

# NCJW Resolutions

## *2014–2017*

NCJW<sup>®</sup>

National Council of Jewish Women

# PRINCIPLES

*These principles are fundamental beliefs of the National Council of Jewish Women. They are basic to and inherent in all specific resolutions.*

## **PRINCIPLE 1**

Individual liberties and rights guaranteed by the Constitution are keystones of a free and pluralistic society and must be protected and preserved.

## **PRINCIPLE 2**

Religious liberty and the separation of religion and state are constitutional principles that must be protected and preserved in order to maintain our democratic society.

## **PRINCIPLE 3**

Human rights and dignity are fundamental and must be guaranteed to all individuals.

## **PRINCIPLE 4**

All individuals have the right to live in a world at peace.

## **PRINCIPLE 5**

A democratic society and its people must value diversity and promote mutual understanding and respect for all.

## **PRINCIPLE 6**

Discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or economic status must be eliminated.

## **PRINCIPLE 7**

Equal rights and equal opportunities for women must be guaranteed.

## **PRINCIPLE 8**

The continuity of the Jewish people and its heritage, and respect among all streams of Judaism, must be assured from generation to generation.

### **PRINCIPLE 9**

The survival and security of the State of Israel and the establishment of a just and permanent peace are central to the Jewish people and vital to the interests of the United States.

### **PRINCIPLE 10**

A democratic society must provide for the needs of those unable to provide for themselves.

### **PRINCIPLE 11**

Health, education, and human services must be coordinated, comprehensive, accessible, and sufficiently funded.

### **PRINCIPLE 12**

An educated and informed public is fundamental to a democratic society.

### **PRINCIPLE 13**

The protection and preservation of the environment are vital to a sustainable future.

### **PRINCIPLE 14**

A democratic society depends on the collective efforts of the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors and is strengthened by the commitment and contribution of volunteers.

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## **THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN WILL WORK ON BEHALF OF THE FOLLOWING PRIORITIES:**

- ▶ Advance the Well-being and Status of Women
- ▶ Advance the Well-being of Children and Families
- ▶ Enhance the Quality of Jewish Life
- ▶ Ensure and Advance Individual and Civil Rights
- ▶ Support a Secure Israel and the Well-being of All Its People

Within these priorities, the National Council of Jewish Women endorses and resolves to work for the following resolutions:

## **I. Advance the Well-being and Status of Women**

We endorse and resolve to work for:

- I.1 Laws, policies, programs, and services that protect every woman from all forms of abuse, exploitation, harassment, and violence.
- I.2 Comprehensive, accessible, quality services for women's health supported by equitable and sufficient research and funding.
- I.3 Comprehensive, confidential, accessible family planning and reproductive health services, regardless of age or ability to pay.
- I.4 Employment laws, policies, and practices that provide equal pay and benefits for work of comparable worth and equal opportunities for advancement.
- I.5 Representation, participation, and involvement of women in all aspects of the democratic process.

## **II. Advance the Well-being of Children and Families:**

We endorse and resolve to work for:

- II.1 Laws, policies, programs, and services that protect every child from abuse, neglect, exploitation, bullying, and violence.
- II.2 Environmental laws, policies, and programs that promote the health of children and families.
- II.3 Quality public education for all, utilizing public funds for public schools only.
- II.4 Comprehensive services and policies that enable all children to succeed in school.
- II.5 Comprehensive, medically accurate, age-appropriate sexuality education in public schools.
- II.6 Quality, comprehensive child care, early childhood education including universal pre-K and full day kindergarten, and school-age programs that are affordable and accessible for all.
- II.7 Laws, policies, and employment practices that allow workers to meet both family and work responsibilities.

- II.8** Laws, policies, and programs that provide a level of services that meet basic human needs while encouraging self-sufficiency.
- II.9** Laws and policies that ensure fair pay and a living wage for all workers.
- II.10** Equitable fiscal and tax policies that ensure sufficient revenues for basic human needs and economic security.
- II.11** Quality, comprehensive, confidential, nondiscriminatory health care coverage and services, including mental health, that are affordable and accessible for all.
- II.12** Laws, policies, programs, and services that promote wellness.
- II.13** Research and funding for advances in medicine, public health, and safety.
- II.14** Laws, policies, programs, and services that address the needs of older adults and protect them from abuse, neglect, exploitation, and violence.
- II.15** Laws, policies, and programs that restrict and regulate firearms and ammunition, promote gun safety, and prevent gun violence.
- II.16** Consumer protection laws that promote and enhance public health and welfare.

### **III. Enhance the Quality of Jewish Life:**

#### **We endorse and resolve to work for:**

- III.1** The elimination of anti-Semitism.
- III.2** Religious and cultural freedom for all Jews.
- III.3** The advancement of religious pluralism through understanding, cooperation, and respect among all streams of Judaism in Israel and the Diaspora.
- III.4** The acceptance, fair treatment, and participation of all Jews, regardless of gender, age, disability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression in all aspects of Jewish life; according to their individual beliefs.

## **IV. Ensure and Advance Individual and Civil Rights:**

We endorse and resolve to work for:

- IV.1** The enactment, enforcement, and preservation of laws and regulations that protect civil rights and individual liberties for all.
- IV.2** The protection of every female's right to reproductive choices, including safe and legal abortion, medically accurate information, access to contraception, and the elimination of obstacles that limit reproductive freedom.
- IV.3** The protection of every individual's right to privacy.
- IV.4** The recognition and protection of children by the legal system and the provision for their unique needs.
- IV.5** Laws and policies that provide equal rights for individuals and couples of any and all sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.
- IV.6** The abolition of the death penalty.
- IV.7** The prevention and elimination of censorship of educational resources and the promotion of historically factual and scientifically accepted public information.
- IV.8** Equal opportunity for all in the public and private sectors through programs such as affirmative action.
- IV.9** Comprehensive, humane, and equitable immigration, refugee, asylum, and naturalization laws, policies, and practices that facilitate and expedite legal status and a path to citizenship for more individuals.
- IV.10** The historically accurate study of the Holocaust and other acts of genocide as part of the regular curriculum in all schools.
- IV.11** The elimination of genocide and other crimes against humanity.
- IV.12** Election laws, policies, and practices that ensure easy and equitable access and eliminate obstacles to the electoral process so that every vote counts and can be verified.
- IV.13** The recognition, prevention, and elimination of all forms of human trafficking.

## **V. Support a Secure Israel and the Well-being of All Its People:**

**We endorse and resolve to work for:**

- V.1** Policies and programs that promote peaceful co-existence within Israel and between Israel and its neighbors.
- V.2** Diplomatic, economic, and military assistance to Israel by the United States.
- V.3** Recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.
- V.4** Efforts that counter attempts to delegitimize Israel.
- V.5** The empowerment of all women in Israel and the advancement of their status and rights.
- V.6** Policies, programs, and services that promote the well-being of all women, children, and families in Israel.
- V.7** Policies and programs in Israel that promote pluralism, inclusion, and equality for all its people in all aspects of their lives.