



Advocacy Update

Sent March 30, 2011

ARZA Exposes The Delegitimization Movement Against Israel

ARZA has launched "Love Not Hate," an initiative to inform Reform Jews about campaigns to delegitimize Israel in a multitude of arenas. The initiative will provide articles describing particular delegitimization efforts (or BDS campaigns) and ways to counter them. Read "Love Not Hate" on the ARZA website for more information.

Women's Workplace Issues: Take Action for Equity

President Bill Clinton declared April 11, 1997 as "National Pay Inequity Awareness Day" and called on employers to insure fair pay policies.

Now, fourteen years since President Clinton focused attention on pay inequity and workplace discrimination, these remain serious concerns for women. Yesterday, the Supreme Court heard Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. v. Dukes, Betty, et al., a case that was initiated by a brave group of women Wal-Mart employees claiming company-wide sex discrimination. At issue in the case is whether the women working at Wal-Mart stores across the country can come together to bring a class action suit contending widespread and ongoing discriminatory pay and promotion policies and practices.

[The National Women's Law Center](#) (NWLC) has gathered information from reports of more than one hundred women employees describing experiences with and statements by Wal-Mart managers that "embody the absurd stereotype that women workers are fundamentally inferior to male workers." To demonstrate the accuracy of the women's claims of company-wide discrimination "and to have a little fun," the NWLC has set up a contest in which you can vote for the most "egregious statements by Wal-Mart managers."

The Paycheck Fairness Act

Equal Pay Day will fall on April 12th this year, in recognition of which the Paycheck Fairness Act (PFA) will be reintroduced in both in the House and the Senate. We can take this opportunity to advocate for this critical legislation for equal pay for women. Interfaith letters of support for the PFA, signed by WRJ and many other groups are attached.

- The American Association of University Women (AAUW) will provide equal pay stickers for distribution in your sisterhood and congregation. Request the stickers at VoterEd@aauw.org.
- Set up a letter-writing campaign at your next sisterhood meeting or event asking your members of Congress to co-sponsor and support the Paycheck Fairness Act. Use the attached interfaith letters as a model for your letters.

Take action for women's employment equity!

For more information on WRJ and Social Justice, visit www.wrj.org/social-justice-home