



NFARAL

North Florida Abortion Rights Action League
5150 Fremont Street, Jacksonville, Florida 32210
904-355-5772

JANIS COMPTON-CARR
COORDINATOR

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Action of the Year: Election Day November 4, 1980, will be a day of great rejoicing or great regret, depending on how the pro-choice majority votes. Most candidates this year have been vocal about their position on the issue of legal abortion, and it behooves us all to take those statements into consideration as we enter the voting booth. The man elected President this year may well have the opportunity to appoint as many as five Supreme Court Justices. This, alone, makes the election of particular import, but the candidates' views on other aspects of abortion rights are nearly as critical. On the Congressional level, pro-choice Floridians have an opportunity to gain a Senate seat--Dick Stone, who enjoyed (?) the endorsement of the Florida Right-to-Life, lost in the primary race. (So much for the ability of the anti-abortion contingent to get out the vote for their endorsees!) The U.S. House seats, while not as hotly contested, are equally important. In addition, most of the Florida House and Senate seats are up for grabs, and these races may prove vital as we once again fight against a Call for Constitutional Convention.

Unfortunately, those of us living in the northern half of Florida (Congressional Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 9) often have little from which to choose when it comes to elected officials. Most of the Congressmen from these districts consistently vote against abortion rights, while Sen. Chiles can be classified only as "usually supportive." State offices are generally no better. This situation leads to an interesting and difficult question: given two candidates equally poor on the issue of legal abortion, how does one decide for whom to vote?

One course of action is to vote automatically against the incumbent, on the hopes that a newly seated official will either (a) be somewhat educable, or (b) have so little seniority as to be relatively powerless. This course also provides for the next step, which is to repeat this process in 1982 or 1984, as the case may be. There is much merit, obviously, in this philosophy,

The other view is that, other things being equal, a Democratic Congress is generally more amenable to abortion rights than is a Republican Congress, and one should therefore vote for the Democratic candidates. This perspective may be disagreeable to life-long Republicans, as well as some non-Republicans, but in general it also has certain advantages.

The following lists are not intended as endorsements, but rather as educational items. Seats which are uncontested are omitted, as are most seats in which there is no pro-choice candidate. As you vote, please remember that candidates are, with varying degrees of realism, expected to support the platform of their party. The Democratic platform calls for federal funding for abortion. The Republican platform urges an anti-abortion amendment to the Constitution and appointment to the judiciary at all levels of people who profess to respect human life (which is, as usual, a code phrase for "oppose abortion").

CANDIDATE	PARTY	INCUMBENT?	POSITION/COMMENTS
<u>President of the United States</u>			
Jimmy Carter	D	X	Supports Supreme Court decision but opposes federal funding
Ronald Reagan	R		Opposes all abortion, would work for anti-abortion amendment (HLA)
John Anderson	I		Very pro-choice, supports federal funding
<u>U.S. Senate</u>			
Bill Gunter	D		Basically anti but <u>opposes</u> HLA
Paula Hawkins	R		Very anti, supports HLA, endorsed by FRTL
<u>U.S. House - District 1</u>			
Earl Hutto	D	X	Consistently votes anti-abortion
Warren Briggs	R		
<u>District 2</u>			
Don Fuqua	D	X	Consistently votes anti-abortion
John R. LaCapra	R		
<u>District 3</u>			
Charles E. Bennett	D	X	Consistently votes anti-abortion
Harry Radcliffe	R		
<u>District 4</u>			
Bill Chappell	D	X	Consistently votes anti-abortion
Barney E. Dillard, Jr.	R		
<u>District 5</u>			
David Best	D		Unknown
Bill McCollum	R		Unknown
<u>District 9</u>			
Bill Nelson	D	X	Consistently votes anti-abortion
Stan Dowiat	R		
<u>Florida Senate - District 3</u>			
Dempsey J. Barron	D	X	Reportedly will support Call to Constitutional Convention (Con-Con)
Elliott Messer	R		
<u>District 7</u>			
Dan Jenkins	D		Very anti, opposes federal funding, supports HLA
C. Lee Daniel	R		Very anti BUT opposes HLA
<u>District 13</u>			
Alan Trask	D	X	Very anti, one of biggest foes in Fla. Senate
Thad Lowery	R		

Candidate	Party	Incumbent?	Position/Comments
<u>District 17</u>			
John Vogt	D	X	Very anti
Art Grindle	R		
<u>District 22</u>			
Steve Pajcic	D	X	Very pro-choice, good friend in the Florida House
Bob Vanner	R		
<u>District 34</u>			
Pat Southward	D		
Bobby Brantley	R	X	Very anti

From 1973 to 1978, the number of births to teenagers, age 17 and under, steadily declined from 12,170 to 9,507. ##### A slightly larger proportion of teenage mothers are having children in their early teens: in 1972, 21.5% of teenagers having children were age 15 and under; by 1978 this percentage increased to 22.8%. ##### One in five U.S. females have intercourse by age 16; two out of three by age 19. ##### One in 10 U.S. women becomes pregnant before age 17. ##### Teenagers, ages 15-19, accounted for one-third of the 60,377 gonorrhea cases reported in Florida during 1978. ##### In 1978, 84,330 dependent children were referred to Florida's child abuse authorities. Child abuse or neglect was the reason for 61,984 of these referrals. ##### In 1978, 2,273 Florida children were reported as sexually abused.

Source: "The State of the Child: Florida 1980", a report prepared by The Florida Center for Children and Youth, 102 South Calhoun Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301.

We know you get tired of hearing pleas for more money; we get tired of making them. But it is a necessity: from July 1 to October 24 we have received \$385--and we have spent \$465. Your memberships and contributions are the only income NFARAL has. Your help is needed if we are to continue. Please join today-- help keep North Florida's only pro-choice organization alive and active. Help keep abortion safe and legal for all women.

YES, I want to join NORTH FLORIDA ABORTION RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE and help keep abortion safe and legal.

Enclosed is my check for (check one):

_____ \$ 7.50 Regular Membership

_____ \$25.00 Sponsoring Membership

_____ \$50.00 Organization Membership

Enclosed is my additional contribution of \$ _____

**YES, I want to become a member of the NATIONAL ABORTION RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE also.

Enclosed is my check (payable to NFARAL) for \$15.00 _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

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Vote Pro-Choice!!