

To: [E-OHPSCA2713.EBSA](#)
Subject: Reject exemptions for religious employers.
Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2011 7:13:27 PM

I join with the American Association of University Women (AAUW) in asking you to accept the recommendations of the Institute of Medicine as pertain to coverage of preventive care under the new health care law, and to reject any exemptions for "religious employers." These preventive services are a critical element of the new law and would provide countless women better access to necessary health care.

While AAUW believes that "religious refusal" exemptions unjustly deny women access to contraceptive services, others, driven by an ideological distaste for all contraceptive services, are pushing the government to make exemptions even larger. Indeed, some groups are pushing for the exemption to apply to religiously-run health providers, so hospitals with religious affiliations would be exempt from the coverage requirement, even though they employ people of all faiths and ideologies. If granted, this larger exemption would deny access to thousands of women just because of where they work.

I urge you to ensure women have access to quality preventive care by accepting IOM's recommendations and rejecting the proposed religious refusal exemption provisions.

Robin A. Vosburg

"A new study by the American Journal of Public Health takes a look at how certain social factors contribute to early deaths. Looking at just the year 2000, the study found that 245,000 Americans died because they didn't receive a quality education. More than 160,000 Americans died because of a lack of social support. And nearly 120,000 people died because of income inequality. Yet Republicans are worsening the education system by gutting public schools, worsening our social supports by pushing for cuts to the social safety net, and worsening wealth inequality with their massive tax cuts for the rich. We're not talking about political differences anymore -- we're talking about life and death..." -- Louise Hartmann, in "The Disease of Inequality That's Infecting America," **Thom Hartmann Blog**, Monday 11 July 2011.

They only call it class warfare when we fight back...

"The voters have spoken, and now they will be punished for it." -- Former New York City mayor Ed Koch [D-NY] on his failed bid for re-election.

"The modern conservative is engaged in one of man's oldest exercises in moral philosophy; that is, the search for a superior moral justification for selfishness." — John Kenneth Galbraith.

Non permissum illegitimi lucrur. Don't let the ████████ win.