



JANE'S DUE PROCESS

Ensuring legal representation for pregnant minors in Texas

2016 IMPACT REPORT



ABOUT US

Jane's Due Process ensures legal representation for pregnant minors in Texas. We are one of the few organizations in the country dedicated to pregnant teens and are considered a pioneer in delivering legal services to this population.

We provide a variety of legal services, referrals, and information to pregnant and parenting teens and their families. We are proud to offer free legal representation and case management to minors seeking the judicial bypass alternative to parental consent for abortion in circumstances where parental involvement is unsafe or impossible. We also provide information on emancipation, health care rights, Title IX policies for pregnant and parenting students, and Texas' family planning programs.

24/7 LEGAL HOTLINE

Our legal hotline, answered live by trained volunteers, is available to minors seeking help at all hours of the day and night. As one of the few resources operating 24/7, the hotline also receives hundreds of calls each year from teens and adults seeking referrals to family planning and abortion clinics.

CASE MANAGEMENT

Prompted by the harsh legislative restrictions on abortion access in Texas, we now offer case management to teens seeking a judicial bypass. Each minor works with our case manager, who is available to them via calls and texts to answer their questions and arrange safe and timely care.



“I really appreciate you. You made me feel 10,000 times better about the scare. Can’t thank you enough!♥”

- Jane, 16, called our hotline when she thought she might be pregnant

EFFECTS OF NEW JUDICIAL BYPASS LAW

On Jan. 1, 2016, a new judicial bypass law, HB 3994, went into effect. Over the course of the year, the law succeeded in its effort to curb access to the courts and increase the burden on young women who choose to terminate unintended pregnancies. Teens have expressed fear about filing in their home counties, greatly risking their anonymity. Judges now have five business days to rule on a case, often delaying the cases by seven days or longer.

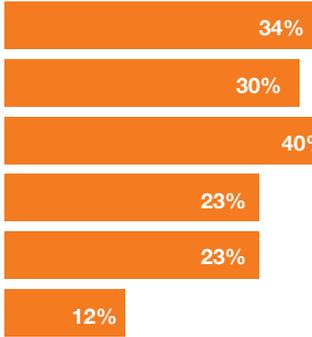
To combat this, Jane's Due Process jumped into action this year to train smaller court systems in the bypass process as needed and train new attorneys across the state. Regardless, some judges are also emboldened by the new impediments required by HB 3994. In the years before 2016, two to three bypasses were denied. Since the passage of the most restrictive parental involvement law in the country, those numbers have quadrupled. In addition, our data show that it takes an average of three weeks for minors to get their procedure after first calling our hotline, thanks to these burdensome laws.

HOUSE BILL 2: SUPREME COURT VICTORY & UPDATE

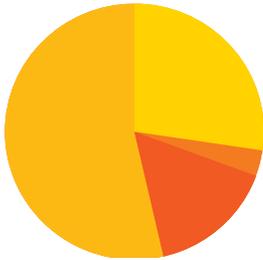
In March, JDP traveled to the U.S. Supreme Court for oral arguments in Whole Woman's Health vs. Hellerstedt. We submitted an amicus brief outlining the compounding effects that the many Texas laws have on access to care -- particularly to the young, rural residents and the poor. In June, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Whole Woman's Health and struck down HB2, allowing Texas' remaining 17 clinics to stay open. We celebrated with our allies, then got back to work. A paucity of clinics continues to present barriers for teens, especially outside the major metropolitan areas. In addition, the Texas Legislature has launched new attacks on abortion access, from fetal burial rules to bans on certain procedures. Our advocacy allies continue to fight against these bills to ensure that abortion remains accessible.



ANNUAL STATS



- NOT LIVING WITH A PARENT OR GUARDIAN
- FEARED BEING KICKED OUT OF THEIR HOME IF A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN WERE NOTIFIED OF PREGNANCY
- FEARED PHYSICAL OR EMOTIONAL ABUSE IF PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN WERE NOTIFIED OF THE PREGNANCY
- DE FACTO ORPHANS
- UNABLE TO GET PARENTAL CONSENT TO OBTAIN PRESCRIPTION BIRTH CONTROL
- ALREADY PARENTS



