



National Advocates  
for Pregnant Women

N A P W

RE: Story on "pro-choice" message missed 20 years of history

Dear Ms. Calmes:

As a long time reproductive justice advocate and (among other things) a former Vice President of Public Affairs at Planned Parenthood of New York City, I want to bring to your attention language and history missing from [your story about the pro-choice message](#).

In fact, women of color leaders have long challenged that message and [as early as 1994](#) offered a vibrant, movement building alternative: "Reproductive Justice." Up until their announcement in January of 2013, Planned Parenthood used and defended the term "pro-choice." While no one term has replaced that label, it is incorrect to suggest that challenges to it are new or led by Planned Parenthood.

I hope future coverage of this issue will recognize the depth and breadth of organizations and leadership by women of color, young women, and progressive white leaders who have long rejected the term pro-choice and the narrow political agenda it has represented.

Below please find contacts at national and state-based organizations as well as information that you might find helpful for future coverage of this issue:

Monica Simpson, Executive Director  
[Sistersong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective](#), Founded 1997  
Email: [monica@sistersong.net](mailto:monica@sistersong.net)

Loretta Ross, Founder of Sistersong  
One of the originators of Reproductive Justice  
Email: [lorossta@gmail.com](mailto:lorossta@gmail.com)

Laura Jimenez  
[California Latinas for Reproductive Justice](#),  
Founded 1994  
Email: [laura@clrj.org](mailto:laura@clrj.org)

Eveline Shen  
Asian Communities for Reproductive Justice-  
now [Forward Together](#)  
Email: [Eveline@forwardtogether.org](mailto:Eveline@forwardtogether.org)

Cristina Aguilar  
[COLOR](#) is a sisterhood of Latinas dedicated to building a movement of Latinas, their families and allies through leadership development, organizing and advocacy to create opportunity and achieve reproductive justice.  
Email: [cristina@colorlatina.org](mailto:cristina@colorlatina.org)

Malika Redmond, Executive Director  
[SPARK Reproductive Justice Now!](#)  
Email: [malika@sparkrj.org](mailto:malika@sparkrj.org)



Jill Irvine, Co-Director Center for Social Justice  
[Take Root: Red State Perspectives on Reproductive Justice](#)  
An annual conference in Norman, Oklahoma that in Feb of this year brought together more than 400 red state activists to learn about Reproductive Justice  
See <http://take-root.org/why-reproductive-justice/>  
Email: [Jill.Irvine@ou.edu](mailto:Jill.Irvine@ou.edu)

Jessica Gonzalez-Rojas, Executive Director  
[National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health](#)  
(Sponsoring the 2014 Latina Week of Action for Reproductive Justice)  
Email: [jessica@latinainstitute.org](mailto:jessica@latinainstitute.org)

Cherisse Scott, Founder and CEO  
[SisterReach: Empowered, Invested, & Committed to Reproductive Justice](#)  
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 NationalAdvocatesforPregnantWomen |  @NAPW

[www.advocatesforpregnantwomen.org](http://www.advocatesforpregnantwomen.org)

Tannia Esparza, Executive Director  
[Young Women United](#) organizes with our  
members, leaders, and activists to defend  
reproductive rights and build reproductive justice  
Email: [tesparza@youngwomenunited.org](mailto:tesparza@youngwomenunited.org)

Deon Haywood, Executive Director  
[Women With A Vision](#)  
Email: [deon@wwav-no.org](mailto:deon@wwav-no.org)

Miriam Yeung, Executive Director  
[National Asian Pacific American Women's  
Forum](#)  
Email: [myeung@napawf.org](mailto:myeung@napawf.org)

Undivided Rights: Women of Color Organize for  
Reproductive Justice,  
by Jael Silliman, Marlene Gerber Fried, Loretta  
Ross, and Elena Gutierrez (2004)

[A New Vision for Advancing our Movement for  
Reproductive Health, Reproductive Rights, and  
Reproductive Justice](#) (2005).

I hope you find this information of use.

Sincerely yours,

Lynn M. Paltrow  
Founder and Executive Director  
National Advocates for Pregnant Women (a Reproductive Justice organization, founded 2001!)