



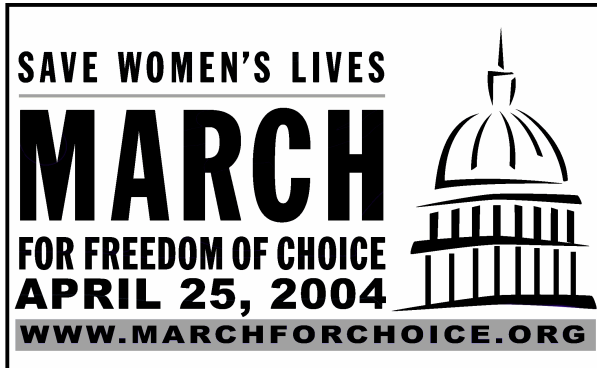
# CHOICE Newsline

Monthly Publication of Minnesota NARAL and Minnesota NARAL Foundation, affiliate of NARAL Pro-Choice America

August 2003

## March for Freedom of Choice

*Join a Million of Your Closest Pro-Choice Friends in Washington!*



It comes down to this moment. NARAL Pro-Choice America, in coalition with the Feminist Majority Foundation, National Organization for Women, and Planned Parenthood Federation of America, are organizing a national March on Washington, D.C. next April. Only a powerful, grassroots pro-choice movement can avert the devastating consequences for women of losing their right to choose. It's our choice, and this is our moment.

Right now Minnesota NARAL is working with our coalition partners throughout the state to send as many Minnesotans as possible to the March. Minnesota pro-choicers will take Washington by storm, be it by bus, plane, train, or automobile.

On April 25, 2004, millions of pro-choice Americans will take part in one of the most significant demonstrations in history to show that we will save freedom of choice the same way it was won: one person, one city, and one state at a time.

The March for Freedom of Choice will demonstrate overwhelming support by America's pro-choice majority for women's right to choose birth control, safe, legal abortion and the right to self-determination.

Sign up to go to Washington or to get more information at the coalition website: [www.MarchForChoice.org](http://www.MarchForChoice.org). Minnesota NARAL will also keep members informed through our website ([www.mnnaral.org](http://www.mnnaral.org)), our email Choice Action Network (sign-up at [can@prochoiceamerica.org](mailto:can@prochoiceamerica.org)), and our newsletter, CHOICE Newsline. Mark your calendars today and be part of history!

### *Pro-Choice Flashback*

1992 – Nearly one million pro-choice Americans rallied on the National Mall in Washington in defense of a woman's right to choose. Do you remember what happened in 1992? Pro-choice Bill Clinton defeated the 1<sup>st</sup> George Bush. **Let's repeat history!**

## Are You Mobilized?

### *Waking up Pro-Choice Minnesota with the Mobilization to Protect Freedom of Choice*

Earlier this year NARAL Pro-Choice America announced a five-year Mobilization to Protect Freedom of Choice. With reproductive freedom more endangered than it has been since *Roe v. Wade* in 1973, it is vital for us to awaken the pro-choice majority in this country and stop the continuous onslaught against Choice.

Minnesota NARAL is working in tandem with national NARAL Pro-Choice America to bring thousands more into the pro-choice movement. Through the Mobilization, we hope to:

- Demonstrate the presence and the power of the pro-choice majority through comprehensive grassroots organizing and education.
- Expose the anti-choice agenda of the Bush Administration and the anti-choice Congress.
- Fight anti-choice attacks at the state and federal levels.
- Promote pro-choice, proactive policy initiatives.

As part of the Mobilization, Minnesota NARAL has already begun to reach out to new people. Our vigorous summer outreach program reached pro-choice people in every corner of the state, and inspired new volunteers, activists, and members. We organized Choice Canvass Days, a door-to-door campaign to engage people one-on-one about Choice. Our activists have also hosted a large number of Choice Celebrations, a great way for pro-choicers to teach friends, family, and coworkers about the pro-choice movement and how they can mobilize to protect Choice.

As Minnesota NARAL prepares for our name change (see below) and the 2004 election, we will continue to find ways to increase our membership and activist base, and show George W. Bush and Tim Pawlenty that the pro-choice movement is a force to be reckoned with.