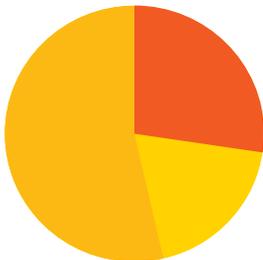
AGE OF JANE

- 17 YR OLD (61%)
- 16 YR OLD (27%)
- 15 YR OLD (11%)
- 14 YR OLD (1%)



PREVIOUS PREGNANCY

- NONE (80%)
- ONE OR MORE (19%)
- UNKNOWN (1%)



REPORTED USE OF BIRTH CONTROL

- NO CONTRACEPTIONS (57%)
- CONDOM (31%)
- BIRTH CONTROL (12%)

MOST COMMON REASONS FOR NOT BEING ON BIRTH CONTROL WERE:

- COULD NOT OBTAIN PARENTAL CONSENT
- COULD NOT AFFORD
- SIDE EFFECTS / HEALTH PROBLEMS
- THOUGHT IT WAS UNNECESSARY OR THAT IT WOULDN'T WORK ANYWAY

JUDICIAL BYPASS OUTCOMES

155	MINOR CONNECTED W/JDP REFERRAL ATTORNEY
27	MINOR REFERRED TO COURT-APPOINTED ATTORNEY
52	MINOR COMPLETED HOTLINE SCREENING, OUTCOME UNKNOWN
22	MINOR INDICATED INTENT TO SEEK CONSENT FROM PARENT
4	MINOR INDICATED INTENT TO SEEK ABORTION SERVICES OUT OF STATE
23	MINOR WAS NOT PREGNANT OR MISCARRIED
29	MINOR INDICATED INTENT TO CONTINUE PREGNANCY



“Thank you so much! This whole process is kind of difficult but you’ve made it so much easier. Thank you so much for all of your help through this, it means the world to me.”

- Jane, 17, granted judicial bypass after a delay of over a week during the holidays

EXPANDING OUR ATTORNEY NETWORK

HB 3994 includes a number of requirements and restrictions aimed at cutting off access to judicial bypass. Among its many restrictions is the mandate that minors must file for bypass in their county of residence, with an exception only if the county is smaller than 10,000 people. This presents confidentiality issues for minors from smaller, more rural counties. It has also come to light that courthouse staff, attorneys, and judges in these counties, unaccustomed to handling judicial bypass cases, are often under-prepared, or even unwilling, to take the cases.

In an effort to mitigate the consequences of the law, JDP, in conjunction with Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA), conducted eight Continuing Legal Education (CLE) courses across Texas to expand and re-train our attorney referral network, and to train attorneys to identify signs of domestic abuse. Additionally, the free CLE is now offered online for those interested in being trained on either topic. Special thanks to our two lead experts, TRLA's Maricarmen Garza and JDP's Susan Hays.

Many thanks to the law firms which sponsored these CLEs including Vinson & Elkins (Austin), Broude, Smith & Jennings (Fort Worth), Susman Godfrey (Houston), and Orsinger, Nelson, Downing & Anderson (San Antonio).



"Thank you so much for everything you have done for me. I don't know what I would have done without you guys' help. I'll be forever grateful."

- Jane, 17, granted judicial bypass after emergency contraception failed

THANKS TO THOSE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

Jane's Due Process is a small organization with a statewide footprint. The agency does not receive any government funding, and instead relies on dedicated individuals who see the need for these essential services.

The following foundations supported the work in 2016:

A is For, Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation, Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, Kaleta A. Doolin Foundation, Grant Me the Wisdom Foundation, Harris & Eliza Kempner Fund, Herb Block Foundation, Prentice Foundation, Rebecca Payne and Family, Travis County Women Lawyers Foundation, Winkler Family Foundation, and other anonymous foundations.



(Left) **Dallas** JDP Board Member Debbie Barnes, Nan Little Kirkpatrick, ED Tina Hester, and Amy Fikes. Thanks to Kim Elting & Stewart Cohen for opening up their home.

(Bottom) **Houston** board Members enjoying a lovely evening at the condo of Jane Howze & John Mann.

(Bottom Left) **San Antonio** Board Member Lynette Maddocks, ED Tina Hester, and hostess Ellen Lake.

(Bottom Right) **Austin** Carmen Llanes Pulido, Advisory Member Sarah Weddington, hostess Charlotte Herzele & Mark Saleby



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