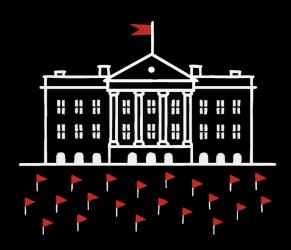
# Repro Red Flags: Trump's First 100 Days



## INTRODUCTION

In just 100 days in office, President Trump has taken unprecedented action to restrict access to reproductive health care in the United States and around the world. His administration is stacked with extreme opponents of reproductive freedom working day and night to undermine the rule of law we depend on to uphold our fundamental rights. Individually, these officials have great power; together, they will do long-lasting damage to human rights and to our democracy.

The Center for Reproductive Rights is a global legal advocacy organization dedicated to advancing reproductive freedom. We launched our Repro Red Flags: Agency Watch initiative on day one of the Trump administration to connect the dots between key anti-rights officials and the harmful policies they enact. At the 100-day mark, we're highlighting President Trump's top five Repro Red Flags, sounding the alarm about the administration's sweeping attacks on reproductive rights. From cutting off access to abortion care and contraception, to dismantling the public health system that supports maternal health and infertility care, to threatening abortion patients and providers with unchecked violence, let's be clear: your reproductive rights are in danger.

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## Restricted Access to Reproductive Health Care in the U.S.

## WHAT'S HAPPENED?

President Trump and his extreme anti-abortion appointees have put our health and safety at risk. They have launched a coordinated attack to make it harder to access reproductive health care, including emergency abortion care and contraceptive care.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- Need emergency abortion care? The Trump administration has made it clear that they no longer plan to defend pregnant people in medical emergencies—even if your life is at risk.
  - → Within weeks of taking office, the Trump administration <u>dropped</u> the government's <u>litigation</u> <u>efforts to enforce protections for emergency abortion care under the Emergency Medical</u> <u>Treatment & Labor Act (EMTALA)</u>. EMTALA requires hospitals to provide immediate, life-saving stabilizing treatment to all patients with emergency medical conditions.
  - → This case had challenged Idaho's near-total abortion ban, one of the strictest in the country, as a violation of EMTALA. When Idaho's abortion ban was fully in effect, it forced hospitals to <u>airlift</u> women out of the state while they were hemorrhaging so they could get life-saving abortions. In dropping this case, the Trump administration has turned its back on pregnant people in the most dire situations.

## WHO DID PRESIDENT TRUMP PUT IN CHARGE?

## **Dean John Sauer, Solicitor General**

The office of the Solicitor General has the power to determine whether to file an appeal in cases decided against the United States. Sauer is a career litigator who has been prolific in defending Missouri's restrictive abortion laws and regulations.



- Need access to birth control, cancer screenings, or other basic reproductive health care? The Trump administration has frozen funds for these services at many clinics—and yours might be next.
  - → The Trump administration <a href="https://has.grant.nc.in/mais.or/">has frozen</a> millions of dollars in funds for certain Title X grant recipients. Title X is the country's only federal program dedicated to funding family planning and related reproductive health services, offering vital care to low-income and marginalized communities.
  - → Title X clinics are the sole source of health care for many of their patients. Funding for Title X has historically <u>sustained</u> an estimated 4,000 clinics and, in 2023, <u>supplied millions</u> of people with essential care including pregnancy testing, infertility services, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), breast and cervical cancer screenings, HPV vaccinations, birth control, and HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP).
  - → The <u>funding freeze</u> puts clinics across the country at risk of shuttering completely and jeopardizes the health of patients and families who already face financial barriers to accessing care.
- Serve in the U.S. Military? The Trump administration has made it even harder for you to access abortion care.
  - → Servicemembers stationed in states that ban abortion need the ability to travel to get reproductive care because the military only covers abortion care under extremely limited circumstances.
  - → But President Trump has <u>ended policies</u> that helped servicemembers cover the cost of traveling for abortion care and gave them time off to obtain this care. These changes will make it harder for servicemembers to access the care they need and deserve, putting their health and safety at risk.
- ► Get care through the Veterans Health Administration?

  The Trump administration is poised to impose the strictest abortion ban in the country on VA health services.
  - → The Trump administration's <u>Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)</u> has submitted a regulation to the White House for consideration that we anticipate would <u>reinstate a total ban on abortion care</u> <u>and counseling</u>—even to save the life of the veteran. This would be the strictest abortion ban in the country.



