and childbirth at a rate that is more than four times higher than that of white women.



TRAINING FUTURE LEADERS

CRLP's fellowship and attorney training programs give young attorneys the chance to gain hands-on experience in the field of reproductive rights advocacy. Every year, the Blackmun Fellowship gives three to four domestic lawyers the opportunity to take part—sometimes in a leading role—in reproductive rights litigation across the United States.

Our International Fellowship program affords recent law graduates the opportunity to pursue reproductive rights issues at the international level. We are continuing to expand our Foreign Visiting Legal Fellows Program, which hosts attorneys from around the world for training on reproductive rights law.

Over the years, our fellowship programs have built a powerful network of lawyers who understand the multiple dimensions of reproductive rights advocacy within and beyond the United States.

“The fellowship program is creating a cadre of attorneys across the country who are continuing CRLP’s work.”

Lenora Lapidus

Director, Women's Rights Project, American Civil Liberties Union

“International fellowships help attorneys translate the abstract principles of international human rights law into concrete protections for women’s reproductive rights.”

Regina Tames

Legal Advocate for Epikeia, a Mexican women's rights organization founded by former CRLP international fellow, Isabel Vericat.

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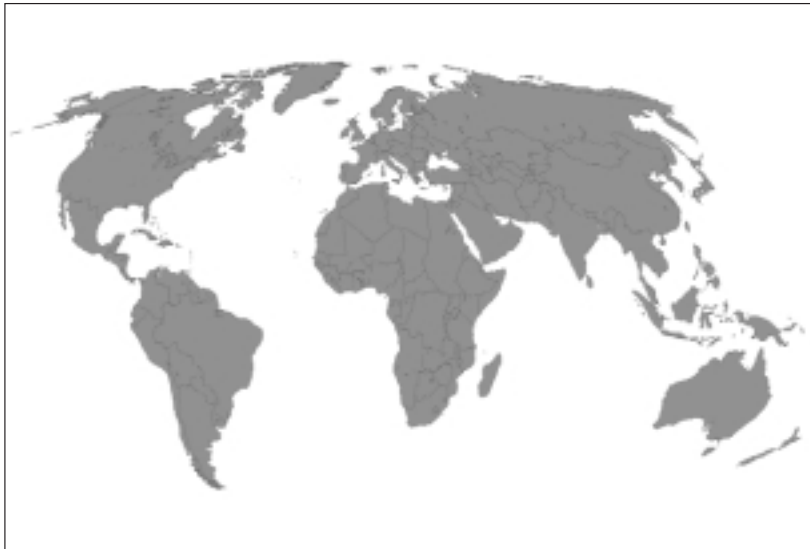


International Projects

CRLP's international program currently works in many nations, and will be expanding to include many more.

Current Projects

Anglophone Africa	Eastern & Central Europe	Francophone Africa	Latin America & the Caribbean	South Asia
<i>Ethiopia</i>	<i>Albania</i>	<i>Benin</i>	<i>Argentina</i>	<i>Bangladesh</i>
<i>Ghana</i>	<i>Croatia</i>	<i>Burkina Faso</i>	<i>Bolivia</i>	<i>India</i>
<i>Kenya</i>	<i>Hungary</i>	<i>Cameroon</i>	<i>Brazil</i>	<i>Nepal</i>
<i>Nigeria</i>	<i>Lithuania</i>	<i>Chad</i>	<i>Chile</i>	<i>Pakistan</i>
<i>South Africa</i>	<i>Poland</i>	<i>Côte d'Ivoire</i>	<i>Colombia</i>	<i>Sri Lanka</i>
<i>Tanzania</i>	<i>Romania</i>	<i>Mali</i>	<i>El Salvador</i>	
<i>Zimbabwe</i>	<i>Russian Federation</i>	<i>Senegal</i>	<i>Guatemala</i>	
	<i>Slovakia</i>		<i>Jamaica</i>	
			<i>Mexico</i>	
			<i>Peru</i>	



Future Projects

Middle East & North Africa	East & Southeast Asia
<i>Egypt</i>	<i>China</i>
<i>Iran</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>
<i>Israel</i>	<i>Japan</i>
<i>Jordan</i>	<i>Malaysia</i>
<i>Morocco</i>	<i>Philippines</i>
<i>Turkey</i>	<i>Thailand</i>
<i>Yemen</i>	<i>Vietnam</i>

2001 Domestic Docket



CRLP files challenges to laws that threaten reproductive freedom in state and federal courts across the country.

