

# ABORTION UNITES US

## ABORTION MESSAGING FOR UNION MEMBERS & LEADERS

Are you trying to engage your union in the fight for abortion access, but don't know where to start? The following tested messages successfully draw connections between abortion and the rights and freedoms unions fight for every day.

### Unions Fight for Freedom and Autonomy

- We all deserve the freedom and opportunity to control our own bodies and our life's path. Restricting abortion access is about who has power over you, who can make decisions for you, and who is going to control how your future turns out. We should all have freedom, liberty, and the ability to make our own decisions and control our own destinies -- without politicians getting involved.
- Regardless of personal beliefs toward abortion, everyone should have the freedom to make their own decisions about their body without politicians getting involved. We want to ensure that our members can get the medical care they need and the freedom to decide if and when they have kids.
- We are committed to standing up to politicians who want to take away our rights. Make no mistake: the politicians that are trying to take away our right to unionize are the same ones that are trying to take away our right to access abortion care. We are committed to protecting the rights of our members from attacks on their freedom.

### Unions Fight for Economic Justice

- Abortion is an economic justice issue. For many people, deciding if or when they will have a child has an enormous impact on their economic security.
- People have more control over their economic security when they can make their own decisions about their bodies and what's best for their families. These decisions affect their financial well-being, job security, and their ability to work and go to school. These decisions should be left up to people, not politicians.
- Being denied an abortion really hurts people's financial well-being. People who are denied an abortion are nearly four times more likely to live in poverty. Studies also show that being denied an abortion increases the amount of debt people are in, as well as the rate of bankruptcies and evictions.

### Unions Fight for Workers and their Families

- Having the freedom to decide if and when we have kids and how to care for our loved ones is fundamental to living the lives we choose. This includes policies that protect abortion care and expand paid family leave, affordable child care, and aging and disability care.
- The states that have the most abortion restrictions are also the states that fail to support women, children, and families. For example, many states that banned abortion after the legal right to abortion was overturned have the biggest gaps between what women and men get paid for the same work.
- Restricting abortion access hurts workers because being forced to continue a pregnancy may lead to income or job loss and make it harder to take care of themselves or their families. For some workers, being forced to carry a pregnancy may mean being forced to experience illegal pregnancy discrimination in the workplace.
- Abortion bans threaten working people. Low-paid workers are most impacted by abortion bans and are at very high risk of losing wages or their jobs when forced to carry a pregnancy.
- Protecting the right to an abortion is protecting workers' rights. Studies show clear links between access to abortion and higher participation in the workforce and economic independence for women. Access to abortion care increases people's ability to plan for their future careers and lives.

For more information, email us at [AbortionUnitesUs@nwlc.org](mailto:AbortionUnitesUs@nwlc.org)