## Doug Collins, VA Secretary

As VA Secretary, Collins oversees the Veterans Health Administration and has the power to decide what services the VA provides in its healthcare system, which serves nearly nine million veterans. Collins, a former member of the House of Representatives, proudly refers to himself as "unapologetically pro-life" and consistently backed legislation restricting abortion access, including a bill that would have enshrined fetal personhood into law.



## Russell Vought, OMB Director

Vought has advocated for abortion bans without any exceptions—including to save the life of the pregnant person—and co-authored Project 2025. President Trump chose him to lead the Office of Management and Budget, where he oversees the administration's review of federal executive branch regulations, including those impacting reproductive rights.

## Repro Red Flags: Trump's First 100 Days

- → For some veterans, the VA is their only source of health care. With a ban in place, and 12 states that have banned abortion completely post-*Dobbs*, many veterans would be forced to travel great distances and pay significant out-of-pocket costs to access the care they need—if they are able to obtain care at all.
- Value bodily autonomy? President Trump is laying the groundwork to give embryos legal "rights" to prevent you from making decisions about your own body.
  - → On his first day in office, President Trump signed an extreme and regressive Executive Order that attempts to federally regulate gender. Embedded in the order is language that argues that human life begins at conception—a blatant attempt to lay the groundwork for a legal standard of "personhood at conception" that may be used to advance future bans on access to reproductive health care, including abortion.

## Cut Public Health Programs and Censored Critical Reproductive Health Information

## WHAT'S HAPPENED?

The Trump administration has dismantled key parts of the public health system vital for reproductive care. Indiscriminate funding freezes, mass firings, and the termination of critical research initiatives have hampered the <u>Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS)</u> essential operations and imperiled domestic reproductive and maternal health programs.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- ► Need reproductive health care? The Trump administration has decimated the workforce responsible for vital initiatives that are supposed to safeguard your health.
  - → HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) have instituted mass layoffs across HHS public health agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). An FDA employee described the cuts as a "bloodbath"; 20,000 positions were expected to be eliminated in total—roughly a quarter of the HHS workforce.

## WHO DID PRESIDENT TRUMP PUT IN CHARGE?

## Robert F. Kennedy Jr., HHS Secretary

As HHS Secretary, Kennedy is the chief policymaker for the Department of Health and Human Services. In his confirmation hearings, Kennedy outlined his dangerous to-do list, readily agreeing to reinstate the Title X domestic gag rule, prohibit research using tissue derived from abortions, restrict access to medication abortion via telehealth, hire "pro-life people" to serve as his deputies throughout HHS, end abortion later in pregnancy, support religious refusals of care, and eliminate "federal funding for abortions here or abroad."



## Elon Musk, Senior Advisor to the President

The de facto leader of DOGE, President Trump appears to have given Musk unlimited and unchecked authority to dismantle entire government departments and programs, slash agency funding and cancel contracts, and access sensitive government data and resources. Musk routinely uses extreme rhetoric about abortion and spreads misinformation about hormonal birth control on his highly visible social media platform.



- → Cuts include the majority of employees in the CDC's Division of Reproductive Health. According to one former staffer, all of the team's work was essentially "eliminated overnight" because "[t]here was no plan in place to sunset any of it, or to transfer [...] expertise over to someone else or to train folks."
  - » The team tasked with compiling and publishing data focusing on abortion access—such as how many patients are getting abortions, where, and with what methods—has been eliminated, leaving 2023 numbers "sitting in inboxes and Teams folders" and stymying efforts to understand the impact of state abortion bans in the aftermath of *Dobbs*.
  - » The Trump administration also erased <u>contraception guidelines</u> and pages related to HIV testing directed specifically toward LGBTQ+ people, along with entire data sets of research, from the CDC website. While some information has <u>since been restored</u>, the pages continue to note that the "CDC's website is being modified to comply with President Trump's Executive Orders" regarding so-called "gender ideology" and diversity, equity, and inclusion.

## Dr. Martin Makary, FDA Commissioner

As FDA Commissioner, Dr. Makary leads the agency responsible for regulating medication abortion, contraception, fertility drugs, labor and delivery medications, and treatment for sexually transmitted infections. During his confirmation hearing, he refused to commit to protecting access to medication abortion despite <u>decades of research</u> proving that mifepristone is extraordinarily safe and effective.



