

REPRODUCTIVE
FREEDOM^{FOR}ALL

REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

CONVERSATION GUIDE



One of the most effective ways to help people understand reproductive freedom is one-on-one conversations. This is a great way to inform others and forge new connections with those you care about, to help make a difference, one conversation at a time.

We know that these conversations can be intimidating. **Here are some strategies to help, along with a few things you might hear and helpful responses to help you get started:**

Do 

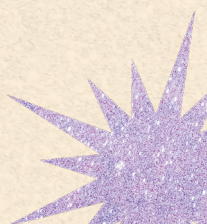


- ★ Focus on **finding shared values**, like the freedom to make decisions about our own lives and bodies, healthy families, and a right to privacy.
- ★ Validate them if they're surprised by any of the policies listed below. **Republicans are purposefully pushing these restrictions behind our backs** and lying to us, because they know how unpopular they are.
- ★ Name specific, recent actions that Republicans have taken to strip away our personal freedoms, like:
 - Defunding Planned Parenthood and gutting Medicaid
 - Allowing states to deny lifesaving care
 - Restricting safe, effective medications used for abortion and miscarriage care
 - Taking away existing privacy protections
- ★ Connect the dots to other attacks on our freedoms (like democracy, freedom of speech, etc) that are in the news.
 - This is government overreach into our lives, plain and simple.

- ★ Focus on the facts. Republicans are counting on “flooding the zone” to make it hard for people to pay attention to [all the things they’re doing](#) to take away our rights.
- ★ Describe the impact policies that threaten health care and reproductive freedom would have on them, or their loved ones.

For example:

- ★ “Republican politicians are working to take away existing health privacy protections, like HIPAA, that make it illegal for medical providers to share people’s personal medical and health records. This means medical providers could sell people’s personal medical and health records. **People suspected of having abortions could then be tracked and surveilled by the government** based on their private health data.”
- ★ “Republican politicians took away guidance that requires hospitals to provide life-saving abortion care to patients. People will be put in danger by being denied medical care.”
- ★ “Republican politicians voted to gut Medicaid funding and further restrict access to reproductive health care across the country. Their plan will cause **10 million Americans to lose their health insurance and close nearly 200 Planned Parenthood clinics**, which will make it even harder for people to access health care since millions of people rely on them for birth control, cancer screenings, and other preventive health care.”
- ★ Use stories to support your credibility. Tragically, there are many stories about the harm abortion bans cause. Some of those stories can be found [here](#).



Don't:

- ✕ Don't repeat anti-abortion language. Terms like "partial-birth," "late-term," "infanticide," and "abortion moments before birth" have no medical basis, and only add to the sea of disinformation surrounding abortion care.
- ✕ Don't accept the premise that Republicans are moderate in their position. **They want to ban all abortion, full stop,** and they are already taking action to make it happen.
- ✕ Don't get into debates about when and how to draw the line on when abortion should and should not be available. Instead focus your conversation on shared values, like the freedom to make decisions about our own lives.
- ✕ Don't buy the idea that Republicans are leaving abortion up to the states. From Trump stacking his cabinet with extremists who will help him implement Project 2025, nominating countless anti-abortion extremists to lifetime positions as federal judges, to the GOP toying with the idea of misusing a 150-year-old law to ban abortion nationwide, abortion is under attack.
- ✕ Don't say "I told you so"...no matter how tempting it might be.



Some things you might hear—and our advice on how to respond:

What they say: “As long as an abortion ban has exceptions, people will be able to access care”

The Truth: As we’ve seen time after time, exceptions simply don’t work.

What you can say: “Exceptions don’t work—and they weren’t designed to. As we’ve seen in **tragic stories of people dying or needlessly suffering after being denied abortion care, exceptions never work.**

They’re simply a marketing tool by bad actors to make their extreme bans seem reasonable.”

What they say: “Abortion ‘up until the moment of birth’ is wrong.”

The Truth: This doesn’t happen.

What you can say: “The idea of ‘abortion until the moment of birth’ or even ‘abortion after birth’ is **a lie made up by Republicans to create fear and confusion.** This does not happen. There are extremely difficult and personal decisions made by doctors and patients if there is a serious health complication that puts the pregnant person’s life in jeopardy, or if their baby is dying and will not survive.”

What they say: “Abortion bans aren’t really hurting people.”

The truth: Abortion bans cause immense harm to real people and their families every day.

What you can say: “Abortion bans are pushing abortion providers out of their states and preventing people with life-threatening medical conditions from accessing abortion care. In some cases, like the tragic

deaths of Amber Nicole Thurman, Candi Miller, and more, **abortion bans were directly responsible for people dying** because they were unable to get the care they needed in time.”

What they say: “Trump and Republicans in Congress said they won’t sign an abortion ban. They want to leave it up to the states.”

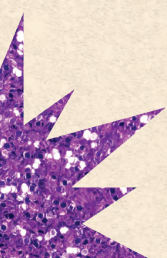
The truth: Republicans have shown us that this is simply not true. Trump is actively using every tool at his disposal to ban abortion nationwide.

What you can say: “Trump and the GOP have built their entire platform around lying to voters and saying whatever it takes to get elected. They have already gone back on every single one of their campaign promises—including promises to not attack reproductive health care—despite how unpopular these policies are.”

What they say: “I support abortion rights, but I care more about the economy and Trump will make the economy better.”

The truth: Reproductive freedom is an economic issue and Trump and Republicans in Congress are making all forms of health care more expensive while giving tax cuts to billionaires.

What you can say: “The Republican health care bill is going to make health care even more expensive. For people on ACA plans, like small business owners, costs are rising 30% on average. Meanwhile, they lowered taxes for billionaires—and are leaving us to foot the bill.”



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