### **Minnesota NARAL is Ch- Ch- Changin'**

...our name! With an anti-choice state and federal government, a woman's right to choose is at grave risk. To communicate the strength of the pro-choice majority in Minnesota and to coordinate with our national organization's new name—NARAL Pro-Choice America—*our Board and staff have recommended we change our name to:*



## **NARAL Pro-Choice Minnesota**



As a membership organization, we are interested in your thoughts on this name change. This fall we'll be establishing a process to accept your feedback on this exciting new name for Minnesota's largest pro-choice grassroots advocacy organization. In the meantime, you can show your approval of the name change by making a contribution in honor of **NARAL Pro-Choice Minnesota**. See page 3 for details.



### Mark Your Calendar!

Fall is on its way, bringing with it Minnesota NARAL's 12<sup>th</sup> Annual **House Tour and Silent Auction!** Our signature event will be held on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 1082 Summit Avenue, Saint Paul, from 5:30-7:30 PM. A few of this year's Silent Auction highlights include a wine tour and tasting at Alexis Bailly Vino; two tickets to see *The Exonerated*, at the Historic State Theatre, a Minnesota sports package, an original print with children's book from Betsy Bowen Studio, an autographed book from G. B. Trudeau (author of the *Doonisbury* comic) and a music sampler from Minnesota artists!

Tickets can be purchased from the Minnesota NARAL website ([www.mnnaral.org](http://www.mnnaral.org)) or by calling the office at (651) 602-7655. See you there!

### New Staff Member Adds Vitality

My name is Laura McCarty and I'm thrilled to be the new Development Coordinator. I have volunteered for Minnesota NARAL since I moved to Minneapolis, and have enjoyed working with the staff and meeting other members at the Wine & Beer Tasting and other fundraisers, so I look forward to becoming a coordinator of such events.

I grew up in Iowa and earned a bachelor's degree in nursing at the University of Iowa. By the time I finished the degree, it was clear to me that my real passion was in feminist activism, and I enrolled in the Women & Public Policy program at the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. During my two years of graduate school, I was a research assistant for both the Center on Women and Public Policy and the Humphrey Institute Policy Forum, occasionally moonlighting as a medical/surgical nurse at Fairview-University Medical Center. I finished my graduate work in May and will finish my thesis on maternity leave policies and single mothers this month.

#### NARAL Pro-Choice Minnesota

an affiliate of  
NARAL Pro-Choice America

- Yes**, I want to become a Sustaining Member of NARAL Pro-Choice Minnesota!

I will make a  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly

Donation of

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- \$25
- \$20
- \$15
- \$10
- \$5

Please fill out credit card information on right



#### I Support the Name Change and Want to Make NARAL Pro-Choice Minnesota Stronger!

Enclosed is my contribution of:

- \$1,000 Council of Trustees
- \$500 Blackmun Circle
- \$250 Sponsor
- \$100 Pacesetter
- \$50 Friend
- \$35 Member
- \$15 Limited Income
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Gift Membership

- I want to receive Choice Action Network E-mail Alerts. E-mail me at: \_\_\_\_\_

- Contact me about Corporate Matching Gifts

- Charge my credit card (*credit card payments save us time and money*)

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## Volunteers of the Month Summer 2003 Outreach Volunteers

This has been a very active summer for pro-choice outreach at Minnesota NARAL. Outreach activists have tabled at several county and community fairs, Pride celebrations across the state, and canvassed events and neighborhoods. Nearly 1,000 new petition signatures have been gathered this summer thanks to the dedication of summer volunteers.

"I have had a great time talking with people about the issues and educating people about what it means to be pro-choice," said Lisa Boynton, a frequent tabling volunteer. Thousands of conversations about pro-choice issues are started through the summer outreach program, playing a key role in educating the public about what is happening with Choice at the local and national levels. Matt Healy, another frequent volunteer, said that he is particularly appreciative of Minnesota NARAL's unique ability to educate people on the politics of Choice.



Summer outreach volunteers have done great work for Minnesota NARAL, and they get the satisfaction of knowing they are taking action to protect reproductive rights. **"Just being pro-choice doesn't protect Choice, taking action does. If we don't act, the other side will,"** states Regina Rodman, a longtime volunteer and former intern at Macalester College.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who has volunteered this summer!



12th Annual House Tour  
& Silent Auction  
September 15, 2003 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
Tickets: [www.mn.naral.org](http://www.mn.naral.org)

[info@mn.naral.org](mailto:info@mn.naral.org) [www.mn.naral.org](http://www.mn.naral.org)

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