- Need information about your rights or how to access reproductive health care? The Trump administration has erased this information.
  - → Within hours of taking office, the Trump administration took down Reproductive Rights.gov, a vital resource that provided information about patient rights and how to access reproductive health care, including abortion.
  - → The administration has also censored other resources about your rights, including by <u>scrubbing</u> the HHS website of any mention of policies that protect abortion care and by removing critical information for patients and providers about federal privacy protections related to reproductive health care.
- Pregnant or planning to be? President Trump has shut down the federal data collection system put in place to safeguard your health.
  - → Without public notice, the Trump administration has cut the entire team running the CDC's <u>Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)</u>, a critical public health program that has collected maternal and infant health data since 1988. The program tracked everything from rates of postpartum depression or anxiety in new parents to elevated risks of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and the impact of second-hand smoke on babies.

→ <u>PRAMS</u> was established to identify disparities in health outcomes, particularly among Black and Native American mothers and infants, and to guide efforts to reduce maternal and infant mortality.

## WHO DID PRESIDENT TRUMP PUT IN CHARGE?

## Dr. David Weldon, WITHDRAWN nominee for CDC Director

President Trump's top choice to lead the CDC, Weldon is a former member of Congress who voted in favor of dozens of bills restricting reproductive rights and promoted junk science theories about fetal pain and connections between abortion and breast cancer. Weldon's positions are so extreme that the White House was forced to withdraw his nomination.



## Rely on IVF to start or grow your family? President Trump has cut off vital research on assisted reproduction.

- → Within days of promising to be the "fertility president," President Trump <u>fired</u> the entire division in charge of the National Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) Surveillance System that provides patients with essential information about in vitro fertilization (IVF) and other ART options, including the success rates of every fertility clinic across the country. This work helped push the medical community to adopt safer and more effective IVF methods.
- → While the President has signed an Executive Order on IVF, to date, the administration has done nothing to ensure that IVF care is actually more accessible or affordable.

## WHO DID PRESIDENT TRUMP PUT IN CHARGE?

## Heidi Overton, Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

President Trump picked Overton, who has been celebrated by anti-abortion advocates for her work to advance President Trump's "pro-life policy agenda," to serve as the Deputy Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy. She advises the President on reproductive health care policy, including IVF, abortion, and maternal health. Overton called the overturning of *Roe v. Wade* a "huge victory" and has pushed false information about the safety of medication abortion.



## Gutted Protections Shielding Reproductive Health Clinics, Providers, and Patients from Violence

## WHAT'S HAPPENED?

Since its passage with strong bipartisan support in 1994, the <u>Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE)</u>
<u>Act</u> has been critical in safeguarding both patients and abortion providers from violence and harassment.

Now, the Trump administration has broadly stopped enforcing this important law.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- Need or provide reproductive health care? President Trump has given a green light to anti-abortion extremists to threaten your safety with impunity.
  - → Mere days into his second term, President Trump <u>issued pardons</u> for 23 people convicted of violating the FACE Act.
    - » Many of those pardoned were serving prison sentences for physically blocking patients from accessing health clinics that provide abortion care. In fact, <u>several people</u> pardoned by President Trump had blocked patients from entering a Michigan clinic represented by the Center for Reproductive Rights.
    - » Some of the other violent offenses committed included breaking into clinics, stealing fetal tissue, and harassing pregnant patients.
    - » Abortion providers across the country are terrified for the safety of their staff and patients. The pardons are a get-out-of-jail-free card inviting anti-abortion extremists to continue and intensify their attacks on reproductive health clinics.
  - → The Department of Justice (DOJ) also announced that it would broadly stop enforcing the FACE Act going forward except in extraordinary circumstances. Now, abortion providers face even greater threats to the safety of their staff and patients—and those threats are met with impunity.
    - » Under previous administrations, clinics could count on the DOJ to enforce the law and protect clinics against violence regardless of a president's views on abortion. No more. President Trump has left patients and providers to fend for themselves against those who will go to extremes to block access to life-saving health care.

- » Enforcement of the FACE Act is needed now more than ever. Since Roe v. Wade was overturned in 2022 and dozens of clinics in abortion ban states were forced to close, there has been a sharp increase in violence against clinics, staff, and patients in states that protect access to care.
  According to the National Abortion Federation's (NAF) statistics from that year, there was a 538% increase in people obstructing clinic entrances, a 913% increase in stalking of clinic staff, and a 133% increase in bomb threats in protective states.
- » Even with this law in place, anti-abortion activists have threatened to kill providers, have bombed their clinics, and have harassed their patients. NAF's 2023 and 2024 statistics unequivocally demonstrate a pattern of sustained and consistent harassment and violence despite continued clinic closures and abortion becoming even more difficult to access in some areas. It's clear that the FACE Act is not enough—at bare minimum, the Trump administration should be enforcing the law to its fullest extent.

