



Derrick Johnson  
President, NAACP  
4805 Mt. Hope Drive  
Baltimore MD 21215

February 15, 2024

## **An Open Letter to Derrick Johnson, the President and CEO of the NAACP**

Dear Mr. Johnson,

In 2023, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People released a document entitled “[Women’s Rights to Reproductive Freedom and Health](#).” In this document, your organization makes several disturbing statements, including the fact that you believe there is a “fundamental right to abortion.”

Do you realize that, in every abortion, a baby dies—often [violently](#)? A preborn baby is either starved, burned with a chemical, or torn apart limb from limb. This horrible tragedy is often called a “right,” but it is actually premeditated murder. Abortion is not only deadly for the baby but a travesty for the mother and other family members as well.

Your resolution then states that the NAACP “acknowledges reproductive justice as a core principle of civil and human rights and seeks to protect the right of all women, especially African American women, to exercise their reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy safely.”

Using words like *justice*, *reproductive freedom*, and *bodily autonomy* are meant to rouse emotions and incite anger. Yes, justice is an important value, but we cannot twist the word to include the taking of a child’s life. By its very definition, [justice](#) is the “maintenance or administration of what is just.” We must never allow our thinking to be so impaired that we believe that the administration of justice results in a deceased baby. Further, a woman’s reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy can never come at the price of a human life. The baby inside the mother has rights too. He is not *part* of her body; he merely resides *in* her body.

True freedom begins with truth, not the wretched slaying of the innocent preborn child.

The resolution then states, “Abortion bans negatively affect the financial security and social advancement of women.”

Children are not a blight on society, and statements such as these make it seem like they are nothing more than a disease to eradicate. These attitudes prevent our society from revering motherhood

and children. If businesses and corporations truly cared about women, they would embrace their children as well. They would allow flexibility in working hours and locations, add childcare facilities to their buildings, and give ample time off when a mom has her baby. But the business world wants to make women the same as men—and we are not the same. Treating women and men equally is crucial, but saying that a man and a woman *are* the same is not only wrong but denigrating to women. When a woman fears losing her job or her livelihood because she has a baby, we must step back and wonder what is wrong with society. It is not more abortion that we need; it's more respect for the vocation of motherhood. Organizations like yours would do better to help promote this kind of freedom for women rather than a false freedom that allows a mother to kill her child.

The resolution also states that “abortion access is a racial justice issue.” But do you realize that organizations like Planned Parenthood [target black women](#) for abortions? Where is the justice for these moms and babies when the majority of PP's abortion facilities are located in minority neighborhoods?

In addition, the Center for Disease Control's latest [Abortion Surveillance Report](#) found that almost 42% of the abortions in America are committed on black babies. This is a terrible tragedy that should concern you greatly, as data show that almost [20 million black babies](#) have been killed since *Roe v. Wade*. That's over 1,000 babies every day! Abortion is the ultimate racism.

Caring about the black community should mean that you care about these babies killed and about the moms who often feel they have no other choice.

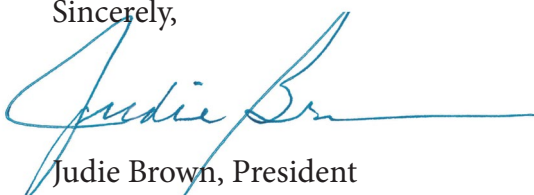
We also see in the NAACP document that “women who are denied abortion care face greater levels of stress and an increased risk of developing depressive, bipolar, and anxiety disorders during pregnancy.”

However, if we take a closer look, we will see that there is no citation for the sources you use when making assertions like this. So we did a little research on our own to determine the truth. In a recent article entitled “[No, Recent Pro-Life Laws Did Not Cause Mental-Health Problems among Women](#),” Michael New, a researcher for the Lozier Institute, wrote, “[At the end of January], the *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* published a study claiming that the recent passage of pro-life laws resulted in higher rates of both anxiety and depression among women.” He explained several methodological problems with the study, including the fact that it “had only a 6 percent response rate” and used inaccurate and incomplete data from states. He concluded that the assertion that pro-life laws hurt the mental health of women is exaggerated, if not unfounded.

This month—Black History Month—is a time to celebrate the people in the African American community who have made great contributions to our society. It's a time to focus on what has been and what could be. But it should also be a time to think about what could have been. Over 20 million babies have been lost. Over 20 million families have been torn apart. This breaks our hearts, and it should break your heart as well.

Abortion is truly one of the greatest injustices of our time. Black women and black babies deserve better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judie Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Judie Brown, President  
American Life League