Catholic Campuses & Contraception

Students, Not Scripture

CATHOLICS FOR CHOICE

In 1968, amid concerns that reversing the church's position would damage its reputation, Pope Paul VI reaffirmed the church ban on birth control (BC). Unsurprisingly, this unpopular decision caused the harm he tried to avoid.

Today, the Catholic hierarchy bans:

- Condoms
- BC pills
- Emergency contraception (EC)
- Intrauterine devices (IUDs)
- Tubal ligations & vasectomies

THIS BAN ISN'T ABOUT BIRTH CONTROL.

It's about CONTROLLING PEOPLE who can become pregnant and saving face for a church that struggles to admit when it errs.

BIRTH CONTROL FACTS

98% of Catholic women have used "artificial" BC (Guttmacher 2020)

ONLY 8% ← of Catholics think using BC is morally wrong (Pew 2016)

76% of Catholics think the church should allow BC (Pew 2015)

Find CFC's student org directory and campus organizing toolkit, download this zine, and join YCRC at catholicsforchoice.org/students

FIND US ON SOCIAL

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a timeline of CAMPUS REPRESSION

1968 The Catholic University of America (CUA) fires Father Charles Curran for supporting BC. Theology faculty across the country strike until his reinstatement.

1992 Georgetown University revokes H*yas for Choice's student organization status following a petition from anti-choice alumni.

2012 Catholic schools including University of Notre Dame (UND) & CUA sue the federal government for requiring that insurance plans cover BC.

2018 UND announces that it will halt contraceptive insurance coverage, so the student organization Irish 4 Reproductive Health sues the university.

After all that... feeling mad about the contraception ban?

→SAME!←

Here's how you can push back...

① Talk with your friends about contraception access on campus.

② Join CFC's Young Catholic Repro Collective (YCRC) — non-Catholic co-conspirators are welcome.

③ Share this zine!

CAMPUS BAN HOT TIPS

① Call Your Health Center

90% of Catholic campuses lack info on their website about BC provision.

② Find Student Organizations

Many orgs distribute condoms & EC. Interested in starting your own org? Visit catholicsforchoice.org/campustoolkit.

③ Learn Your Options Beyond Campus

Bedsider.org is a great resource to learn about BC & find health centers.

Repression techniques

Schools that ban contraception can.....

- Refuse to distribute BC for pregnancy prevention (or any reason)
- Prohibit students from distributing BC to fill gaps left by the school
- Threaten the status of student organizations that provide BC education or resources

Catholic campus contraception bans violate students' religious freedom, harming Catholics & non-Catholics alike.