



Advocacy Update

Sent February 9, 2011

The New York Times Says New Breast Cancer Study “turns standard medical practice on its head”

An important front page article in *The New York Times* today announced that a new “Lymph Node Study Shakes Breast Cancer Treatment.” The results of the study indicate that for 20% of women with early stage breast cancer (who meet certain criteria) removing the cancerous lymph nodes from their armpit “has no advantage.” Read the full article on this radical change in thought about breast cancer surgery and keep it in your health/medical files.

Action Urgently Needed to Protect Reproductive Rights and Health

Two weeks ago we informed you about the anti-choice “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act” (H.R. 3), which was introduced in the House of Representatives just prior to the 38th anniversary of the Roe v Wade decision.

H.R. 3 would permanently prevent the use of federal money for abortions for women served by Medicaid, the Indian Health Service, or military health facilities. Moreover, it would undermine women’s ability to purchase private health insurance or claim medical deductions for payment to health plans that include abortion. Tax credits would be denied for employee health plans that cover abortion.

Advocacy action is urgently needed! If you have not yet had a chance to contact your members of Congress to oppose the “No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act,” please do so now! Go to the Religious Action Center website for more information, to send an e-mail to urge your members of Congress to oppose H.R. 3, and to protect women's reproductive rights and health.

Interfaith Update Call: Housing on the Gulf Coast

WRJ is part of an interfaith effort, the [After the Spill: Religious Communities Restoring the Gulf Campaign](#), which has hosted a series of interfaith calls on several Gulf Coast-related concerns.

Several years have passed since the hurricanes – Katrina, Rita, Ike and Gustav – devastated the area. Yet the lack of affordable housing continues and much of the housing that is available along the Gulf coast is in poor condition. Although rebuilding of housing is ongoing in New Orleans and along the Gulf Coast, the challenge to providing the extent of the housing needed has also been complicated by the economic costs of the recent oil spill.

Join the campaign call on February 23 at 3pm EST to become informed about the situation on the ground by advocates working on the issue and government experts and to find out what you can do to help. Please let the campaign leaders know if you will join the conversation. RSVP today.

For more information on WRJ and Social Justice, visit www.wrj.org/social-justice-home