

## 11. RESOLUTION regarding new policy on Women's Reproductive Health.

Name	District	Club	I am a...	Comment
Stella Olaniyan	D18	Ibadan 2	Club Delegate	Con
Denise Conroy	D22	Brisbane East Inc.	Club Delegate	Con
Susan Bergman	D3	Fairfax County	Club Delegate	Con
Dianne Carla Sison	D4	Toronto	Club Delegate	Con
Alison Grant	D23	Wangaratta	Club Delegate	Con
Ria Matthijssens	D27	Antwerpen	Club Delegate	Con
Elizabeth Hart	D1	Malden	Governor	Con
Regine Deguelle	D27	Berlin 1989	Governor	Con
Sabine Everaert	D27	Ghent 1	Club Delegate	Con
Lydia Chaillou	D29	Meaux	Club Delegate	Con
Leena Hytonen	D20	Mikkeli	Club Delegate	Con
Rhonda Estes	D15	Traverse City	Club Delegate	Con
Ursula Werner	D14	Garmisch-Partenkirchen	Club Delegate	Con
Cherry Temple	D11	Myrtle Beach	Club Delegate	Con
Mary Ellen Bittner	D3	Washington, DC	Past Intl President	Con
Joanne Gallos	D3	Annapolis	Governor	Con
Christine Magner	D24	Canberra	Club Delegate	Con
Leigh Murdoch	D16	Tauranga	Club Delegate	Con

Zonta has no 'official' position on prostitution or abortion. The current ZI statement on women's sexual and reproductive health (April 2019) is sufficient given that countries have different legislative provisions.

Zonta cannot speak about women's health policy unanimously when it comes to abortion. This is a personal decision, and it is against the law in many countries.

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Abortion is an individual choice and individuals take a decision on abortions for various personal reasons. Zonta Advocacy says that: Districts, Areas and Clubs should pursue topics only if they are ones which do not 'divide' the membership. Complex ethical issues (e.g. abortion, euthanasia) are to be left to personal advocacy. Zonta International's Statement on Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health further clarifies Zonta's position in this regard. Changing this may have a very negative impact. Zonta International has clubs in 63 countries, including countries where abortion is illegal. We may lose members in those countries.

I think Zonta should encourage the protection of women's reproductive choices. Sorry, but sometimes you've got to rock the boat. Isn't that why we were founded?

Access to abortion is controversial and in many countries a partisan and sectarian issue. Zonta International wisely chose to remain neutral on abortion because Zonta is an organization where members are unified in their belief that women's rights are human rights, regardless of a member's personal position on the issue. Zontians may individually join pro-life or pro-choice organizations, and there is no need for Zonta International to take a position on either side. If Zonta International abandons its neutrality on this divisive issue, we will lose members.

The reason I am against this resolution is that I firmly believe both the UN and Zonta's words below express it perfectly. "...and recognizing that the human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on all matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, as a contribution to the achievements of gender equality and the empowerment of women and the realization of their human rights;..."

Jennifer Christensen	D3	Washington DC	Club Delegate	Con	Zonta International wisely chose to remain neutral on abortion because Zonta is an organization where members are unified in their belief that women's rights are human rights, regardless of a member's personal position the issue. There is no need for Zonta International to take a position on either side. If Zonta International abandons its neutrality on this divisive issue, we will lose members. Specifically, we will lose a member who is quite active and respected in our club. I don't want to lose her. Women of all persuasions and political beliefs work together to achieve more important women's equality issues.
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Ramona Stoltz	D3	Washington, D.C.	Club Delegate	Con	It appears this resolution was proposed prior to ZI approving a statement on women's health. The current statement is well stated and inclusive. As proposed, the resolution language is unnecessarily divisive. To specify abortion in this statement indicates an intent to engage controversy that will divide or even estrange members. Zonta's mission, services and programs are not in conflict with this issue - it does not serve the organization well to create conflict within the membership. There is no political, legal or other gain to be made and this resolution is in conflict with women's rights as human rights.
Palarp Sinhaseni	D17	Bangkok 6	Club Delegate	Pro	
Angelita O. Usal	D17	Aparri	Club Delegate	Pro	
Jane Panganiban	D17	Cebu 1	Club Delegate	Pro	
Joan P Kabayambi	D18	Kampala	Club Delegate	Pro	
Donna Lancaster	D11	Pinellas	Club Delegate	Pro	
Flerida Jimenez	D17	Metropolitan Pasig	Club Delegate	Pro	
Sue Peterson	D12	Glendive	Club Delegate	Pro	
Aretas Alday	D17	Las Pinas	Club Delegate	Pro	
Lois A Antritt	D5	Newark	Club Delegate	Pro	
Cora Manimbo	D5	Metro Greenhills	Club Delegate	Pro	
Arlene Lotilla	D17	Makati Legaspi	Club Delegate	Pro	
Ligaya Miguel	D17	Ilocos Norte	Club Delegate	Pro	
Geumsuk Son	D32	Busan 2	Club Delegate	Pro	
Elke Farny	D29	Paris	Club Delegate	Pro	
Farhana Rahman	D25	Dhaka I	Club Delegate	Pro	
Angela Libranda	D17	Las Pinas	Club Delegate	Pro	
Gunilla Fernberg	D21	Örebro	Club Delegate	Pro	
Lourdes de Guia Wallace	D5	Muntinlupa & Environs Foundation Inc	Club Delegate	Pro	

