

Know Your Rights, Protect Our Rights

Glossary of Important Women's Rights Terms

Abortion: Termination of a pregnancy after, accompanied by, resulting in, or closely followed by the death of the embryo or fetus. ([Merriam-Webster.com](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/abortion))

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW): an international bill of rights for women, Consisting of a preamble and 30 articles. it defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination. ([UN Website](#))

Domestic Violence: Willful intimidation, emotional abuse, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior as part of a systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. ([National Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#))

Family and Medical Insurance Leave (FAMILY) Act: If enacted, would enable workers to take leave to care for new children... with partial pay for up to 12 weeks. ([US Congress](#))

Feminism: The theory of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes. Organized activity on behalf of women's rights and interests. ([Merriam-Webster.com](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/feminism))

Human Rights Partisans: As human rights advocates, we are not aligned with any political party; we actively support and protect universal human rights. (HRWSTF)

Human Trafficking: Human trafficking is the process by which a person is recruited to be controlled and held captive for the purpose of exploitation. Traffickers threaten to or use force, coercion, abduction, fraud, or deception to bring their victims under their control, in addition to abusing their power or the vulnerable social or economic status of their victims. Considered modern-day form of slavery. ([Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking](#))

Hyde Amendment: 40-year-old ban on Medicaid funding for abortion except when the pregnancy results from rape or incest, or endangers the woman's life. It disproportionately targets low-income women, women of color, young people and immigrants who rely on Medicaid for their health coverage. ([Planned Parenthood](#))

Rape: Unlawful sexual activity and usually sexual intercourse carried out forcibly or under threat of injury against the will usually of a female or with a person who is beneath a certain age... ([Merriam-Webster.com](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/rape))

Roe vs. Wade: Supreme Court ruling which recognized that the constitutional right to privacy extends to a woman's right to make her own personal medical decisions – including the decision to have an abortion without interference from politicians. ([Planned Parenthood](#))

Sexual Assault: Any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient. ([Department of Justice](#))

Violence against Women Act: A law that has helped hold abusers accountable and enabled survivors to get services and seek justice for more than two decades. ([National Network to End Domestic Violence](#))