

## ISSUE ONE-PAGER: REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

### What is Reproductive Justice?

Promotes the rights of people to bear children they want to have, to not bear children, to raise the children they do have in safe and healthy environments, and express their sexuality without oppression.

### The UCC on Reproductive Justice:

- Health Inequity and Contraception:
  - Research demonstrates women of color suffer the most when denied access to contraception and adequate reproductive healthcare. Black women are 4x's more likely to die during childbirth than white women. Women of color are also at higher risk for infant mortality, low infant birth weight and premature delivery, all of which pose significant long term risks to the mother and the child.
- Relevant General Synod Resolutions:
  - The UCC has long been a proactive voice for protecting the right of women to choose.
  - GS16 (1987)
    - Affirms the sacredness of all life, encourages persons facing unplanned pregnancies to other options before considering abortion
    - Upholds the right to have access to adequately funded family planning services, and to safe, legal abortions as an option.
  - GS17 (1989)
    - Urges the UCC to work towards a society where women can access a range of reproductive options, "regardless of economic circumstances, and to address the root cause that lead to unplanned pregnancies, ignorance and lack of life options."
    - Urges that resources on human sexuality be used widely in churches

### Take Action:

- Check the status of legislation in your state
- Advocate for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act

### Questions for your candidates

- Do you support the right of pregnant people to choose?
- Will you commit to funding family planning services, including access to safe abortions?
- How will you address health inequity, and ensure women of color have access to affordable contraception and quality reproductive care during their pregnancies?

