

Dear ,

It didn't take long.



GJC staff protests the Gag Rule at the White House.

In May, the Trump administration announced an [updated policy](#) greatly expanding the Global Gag Rule. This will have a drastic effect on \$8.8 billion in U.S. health care aid. As a result, millions of women and girls around the world will lose access to contraception

and maternal health care. Hundreds of clinics serving in-need populations around the world will be forced to close. Women will die.

[For more, please read my recent Op-Ed piece published in Ms. Magazine, on how to fight this odious policy.](#)

This isn't my first time fighting these restrictions. I was there in the 70s when Jesse Helms first introduced the Helms amendment, which restricts abortion services and speech with U.S. aid, and I was there in 1984 when Reagan first introduced the Gag Rule, which censors the aid of other donors.

Along the way, I have learned a few lessons. Lessons I am putting into practice in the Global Justice Center's current fight against Trump's Gag Rule.

First, we must take a hard look at why in the U.S. abortion is separated from women's equality and women's rights. This cannot continue. **Abortion is not a "social issue" open for compromise - abortion and reproductive rights are fundamental to women's equality.** Taking a lesson from our history, preserving the status quo has been proven to be counterproductive.

Second, we cannot legitimize harmful policies like the Helms amendment in our efforts to get rid of even more harmful policies like the Gag Rule. In 2016, for the first time, the repeal of Helms was included in the official Democratic Party platform. We need to build on that progress, not throw it away.

Finally, it is 2017, not 1970. The world has greatly changed, and this must be the foundation for what we do next. Women have many more positions and power in government. The U.N. Security Council has passed progressive resolutions on

women's rights. Globally, women's rights have leapfrogged to incredible heights, and 30 countries (other than the U.S.) have constitutions that provide women's equality guarantees.

The Global Justice Center is ready to fight. We have strategies in place using international law, along with the heightened civil society activism since Trump's election to push for gender equality all around the globe. **And, we will not compromise.**

[We ask you to support the Global Justice Center today with your donation, so together we can work and fight to achieve these ends.](#)

With hope, determination, and without compromise,



Janet Benshoof
President and Founder

P.S. **[GJC needs your support](#)**. No more compromise. For every \$3 you donate to GJC, an anonymous donor will match your gift with \$1.

**YOUR GIFT TODAY WILL HAVE GREATER IMPACT
THROUGH OUR MATCHING GIFT PROGRAM**

MATCH MY GIFT

See what's happening on our social sites

