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HIPS Stands With People Seeking Abortions.

To effectively and sustainably fight against one form of criminalization - whether it is drug use, sex work, being unhoused and/or engaged in street economies, or abortion -- we must understand how *all forms* of criminalization operate in tandem to control, coerce, and oppress.

At HIPS, we know that people - all people - can be trusted to make their own decisions about their bodies. That includes the decision to end an unwanted pregnancy. Laws, policies, practices, and customs that criminalize people for making their own decisions about their bodies, engaging in life-sustaining conduct, or simply existing are antithetical to the individual right to self-determine and self-actualize one's future. HIPS works to decriminalize poverty, drug use and sex work as inextricably linked to the broader goals of the reproductive justice movement, which aims to secure all people's human right to "maintain personal bodily autonomy, have children, not have children, and parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities."¹ When the Supreme Court reversed *Roe v. Wade*, it further enshrined in law the belief that certain people are not entitled to that human right to bodily autonomy.

The court's own words demonstrate the interconnectedness of our movements - and the alignment of those who oppose them: "Attempts to justify abortion through appeals to a broader right to autonomy and to define one's 'concept of existence' prove too much. [...] Those criteria, at a high level of generality, could license fundamental rights to illicit drug use, prostitution, and the like."²

Stripping people of their constitutional right to have an abortion will not prevent them from having them. And HIPS is here to help. As harm reductionists, we understand our role in this fight is to stand with people seeking abortions, and to help them access the care they need, in the way that feels safest for them. In particular, we will continue to prioritize the needs and voices of members of our community who are most marginalized. Poor folks, trans, genderqueer, nonbinary, and other LGBTQIA2S+ people, BIPOC individuals, sex workers, drug users, people who have a history of incarceration, and undocumented folks will continue to be disproportionately impacted by both lack of access to essential medical care and carceral violence when attempting to care for themselves outside of traditional healthcare contexts.

In the coming months, we will be gathering as a community to craft a harm reductionist response and long-term strategy for supporting folks seeking abortions.³ Today, our hearts are with everyone who has had an abortion, to everyone seeking one now, and to all those who may need one in the future. We stand with you, and we love you.

¹ SisterSong, *Reproductive Justice*, <https://www.sistersong.net/reproductive-justice>

² *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, Slip Op. 19-1392 (Jun. 24, 2022), at 32. https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/21pdf/19-1392_6j37.pdf

³ On August 22nd, we will be hosting a virtual gathering on the intersections of harm reduction and reproductive justice. Email anna@hips.org if you would like to participate.

Resources for People Seeking Abortions:

- **Aid Access** is currently the only abortion provider who will prescribe pills to all 50 states, via non-US based clinicians. Offers sliding scale down to zero dollars, and a sliding scale down to 55.00 for advance pills for those who are not pregnant.
- **Plan C** has a state by state directory on how to get pills by mail. Particularly look at the information at the bottom of the page "creative ways to access pills," under the restrictive states.
- **DC Doulas for Choice Collective** provides in-person doula support for people before, during and after abortions.
- **M + A Hotline** has a free confidential hotline staffed by vetted doctor and nurse practitioner volunteers who answer questions about abortion.
- **Las Libres** provides virtual support in Spanish for people seeking abortions.
- **Repro Legal Helpline** has a free legal helpline where you can get help in emergency situations (such as, "If I transport this person from Kentucky to Virginia and buy them pills, what is my legal risk?", or "Hey, I thought I was 10 weeks pregnant and I just took these pills and had a 22 week fetus come out, what can I do with the remains?" (tissue disposal is how almost all the infamous self-managed abortion cases get arrested and tried).

Resources for Helping People Access Abortions:

- **Support Mississippi abortion funds** and organizers.
- **Donate to your local abortion fund** and others across the country and give to independent clinics. Amplify their calls to action! **Apiary Collective** is a network of practical support organizations. We recommend looking up your local funds and seeing which ones you feel like you want to support the most. Some funds are specifically set up for non English speakers, some are associated with certain clinics. Reading about your local abortion funds can help you become more dialed in to your local community of people who share your values.
- **Help fund direct support for those who will be investigated, arrested, and prosecuted for self-managing abortion** as clinical care becomes more difficult to access with a donation to the Repro Legal Defense Fund.
- **Register for this virtual Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization debrief** on July 12th at 12 PM PT/3 PM ET. If/When/How's panel will analyze the decision, lay out the post-Dobbs repro legal and policy landscape, and talk about next steps that move us towards a future where everyone can self-determine their reproductive lives freely, and thrive.
- **Register for HIPS' virtual gathering on the interconnections of harm reduction and reproductive justice**, happening on August 22nd. Email anna@hips.org for details.
- **Volunteer to be a clinic escort**. DC has long been a safe haven where people travel for abortion care. DC clinics will be busier than ever before, and will likely need volunteers.
- **Educate yourself, friends, and loved ones**. People can get pills right now before they are pregnant. People can still get abortion pills in all states through Aid Access, before and during pregnancy. Not enough people are aware of abortion pills or where to get them, and that you can get them through the mail. Here is a helpful article from the ACLU about **abortion access in DC**.
- If you want to **share your abortion story** as part of the movement to combat abortion stigma, **We Testify** supports abortion storytellers to share their experiences, perspectives and vision with the world – particularly people of color, people from rural and/or conservative communities, queer people, disabled folks, undocumented people, and people who struggled to receive support while navigating barriers in accessing abortion care.