FUNDING FOR ABORTION

Britell v. United States of America (Massachusetts)

Hamilton v. Clinic for Women, Inc. (Indiana)

Low-Income Women of Texas v. Raiford (Texas)

Simat Corp. v. Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System Administration (Arizona)

Women of the State of Florida v. Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (Florida)

BANS ON ABORTION

Summit Medical Associates, P.C. v. Siegelman (Alabama)

Women's Medical Professional Corp. v. Taft (Ohio)

Victoria W. v. Larpenter (Louisiana)

Okpalobi v. Foster (Louisiana)

Women's Health Clinic v. State (Louisiana)

Womencare of Southfield v. Granholm (Michigan)

Christensen v. Doyle (Wisconsin)

RESTRICTIONS ON YOUNG WOMEN

North Florida Women's Health and Counseling Services v. State (Florida)

Nova Health Systems v. Fogarty (Oklahoma)

Planned Parenthood of Alaska v. State (Alaska)

MANDATORY DELAY/BIASED INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

A Woman's Choice v. Newman (Indiana)

MEDICAL ABORTION RESTRICTIONS

Benten v. Kessler (New York)

Northland Family Planning Clinic, Inc. v. Granholm (Michigan)

PREGNANT WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Ferguson v. City of Charleston (South Carolina)

Georgia v. Moss (Georgia)

FETAL EXPERIMENTATION BAN

Forbes v. Wood (Arizona)

TARGETED REGULATION OF ABORTION PROVIDERS

Adams & Boyle v. Tennessee Department of Health (Tennessee)

Greenville Women's Clinic v. Bryant (South Carolina)

Tucson Women's Clinic v. Eden (Arizona)

Women's Medical Center of NW Houston v. Archer (Texas)

CENSORSHIP AND FREE-SPEECH RESTRICTIONS

Carhart v. Smith (Nebraska)

Center for Reproductive Law & Policy v. Bush (New York)

Mattson v. MKB Management Corp. d/b/a Red River Women's Clinic (North Dakota)

