

National Council of Jewish Women

Resolutions

2023-2026

National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is the oldest Jewish feminist civil rights organization working for equity and justice for women, children, and families in the United States and Israel.

Through the efforts of our 210,000 grassroots advocates and 50 local sections, NCJW combines education, direct service, and advocacy to affect lasting social change at the local, state, and national levels.

We approach our work Jewishly and through the intersections of gender, economic, and racial justice to center those most impacted.

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

Since our founding, NCJW has advanced the cause of women's rights and equality. Honoring our history, we use the terms "women" and "woman" throughout the Resolutions. We recognize and appreciate that gender is expansive and language is often limiting: we are an inclusive home for advocates of all gender identities, whether as advocates or for whom we advocate.

Principles

1. Individual liberties and rights guaranteed by the Constitution are keystones of a democratic and pluralistic society and must be protected and preserved.
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.
3. Human rights and dignity are fundamental and must be guaranteed to all individuals.
4. All individuals have the right to live in a peaceful world, free from violence and persecution.
5. A democratic society must value and promote diversity, equity, inclusion, mutual understanding, and respect for all.
6. Equal rights and equitable opportunities for all people must be guaranteed, and all forms of discrimination must be eliminated.
7. Every individual has the right to bodily autonomy and privacy, free from governmental, political, and religious interference in all health care decisions.
8. Social justice efforts must be informed and guided by the leadership and experiences of communities most impacted.
9. The continuity of the Jewish people and its heritage, and respect for and among all Jews from every background and stream of Judaism, must be ensured from generation to generation.
10. 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.
11. A democratic society must end systemic marginalization and provide support for individuals in need and under-resourced communities.
12. Comprehensive mental and physical health, education, and human services must be accessible, equitable, and sufficiently funded.
13. An educated and informed public is fundamental to a democratic society.
14. The protection, preservation, and restoration of the environment is vital to a sustainable future.
15. 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.

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**

I. Advance the Well-being and Status of Women

I.1 Laws, policies, programs, and services that protect every woman from all forms of abuse, exploitation, harassment, discrimination, and violence.

I.2 Comprehensive, affordable, accessible, confidential, equitable, and quality health products and services, including abortion, gender-affirming, reproductive, maternal, and sexual health care.

I.3 Health services based on full and unbiased medically accurate information, supported by inclusionary and scientific research and funding.

I.4 Laws, policies, and programs that protect every person's individual right to make decisions about whether to have or not have children and to birth, adopt, and/or parent with dignity.

I.5 Employment laws, policies, and practices that provide equal pay and benefits for work of comparable worth and equitable opportunities for advancement.

I.6 Representation, participation, and involvement of women in all aspects of the democratic process.

II. Advance the Well-being of Children and Families

II.1 Laws, policies, programs, and services that protect and provide age-appropriate agency for every child and youth from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation, bullying, discrimination, harassment, and violence.

II.2 Environmental laws, policies, and programs that protect and promote the health, safety, and well-being of children, youth, and families.

II.3 Quality public education for all, utilizing public funds for public schools only.

II.4 Public education that embraces unbiased historically factual and scientifically accurate information, fights censorship, and explores systemic inequity in America.

II.5 Laws, policies, comprehensive supports, opportunities, and services that enable all children and youth to succeed and thrive in school.

II.6 Comprehensive, inclusive, medically accurate, gender-affirming, and age-appropriate sexual health education, including healthy relationships and sexual violence prevention, in public schools.

II.7 Quality, comprehensive, affordable, and accessible childcare, early childhood education (including universal pre-K and full-day kindergarten), and school-age programs.

II.8 Laws, policies, and employment practices that allow workers to meet both family and work responsibilities.

II.9 Equitable laws, policies, and programs, including fiscal and tax policies, that provide a level of services that ensure a sufficient standard of living to meet basic human needs.

II.10 Laws, policies, and programs that ensure fair pay, a living wage, and access to training and educational opportunities for all.

