

Position Statement on Legislation Banning Abortion for Reasons of Sex or Race

Generations Ahead is committed to discouraging sex selective practices while protecting access to reproductive health care, including abortion.

In a number of states and in the United States Congress, lawmakers have proposed measures to outlaw abortions sought for reasons of sex selection or race. These cynical efforts by anti-choice forces to ban certain abortions create insidious new obstacles to reproductive healthcare and do not in any way address the serious and complex concerns raised by the practice of sex selection or racialized health disparities.

Anti-choice groups are trying to divide progressive communities by using the rhetoric of gender justice, civil rights and racial equality to promote their agenda. Banning reproductive options in this way will simply limit some women's access to healthcare by increasing scrutiny about the reasons they – particularly women of color – are seeking abortions.

Our real challenge is to change the context in which sex selection and racial disparities develop, addressing gender and racial equality issues while protecting the right of all women to make the best reproductive decisions for themselves and their families.