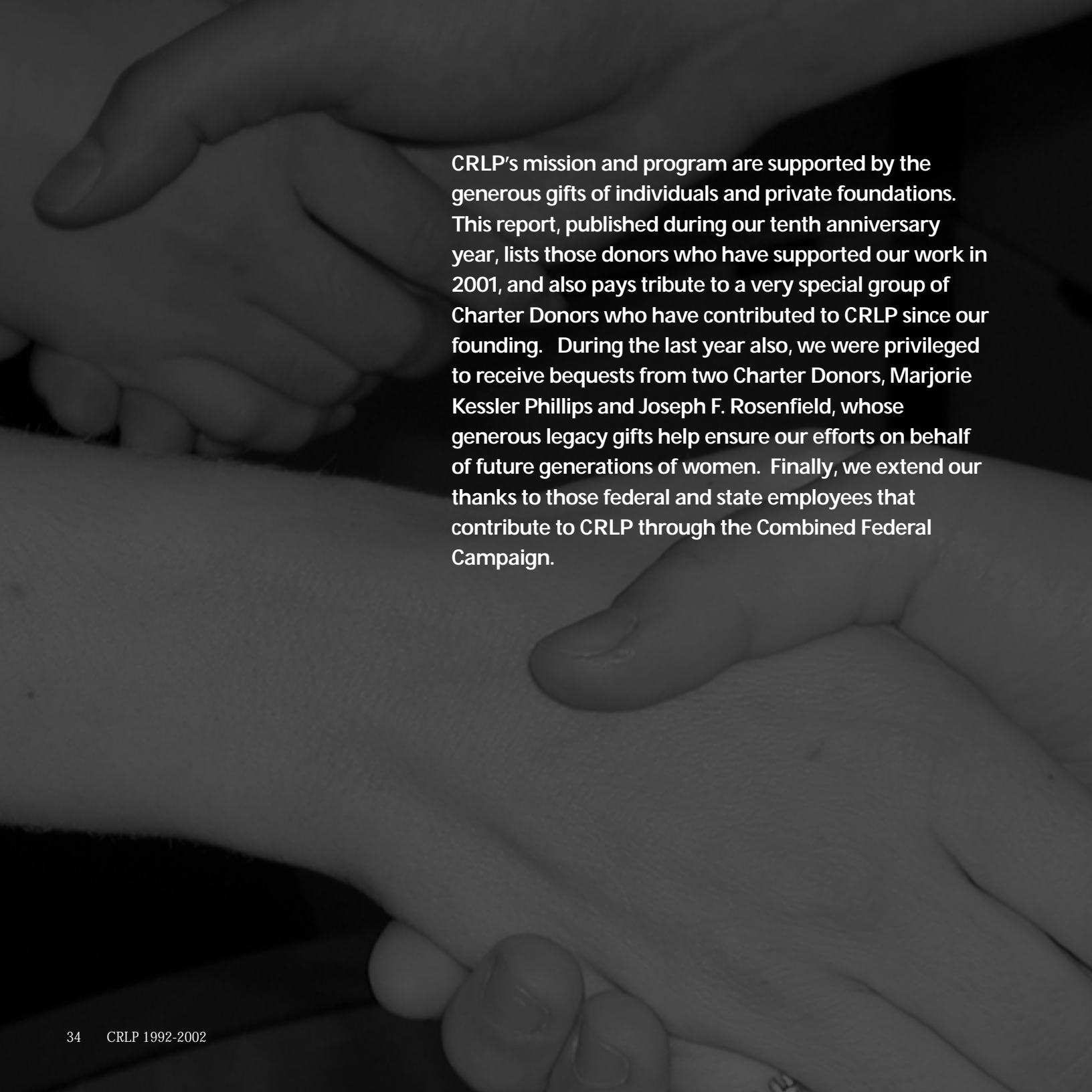
VIOLENCE/HARASSMENT OF PROVIDERS

Libertad v. Welch (Puerto Rico)

OTHER

Henderson v. Stalder (Louisiana)

Lee v. Trail (Louisiana)



CRLP's mission and program are supported by the generous gifts of individuals and private foundations. This report, published during our tenth anniversary year, lists those donors who have supported our work in 2001, and also pays tribute to a very special group of Charter Donors who have contributed to CRLP since our founding. During the last year also, we were privileged to receive bequests from two Charter Donors, Marjorie Kessler Phillips and Joseph F. Rosenfield, whose generous legacy gifts help ensure our efforts on behalf of future generations of women. Finally, we extend our thanks to those federal and state employees that contribute to CRLP through the Combined Federal Campaign.

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<http://www.opm.gov/cfc> to inquire about supporting CRLP through this workplace fundraising effort. **Our CFC number is 1945. CRLP is a member of the Women, Children, Family Service Charities of America.**

CRLP is supported by generous gifts from individuals and private foundations. Gifts to CRLP are considered charitable contributions. For information about how to support our work, please contact us at 917-637-3600 or email us at contribute@crlp.org.

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Charitable contributions and grants to the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy for fiscal year 2001 totaled \$8,505,959. Major financial support for CRLP's work came from foundations (excluding family foundations) with grants totaling \$5,809,809, representing sixty-four percent of total support and revenue. Contributions and grants from individuals and family foundations totaled \$2,696,150, representing twenty-nine percent of total support and revenue. The remainder of our income was generated through court-awarded attorneys' fees, investments and miscellaneous sources.