Christine Maclaren	D24	Central Coast	Club Delegate	Pro	Central Coast Zonta understands that this Resolution references the withdrawn ZI Women's Reproductive Health Policy and the more recent Statement on Women's Sexual and Reproductive Health. Nevertheless, we believe the Statement should be explicit in supporting the right for women to be able to access legal, safe and affordable abortion if that is their choice. Regarding ZI Board's rationale that Zonta cannot implement a policy that may conflict with a country's unique legislation regarding reproductive health, we believe proposal 11 is consistent with Zonta working within the legal system as it expresses support for "access to safe, legal abortion".
Yoshiko Nishimura	D26	Kyoto Miyabi	Club Delegate	Pro	
Mutsumi Mori	D26	Yamagata	Club Delegate	Pro	
Happiness Mapira	D5	Columbus	Club Delegate	Pro	
Chia-Ling, Liang	D31	Taipei 1	Club Delegate	Pro	

					Zonta International women's health policy includes: Access to health care services, including those services related to family planning. According to WHO, the provision of safe, legal abortion is essential to fulfilling the global commitment to the Sustainable Development Goal of universal access to sexual and reproductive health. The fact that women in all countries do not have access to family planning does not stop Zonta to include family planning in the policy. Neither should access to safe legal abortions. This is not legal today in all countries but Zonta needs to take a stand to promote a needed change.
Karin Twetman	D21	Örebro	Club Delegate	Pro	
Ma.Regina Valino-Valdez	D17	Nueva Vizcaya	Club Delegate	Pro	

					The right for a woman to decide if and when to have children is of vital importance to her empowerment. Safe, legal abortions are essential for women to be fully able to make decisions regarding their own reproductive health. They are also essential for women's health. The lack of safe, legal abortions has the biggest negative impact on poor women as affluent women always can find other options. This resolution is not about our own personal views on abortion. It is about Zonta as an organization taking a stand to give all women the possibility for better lives.
Karin Mühler	D21	Gällivare	Governor	Pro	
Bistra Ilieva	D30	Sofia	Club Delegate	Pro	

					Illegal abortions are the greatest threat to womens health, and in particular reproductive health. In that context is it essential that Zonta International supports safe and legal abortions to ensure womens safety.
Helena Tilander	D21	Stockholm VI	Club Delegate	Pro	
Brigitte Ross-Henrich	D29	Siegen Area	Club Delegate	Pro	

					To avoid unsafe abortions, risking the lives of both mothers and children. Each country has its own laws, but where is that argument when it comes to child marriages, which are allowed in certain American states? Every improvement must start somewhere. Zonta started 100 years ago, and let us continue strengthening women's and girls accett to social protection.
Christel Schultz Wigelius	D21	Stockholm I	Club Delegate	Pro	
Sirinapa Sawanglum	D17	Bangkok V	Club Delegate	Pro	
Aba Amissah Quainoo	D18	Accra II	Club Delegate	Pro	
Karin Näsström	D21	Malmö 1	Club Delegate	Pro	
Nicol Tasha Williams	D3	Fairfax	Club Delegate	Pro	
Louise Bredvad-Jensen	D4	Hässleholm	Club Delegate	Pro	
Cynthia Thurston	D2	Oneida Area	Club Delegate	Pro	
Carol Dobson	D1	Halifax NS	Club Delegate	Pro	
Leslie Wright	D3	Brooklyn	Club Delegate	Pro	Critical for the future of Zonta
Erin Foley	D2	Skaneateles	Club Delegate	Pro	
Kathleen Barnard	D2	Auburn	Club Delegate		Would need to know how it would be changed.