

Women's Caucus

In official relations with APHA

Heather M. Brandt, PhD, CHES
Sarah Gareau, MEd, Doctoral Candidate
Jill Oliveri, DrPH

On behalf of the members of the Women's
Caucus, in official relations with the American
Public Health Association***

136th Annual Meeting of the American Public Health Association, San Diego CA

Women's Caucus

The Women's Caucus, in official relations with the American Public Health Association, is committed to providing a forum for uninhibited discussion of emerging, politically uncomfortable, and/or important issues affecting the lives and health of women. The Women's Caucus is based on examining women's lives through the contextualized experiences of women --- all women, considering the intersectional nature of gender, culture, society, politics, economics, spirituality, sexuality, and environmental forces.

<http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/womenscaucus/>

Women's Caucus

U.S. Women	1900s	2000s
Age at death	48 years	80 years
Primary cause of death	TB and childbirth	Heart disease
Average # children	8	1.86
Infant mortality rate	124-158 per 1,000	7 per 1,000
Percent in workforce	Not counted	59%
Eligible voters	0	51%

Women's Caucus

Victories

- Right to Vote: Ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment (1920)
- Women representing Women (starting in 1917 nationally)
- Women's Health Movement
 - Reproductive Health Rights
 - Inclusion of Women
 - Breast and Cervical Cancer

Women's Caucus

Opportunities

Preserving Reproductive Health Rights

- Threats to choice of contraception
- Limitations on access to contraception
- Challenges to abortion rights and services

Women's Caucus

Preventing and Treating HIV

17,700,000 Women

(aged 15-49) account for 48% of those infected with HIV worldwide



UNAIDS
JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS

UNHCR
UNICEF
WFP
UNDP
UNFPA

UNODC
ILO
UNESCO
WHO
WORLD BANK

Source: 2006 data available at <http://www.unaids.org>

Women's Caucus

Equal Pay for Equal Work

A typical college-educated woman working full time earns \$50,000 a year compared to \$66,000 for college-educated male workers —

a difference of \$16,000.

Women's Caucus

Violence Against Women

- Violence against women continues to be a major threat to the safety and health of women in the U.S. and worldwide
- Murder is the leading cause of death among pregnant women
- Use of violence against women, especially rape, during war as a legitimized tactic
 - Against both civilians AND fellow female soldiers

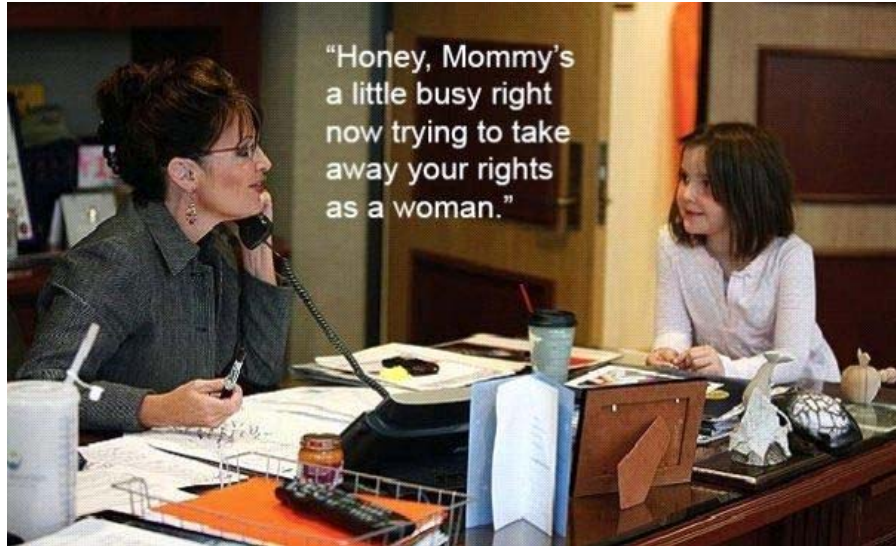
Women's Caucus

Health Care

- **Universal access to affordable, quality health care**
- Transparency and honesty in health care
- Need for focus on prevention
 - "We are still standing on the bank of the river, rescuing people who are drowning. We have not gone to the head of the river to keep them from falling in. That is the 21st century task." - Gloria Steinem

Women's Caucus

Preserving Women's Rights



"Honey, Mommy's a little busy right now trying to take away your rights as a woman."

This is NOT an endorsement of a political party or candidate. Women's Caucus

There is still more
work to do...
...We're not afraid
of work.

Women's Caucus

*** Acknowledgments

Many members of the Women's Caucus contributed to the conceptualization and development of this presentation. Special thanks to the following members:

- Lucy Annang, PhD, University of South Carolina
- Erica S. Breslau, PhD, National Cancer Institute
- Cynthia Castro, PhD, Stanford University
- Ann L. Coker, PhD, University of Kentucky
- Sara Corwin, PhD, University of South Carolina
- Susan Cu-Uvin, MD, Brown University
- Ellen Daley, PhD, University of South Florida
- Cheryl Der Ananian, PhD, Arizona State University
- Susan Fulmer, MPH, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Sarah Gareau, Doctoral Candidate, University of South Carolina
- Margaret E. Greene, PhD, International Center for Research on Women
- Sarah F. Griffin, PhD, Clemson University
- Jaclyn Guess, University of South Carolina
- James Hebert, ScD, University of South Carolina
- Judith H. LaRosa, PhD, RN, SUNY Downstate Medical Center
- Kathryn Luchok, PhD, The Southern Institute
- Kristin Mattocks, PhD, Yale University
- DeAnne K. H. Messias, PhD, University of South Carolina
- Donna H. Odierna, DrPH, MS, University of California at San Francisco
- Jill Oliveri, DrPH, The Ohio State University
- Electra Paskett, PhD, The Ohio State University
- Heather Ranhofer, MS, University of South Carolina
- Beth E. Rivin, MD, MPH, University of Washington
- Patricia Sharpe, PhD, University of South Carolina
- Paige Hall Smith, PhD, University of North Carolina Greensboro
- Anna Walton, University of South Carolina
- Yan Zhang PhD, Texas Tech University

Women's Caucus