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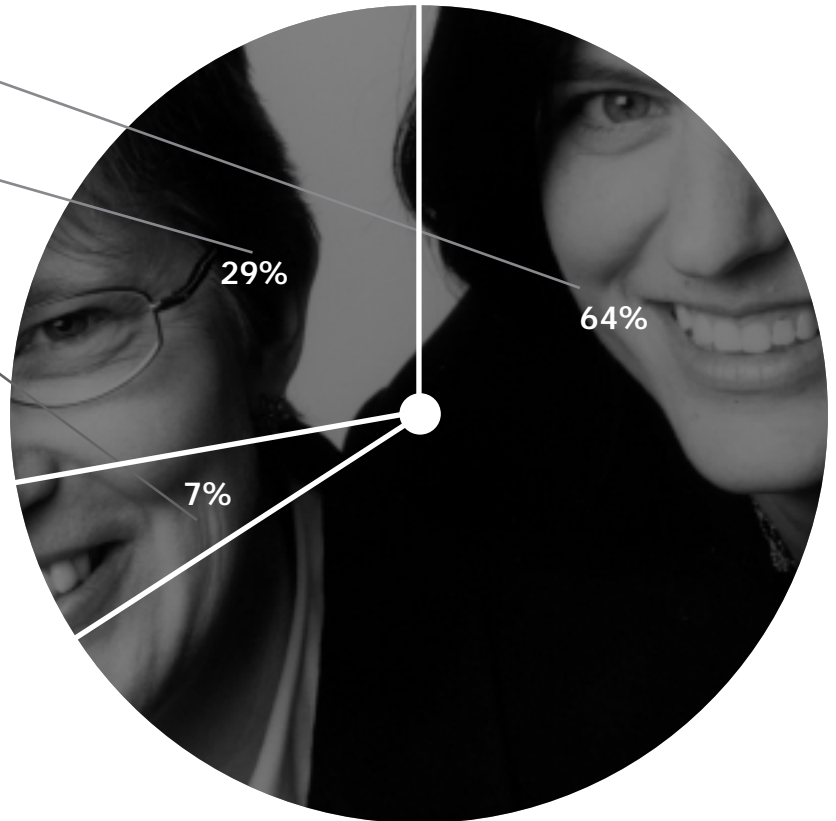
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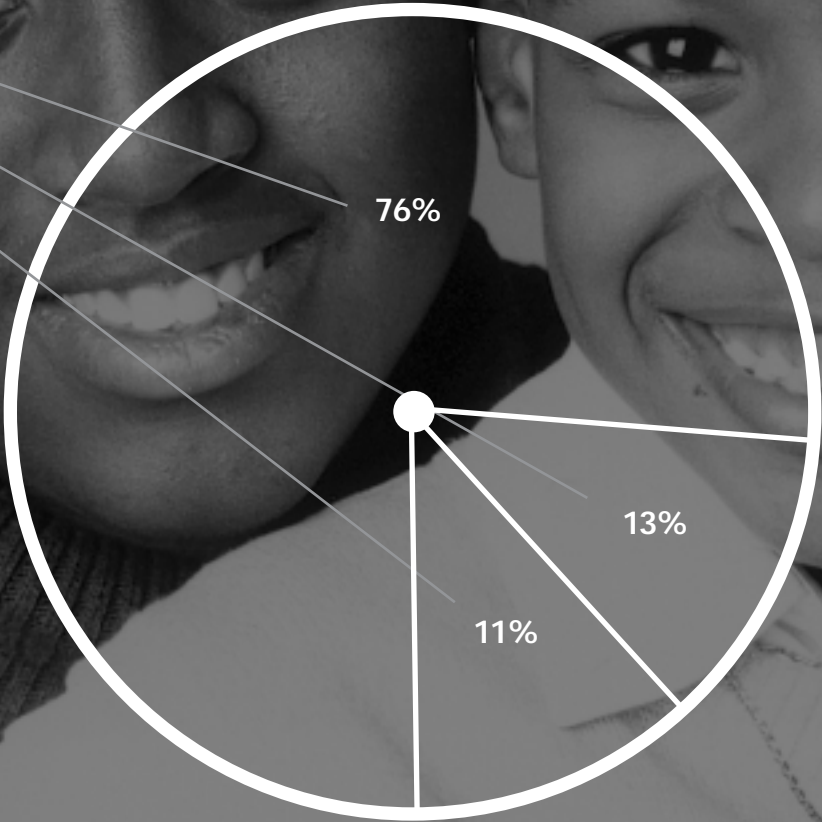


A copy of our annual report to the Internal Revenue Service is available from our New York office. Please call or write for donor information.

Seventy-six percent of CRLP's expenses in 2001 were directed toward program services. General and Administrative Expenses were thirteen percent of the total, and fundraising expenses accounted for eleven percent of the total.

2001 Expenses

- Program 76%
- General and Administrative 13%
- Fundraising 11%



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