

MY BODY, MY BIBLE, MY CHOICE

Faith and Reproductive Justice

Creating Change 2023



welcome CHECKIN

- name
- pronouns
- hometown
- interest/connection



meet the FACILITATORS







learning GOALS

- identify scriptures that support and defend access to reproductive care
- practice applying reproductive justice principles in real life situations
- feel empowered with resources to disrupt harmful narratives about faith and reproductive justice



overview

- community agreements
- grounding
- context
- tenants of RJ
- examples from religious traditions
- case study exploration
- resources



agreements

- be curious and courageous, not critical
- seek to understand
- permission to change your mind
- respect privacy
- speak for yourself
- expect and accept non-closure
- opt in/out





CONTEXT

- why faith + RJ?
- the majority of people of faith support reproductive freedom

disrupting and transcending old narratives



CONTEXT

a brief history of the reproductive justice movement



what is **REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE?**

- the right to have a child
- the right not to have a child
- the right to parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities
- the right to personal bodily autonomy



examples from faith communities

- Jewish law says... prioritize the health and well-being of the marginalized in matters of reproductive care; do justice
- Islam says... a pregnant person's life takes precedence; no one should endure hardship
- Christianity says... informed consent matters, and respect of free will; love above all



ways to ADVOCATE

- listening sessions
- writing / storytelling
- media
- lobbying
- public protest

FAITH IN PUBLIC LIFE

"From gun violence to abortion, those who are legislating from a white Christian nationalist framework are making life less safe for all communities. As a man of faith, I am called to proclaim that everyone is deserving of dignity, personal autonomy and the moral agency to decide what choices are best for themselves and their families."



FAITH IN PUBLIC LIFE

"People of faith overwhelmingly believe that people can be trusted to make their own moral decisions about their bodies...that reproductive health decisions should be made by individuals and the medical providers they trust, not politicians who wear their faith on their sleeve but fail to support the life-giving economic, childcare, education and healthcare policies we need to live with the dignity God desires."



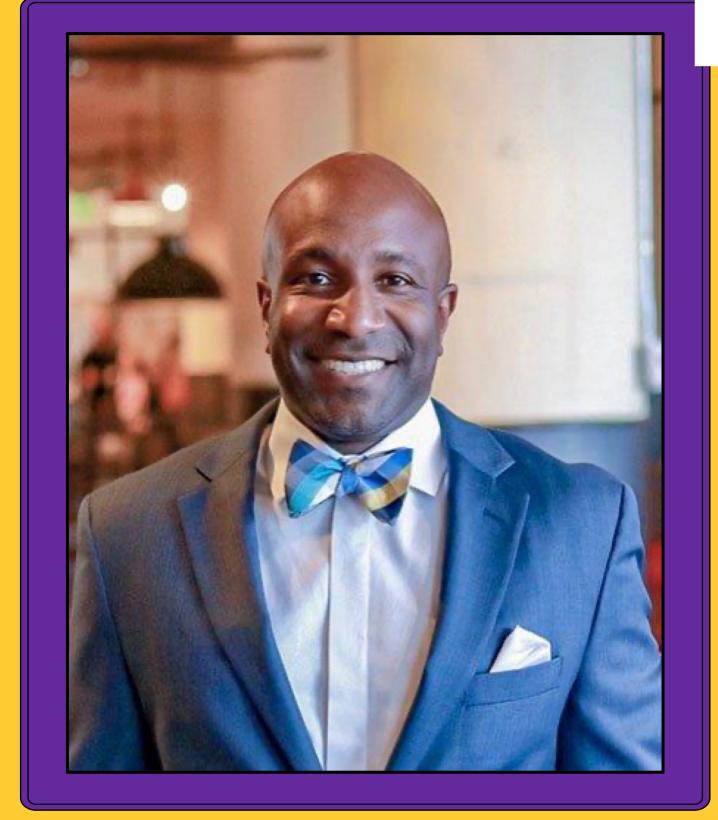
FAITH IN PUBLIC LIFE

"As Jewish, Muslim and Christian faith leaders we support access to abortion care because of our faith, not in spite of it. Our shared values of love, compassion and dignity and the core tenets of our faiths ground us in this belief."



FAITH IN PUBLIC LIFE

"Since God has entrusted us to care for and offer deep hospitality to each other, people of faith can work together to create a Georgia... where the care we need is fully available regardless of where we live, how much money we make or whether or not we have health insurance... where abortion care is free from social, political and religious shame and stigma."





real-world CASE STUDIES

- Who are the key stakeholders?
- What key challenges need to be resolved?
- How would you advocate for the individual(s) in this case?



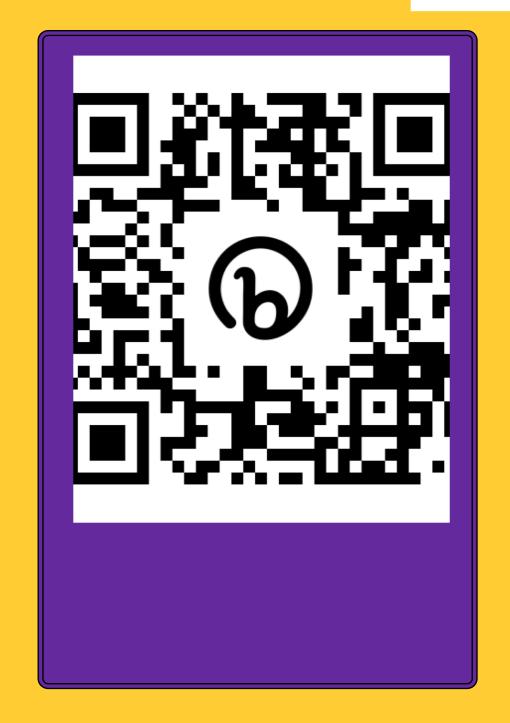
group findings





plug in RESOURCES

- faithinpubliclife.org and fplaction.com
- sistersong.net



let's stay

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