## **Pam Bondi, Attorney General**

As Attorney General, Bondi is the federal government's chief law enforcement officer. During her confirmation hearing, Bondi agreed to protect so-called "crisis pregnancy centers" that exist solely to manipulate and block patients from accessing abortions but declined to say that she would protect abortion clinics and providers. As Florida Attorney General, Bondi previously defended the state's biased counseling and mandatory waiting period abortion restrictions.



## **Chad Mizelle, DOJ Chief of Staff**

Mizelle authored the DOJ's memo ordering its prosecutors to cease enforcement of the FACE Act. He has a history of working for extreme anti-abortion organizations including the Alliance Defending Freedom, which has also been designated as an anti-LGBTQ hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center.



## Harmeet Dhillon, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights

Since taking office in early April, Dhillon leads the DOJ's Civil Rights Division, with the power to decide how the FACE Act is enforced. Dhillon is a self-proclaimed "<u>lawyer for the pro-life movement</u>" who previously worked for <u>The Heritage Foundation</u>, an extreme anti-abortion organization currently backing congressional efforts to repeal the FACE Act entirely.



## Dismantled Reproductive Rights and Access to Care Globally

## WHAT'S HAPPENED?

At a time when the U.S. should be championing access to care and international health and human rights standards, the Trump administration has done the opposite. President Trump has withdrawn from key international institutions, cut critical foreign aid for health care, and aligned the U.S. with authoritarian regimes on anti-rights positions. His regressive policies have jeopardized global health, gender equality, and human rights with devastating effects on access to reproductive care for marginalized communities around the world.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

- Concerned about the lives and health of people across the globe? The Trump administration has gutted funding that kept millions of people healthy and safe and contributed to economic stability worldwide, with disastrous consequences for reproductive health.
  - → Within days of taking office, President Trump reinstated the "Global Gag Rule," also known as the "Mexico City Policy." This harmful and regressive policy prohibits U.S. foreign aid for organizations that provide, counsel, or advocate for legal abortion services—regardless of local laws or non-U.S. funding sources for that work. The Global Gag Rule is a significant setback for global health and is estimated to impact over \$12 billion in health assistance. An increase in unsafe abortions, devastating outcomes for maternal health, and reduced access to contraception are expected as a result of the Rule.

## WHO DID PRESIDENT TRUMP PUT IN CHARGE?

## Marco Rubio, Secretary of State

As Secretary of State, Rubio serves as the President's chief foreign affairs advisor and oversees funding for global health programs. As a senator, Rubio supported a national abortion ban alongside nearly two dozen anti-abortion and anti-reproductive rights bills in the 118th Congress alone.



## **Elon Musk, Senior Advisor to the President**

The de facto leader of DOGE, President Trump appears to have given Musk unlimited and unchecked authority to dismantle entire government departments and programs, slash agency funding and cancel contracts, and access sensitive government data and resources. Musk routinely uses extreme rhetoric about abortion and spreads misinformation about hormonal birth control on his highly visible social media platform.



- → The Trump administration's <u>Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE)</u> and <u>Department of State</u> have also dismantled the <u>U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)</u>, which countries have relied on for decades for essential reproductive health services, including family planning, maternal care, and HIV prevention. With President Trump's blessing, this action has endangered the health and lives of millions worldwide. According to the <u>Guttmacher Institute's calculations</u>, more than 12,000,000 women and girls have been denied contraceptive care because of the foreign aid funding freeze.
- Care about protecting human rights? President Trump has aligned the U.S. with authoritarian regimes in favor of anti-rights positions and is poised to stop tracking countries' violations of reproductive rights.
  - → During the first days of President Trump's return to the White House, the <u>State Department</u> announced its commitment to rejoin the so-called "<u>Geneva Consensus Declaration</u>," an anti-reproductive rights and anti-LGBTQ political statement championed by the previous Trump administration and signed by authoritarian governments. The Geneva Consensus Declaration intentionally misrepresents itself as an official international agreement and attempts to undermine the broad legal basis for reproductive rights as human rights.
  - → Meanwhile, President Trump has withdrawn the U.S. from the World Health Organization, the United Nations Human Rights Council, and other international bodies that are essential for setting global health standards and protecting reproductive rights around the world.
  - → Public reporting indicates that the State Department is preparing to release its annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, and plans to omit critical information on reproductive rights. If the new reports are completely devoid of analysis regarding the state of reproductive health and rights around the world as leaked documents suggest, this would signal clear disregard for women and girls.