II.11 Fair housing laws, policies, and programs that promote equitable access to healthy, safe, affordable, quality housing.

II.12 The recognition and protection of all children and youth by the legal system and the provision for their unique needs.

II.13 Quality, comprehensive, confidential, appropriate, nondiscriminatory mental and physical health care coverage and services that are affordable and accessible for all.

II.14 Laws, policies, programs, and services that provide older adults with agency, address their needs, and protect them from all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation, bullying, discrimination, harassment, and violence.

II.15 Research and funding for advances in medicine, public health, safety, and violence prevention.

II.16 Expansion and enforcement of laws, policies, and programs that regulate firearms and ammunition, ban assault and other military-style weapons and accessories, and prevent gun violence and promote gun safety.

II.17 Gun violence prevention efforts that empower community leadership, protect marginalized people, reduce the factors and root causes that increase the risk of violence, promote healing, and prevent further trauma.

II.18 Consumer laws, policies, and programs that protect and enhance financial well-being, general welfare, and promote economic justice.

III. Enhance the Quality of Jewish Life

III.1 The elimination of antisemitism.

III.2 Religious and cultural freedom for all Jews.

III.3 The advancement of religious pluralism through understanding, cooperation, and respect for and among all streams of Judaism in Israel and the Diaspora.

III.4 The acceptance, equitable treatment, and participation of all Jews in all aspects of Jewish life regardless of individual identity, status, or belief.

IV. Ensure and Advance Individual and Civil Rights

IV.1 The enactment, enforcement, and preservation of laws and regulations that protect civil rights and individual liberties for all.

IV.2 The advancement of every person's right to reproductive freedom, including access to legal abortion, medically accurate information, contraception, fertility treatments, adoption, and the elimination of obstacles that limit reproductive justice.

IV.3 The protection of every individual's right to privacy.

IV.4 Laws and policies that advance equal rights for all regardless of race, gender, national origin, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status, immigration status, parenthood status, or medical condition.

IV.5 The abolition of the death penalty.

IV.6 The promotion of unbiased, historically factual, and scientifically accepted public information.

IV.7 Equitable opportunity and justice for all in the public and private sectors through policies and programs that support diversity, equity, and inclusion.

IV.8 Comprehensive, humane, and equitable immigration, refugee, and asylum laws, policies, and practices.

IV.9 The historically accurate study of the Holocaust and other acts of genocide as part of the regular curriculum in all schools.

IV.10 The elimination of genocide and other crimes against humanity.

IV.11 Election laws, policies, and practices that ensure — without foreign or domestic interference — safe, easy, and equitable access to the ballot and eliminate obstacles to the electoral process so that every vote counts and can be verified.

IV.12 The recognition, prevention, and elimination of all forms of human trafficking and the promotion of survivor-centered policies.

IV.13 A qualified, fair, independent, unbiased, and diverse judiciary with a commitment to the constitutional guarantee of equal justice for all.

IV.14 The enactment and enforcement of comprehensive, humane, and equitable criminal legal reform.

IV.15 Laws, policies, and programs that promote racial justice and eliminate systemic racism and discrimination.

IV.16 The protection of democracy and the rule of law, and resistance to all anti-democratic movements.

IV.17 The inclusion and acceptance of all individuals no matter their gender self-identification.

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

V.1 Policies and programs that promote a shared society within Israel and peaceful and productive relations between Israel and its neighbors.

V.2 A mutually agreed, secure, and just two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, with the State of Israel, a democratic Jewish homeland, living side by side with a state of Palestine in mutual respect, recognition, peace, and independence.

V.3 Diplomatic, economic, and military assistance to Israel by the United States.

V.4 Efforts that counter attempts to delegitimize Israel's existence as a Jewish and democratic state.

V.5 Justice and equity for all women in Israel and the advancement of their rights, status, and influence.

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 democracy, pluralism, inclusion, empowerment, equity, and equality for all its people in all aspects of their lives.

V.8 Policies and programs that ensure the State of Israel as the homeland for the Jewish people of all denominations and ethnic identities.