## TO: Interested Parties

## FROM: Hart Research Associates

DATE: October 18, 2017
RE: New polling shows voters see the impact of abortion coverage on women's economic opportunities and security

This memo summarizes the key findings from a telephone survey among 1,101 adults who voted in the 2016 presidential election, including oversamples of African-American voters (total of 185), Hispanic voters (total of 170), and Asian-American voters (total of 116). The interviews were conducted from October 4 to 10, 2017. The sample is representative of the 2016 electorate demographically and politically, including of the 2016 presidential vote.

1. There is a near universal, fundamental belief that in America, everyone should be able to live, work, and make decisions about their health with dignity and economic security.

## Importantly, most voters see abortion coverage AND economic justice issues as critical to women's and families' ability to be healthy and live with dignity.

- Three in four (73\%) voters believe that fair wages and decent working conditions, along with access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion, help ensure that women and families can be healthy and live with dignity.
- This is the majority view across the electorate, including among independents, those who think abortion should be legal in just a few cases, Trump voters, and Republicans.
- This view is particularly pronounced among African Americans, Hispanics, Asians, women of color, and Millennial voters.

Fair wages, decent working conditions, and access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion, help ensure that women and families can be healthy and live with dignity.

| Do you agree or disagree? |  |  | Total Agree |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 73\% |  |  |  |
| 25\% |  | Millennial women | 89\% |
|  |  | Independents | 84\% |
|  |  | African Americans | 81\% |
|  |  | Hispanics | 81\% |
| Strongly agree 48\% |  | Asians | 79\% |
|  |  | Hispanic women | 90\% |
|  | 24\% | African American women | 81\% |
|  | 10\% | Millennials | 81\% |
|  | Strongly disagree | Think abortion should be legal in just a few cases | 63\% |
|  | 14\% | Trump voters | 57\% |
| Total Agree | Total Disagree | Republicans | 53\% |

2. There is little question in voters' minds that all Americans are not living and working on a level economic playing field. Related to this, the American people draw a clear line connecting women's ability to make decisions about their reproductive healthcare and their economic security and opportunities.

- There is broad consensus that the economy works well for the wealthy ( $92 \%$ say it works well), and significant majorities say the same about men (72\%) and white Americans (68\%). However, only about half (49\%) of voters feel that the economy works well for women and just one in three thinks it works well for Hispanics (33\%) and African Americans (32\%).
- Concerning gender, women are more likely to see inequities than are men. Women and men have similar perspectives on how the economy works for men, with $73 \%$ and $71 \%$ respectively saying that it works well for men. Their perspectives on how the economy works for women are quite different, with only $42 \%$ of women saying the economy works well for women compared to $57 \%$ of men who feel that it does.
- Similarly, people of color see significantly larger racial disparities in the economy than do their white counterparts.
- Eighty-five percent (85\%) of voters believe that a woman who can make decisions about her own reproductive healthcare, including whether and when to have children, has more control over her own economic security.
- With similarly high intensity, three in four (76\%) voters believe that women having insurance coverage for the full range of reproductive healthcare, including birth control, pregnancy tests, prenatal care, and abortion is important to ensuring that they have equal economic opportunities.
- This is the majority view across the electorate, but it is especially marked among Asians, African Americans, Hispanics, women (especially women of color), and Millennials.

Ensuring that a woman can get insurance coverage for reproductive healthcare--such as birth control, pregnancy tests, prenatal care, and abortion--is an important part of ensuring that she has equal economic opportunities.


- The majority (65\%) of voters understand that denying a woman the full range of healthcare, including abortion, jeopardizes her economic well-being and her ability to determine her own future.
- Women, particularly younger women and women of color, are especially aware of this reality. Eighty-one percent (81\%) of Millennial women, 78\% of Hispanic women, and 76\% of African-American women see these negative consequences of denying women such coverage.

3. A majority of voters believe that all women should have health insurance that covers reproductive healthcare, including abortion. This belief is not limited to women who have private health insurance, but also applies to low-income women who get their health insurance through Medicaid, the government health insurance program for low-income families.

- Roughly two in three (64\%) voters believe women's health insurance should cover their reproductive healthcare, including abortion.
- Fifty-five percent (55\%) favor Medicaid covering all pregnancy-related healthcare services, including abortion.

Women's health insurance should cover their reproductive healthcare, including abortion.

4. When it comes to women's reproductive healthcare and women's ability to make important decisions that affect their lives and families, voters express very high levels of concern about the direction in which the Trump administration is taking the country right now.

- Significant majorities are concerned that the Trump administration is promoting policies that punish women, regardless of the reproductive choices they make.
- Three in four voters express concern for the country ( $76 \%$ total, including $56 \%$ who say this is a big concern), that the Trump administration is promoting policies that make it harder to prevent unintended pregnancy and impossible to get an abortion, while also penalizing women for having children.
- People of color, women, and younger voters are particularly alarmed about the direction in which the Trump administration is taking the country on these policies: African Americans (79\% say this is a BIG concern), Hispanics (66\%), Asians (60\%), Hispanic women (72\%), African-American women (82\%), Millennials (67\%), and Millennial women (79\%).

