

NO MAN'S LAND

A history of womens' right to choose & the policies that get in their way

All GOP candidates in the 2012 election are against abortion. If they win, women may have to begin the fight for freedom of choice once again. 2012

Obama outlaws Plan B, emergency contraception pill, to be sold over the counter to minors. The Personhood Act which defines human life as beginning at insemination makes its way to Congress. If passed, the bill would be used to challenge the Supreme Court's 1973, Roe vs. Wade, decision and not only outlaw abortion but also many kinds of birth control. 2011

President Bush signs the Partial-Birth Abortion Act, prohibiting certain abortion procedures. 2000

FDA approves the Plan B emergency contraception pill, sold over the counter. 1999

The court upheld a provision of the Pennsylvania Abortion Control Act that required the following: "physicians provide patients with anti-abortion information to discourage abortions." 1992

Planned Parenthood vs. Casey: US Supreme Court reverses its previous ruling preventing any state involvement in abortions before the end of the first trimester. 1990

Harris vs. McRae: US Supreme Court upholds the Hyde Amendment to the US Social Security Act that restricts Medicaid for abortion to cases of life endangerment, rape or incest. 1980

Missouri attempts to pass law requiring a married woman to obtain her husband's permission. US court overturns the decision in Planned Parenthood vs. Danforth. This is just one example of many anti-abortion states legislation that appears after 1973 to challenge Roe vs. Wade. 1976

Roe vs. Wade: US Supreme Court, legalizes abortion, overturning all state abortion bans. 1973

Doe vs. Bolton: the High Court rules that doctors may consider "all factors, physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and a woman's age" when considering a woman's needs for an abortion. 1973

Clergy offer consultation services on Abortion in 26 states. 1970

Restrictions on abortion are lifted in 16 states. 1967

1966 Margaret Sanger dies.

1965 Planned Parenthood is granted government funding in US Supreme Court case Griswald vs. Connecticut.

1912 Beginning in 1850, nearly all states pass laws banning abortion. The transportation of obscene literature is banned, including any information about birth control and abortion, called the Comstock Laws. What Every Girl Should know is publishes for The Call, by Margaret Sanger, an early feminist and pioneer of the movement to promote women's reproductive health rights.

1914 Sanger begins to challenge the Comstock Laws. Sanger announces a public campaign for birth control based on grounds of economics and feminism. The first issue of "The Women Rebel" is published and barred from the mail. Birth control is coined as a term by Sanger. First American Birth Control League is Founded by Sanger and friends. Consequently, Sanger is arrested for advocating birth control.

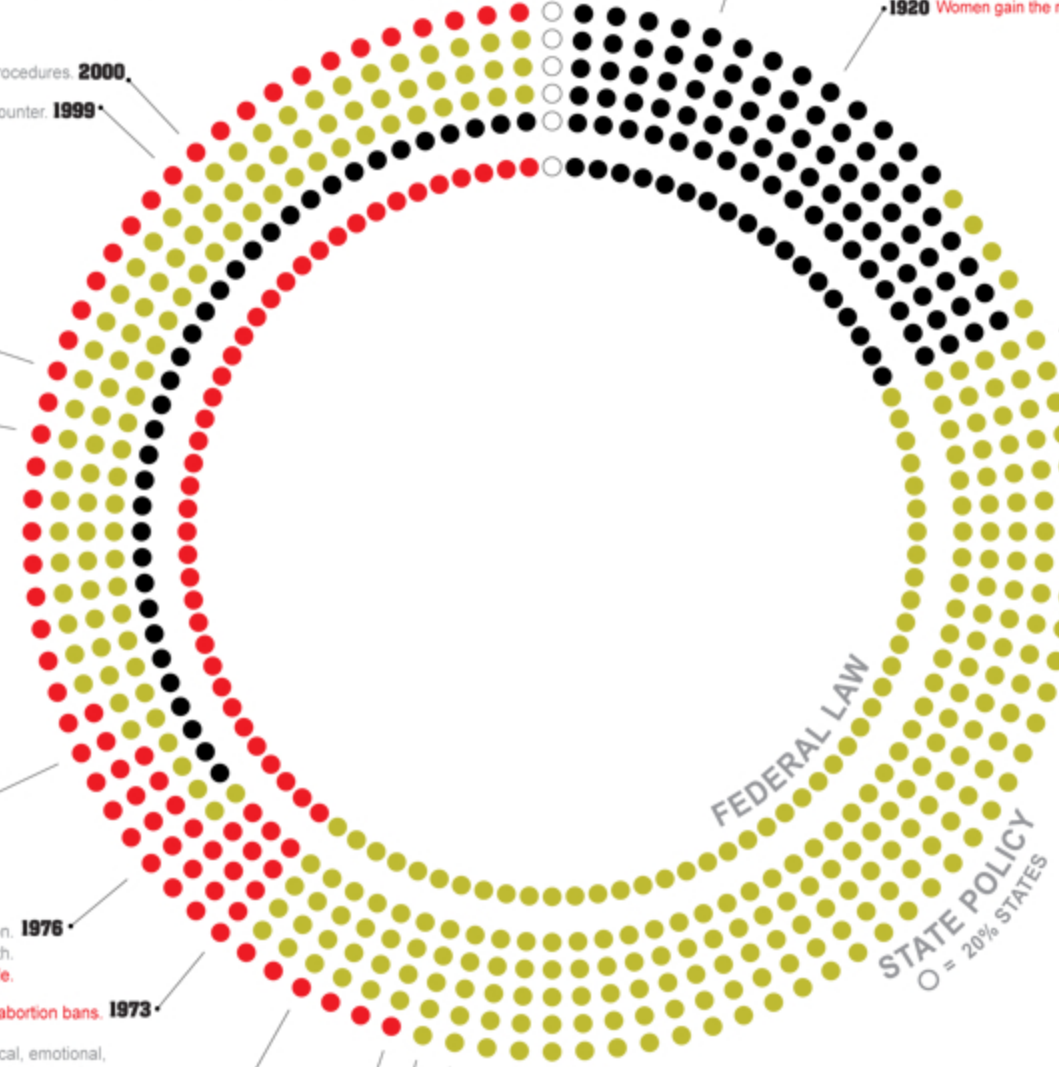
1916 The first birth control clinic in the US is opened on Amboy Street in Brooklyn, New York by Sanger. Sanger, Ethel Byrne and Fania Mindell are arrested the same year for opening the clinic.

1920 Women gain the right to vote.

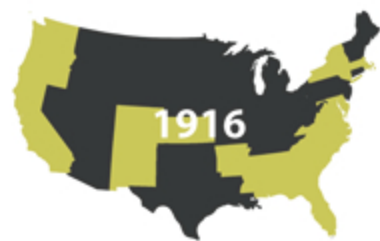
1930 The "Limited Bill" or "Doctors Bill" is introduced in the US Senate. The bill makes it legal for doctors to discuss birth control and abortion with patients.

1931 The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America makes a public health report approving birth control.

1937 The American Medical Association accepts birth control as an integral part of medical practice and education.



Margaret Sanger opens the first women's health clinic in Brooklyn, New York to discuss Contraception and abortion among married women.



Pro-Choice (red) Mixed-Choice (grey) Legal in cases of rape or danger to a women's health (black) Anti-Choice (yellow-green) Anti-Choice (dark grey)