## Disregarded the Rule of Law and Endangered Fundamental Rights

## WHAT'S HAPPENED?

The Trump administration has attacked longstanding rule of law principles, weakened democratic institutions, and chipped away at legal safeguards across the government. President Trump and his administration have attempted to bully lawyers, eliminate opportunities for everyday Americans to make their voices heard, and erode transparency within federal agencies with the ultimate goal of blocking you from fighting back when your fundamental freedoms—including your reproductive rights—are violated.

## WHY DOES IT MATTER?

## Rights violated? President Trump is trying to prevent you from getting your day in court.

- → President Trump issued a <u>Presidential Memorandum</u> that threatens lawyers who challenge his administration's actions and policies, and signed numerous Executive Orders that <u>directly target law firms</u> that have challenged his agenda. These actions are a brazen attempt to intimidate lawyers with threats of financial sanctions, disbarment, and more simply for fulfilling their important role in our justice system. As more firms have come under scrutiny, some have opted to proactively enter settlements with the administration rather than challenge its actions, pledging millions in pro bono services to causes aligned with the President's agenda in an effort to avoid an Executive Order targeting them. Because reproductive rights are consistently under attack in the United States, including from the Trump administration, these threats against legal advocates also threaten reproductive freedom.
- → Lawyers play an indispensable role in holding governments accountable and protecting human and civil rights, including reproductive rights. The legal system depends on attorneys—public and private—being able to represent clients without political interference.

## WHO DID PRESIDENT TRUMP PUT IN CHARGE?

## Pam Bondi, Attorney General

As Attorney General, Bondi is the federal government's chief law enforcement officer. During her confirmation hearing, Bondi agreed to protect so-called "crisis pregnancy centers" that exist solely to manipulate and block patients from accessing abortions but declined to say that she would protect abortion clinics and providers. As Florida Attorney General, Bondi previously defended the state's biased counseling and mandatory waiting period abortion restrictions.



- Want to have a say in the reproductive health policies that affect you? The Trump administration is eliminating transparency and public input on its policies.
  - → The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a new policy that will make it easier for HHS to avoid collecting public input before finalizing certain federal regulations. The notice-and-comment process is ordinarily required by law and is an important opportunity for you to influence rules and regulations that affect your life before they are finalized. Thanks to this new policy, the Trump administration may be able to ram through extreme anti-abortion policies without public transparency or oversight.
  - → HHS also closed the <u>Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)</u> offices at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and National Institutes of Health (NIH), making it easier for the government to evade transparency for its actions.

## **Robert F. Kennedy Jr., HHS Secretary**

As HHS Secretary, Kennedy is the chief policymaker for the Department of Health and Human Services. In his confirmation hearings, Kennedy outlined his dangerous to-do list, readily agreeing to reinstate the Title X domestic gag rule, prohibit research using tissue derived from abortions, restrict access to medication abortion via telehealth, hire "pro-life people" to serve as his deputies throughout HHS, end abortion later in pregnancy, support religious refusals of care, and eliminate "federal funding for abortions here or abroad."



- Value an efficient and accountable government? The Trump administration has fired hundreds of workers who specialized in oversight and eliminating waste, fraud, and abuse.
  - → President Trump, alongside DOGE's <u>Elon Musk</u>, has fired federal employees who provide objective oversight within agencies and focus on efficiency of government programs. This included <u>inspectors general</u> (IGs) at key federal agencies, such as the HHS IG who oversaw the Medicaid program, the largest public payer of reproductive health services, as well as hundreds of additional HHS employees who investigated fraud, waste and abuse in government funded health programs.
  - → As of the 100-day mark, the Trump administration has slashed the federal workforce, gutting entire agencies and firing tens of thousands of workers. These reductions in staff make it impossible for many agencies and offices to do their jobs effectively, including those working to improve maternal health outcomes, access to infertility care, and global family planning.