

For over 110 years, NCJW has been a powerful force for social change across the country and around the globe — **stepping forward and speaking out on crucial issues years before others followed its courageous example.**

Through NCJW's pioneering work, people have been supported. They have been strengthened. They have been educated. And they have been empowered to take action — making the world a better place **and changing the course of history forever.**

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Photos on the following pages: 1. NCJW members rally on behalf of the Equal Rights Amendment Extension Bill. Washington, DC, circa 1978. 2. Marsha Atkind, NCJW president, and Jan Schneiderman, NCJW immediate past president, attend child-care rally. Washington, DC, 2001. 3. NCJW members gather in support of Soviet Jewry. Washington, DC, 1982. 4. NCJW displays banned books at an exhibition. St. Louis, 1955. 5. NCJW volunteers teach an English "Kitchen Class" to immigrants. Newark, NJ, circa 1922. 6. Students attend an NCJW women studies presentation at Tel Aviv University. Israel, 2002.



NCJW's history: Leaders stand at the White House, Washington, DC, 1926.

## WOMEN

### 1900s

NCJW supports family-planning champion Margaret Sanger

### 1930

NCJW passes a resolution promoting family planning

### 1967

NCJW approves a resolution on abortion rights

### And in 1973

The US Supreme Court affirms women's constitutional right to reproductive freedom in the *Roe v. Wade* decision.

NCJW supported women's most fundamental freedom at a time when it was recognized in only one of the 48 contiguous states and concealed in the back alleys of all the others. NCJW expanded its efforts as the leading Jewish organization working to support reproductive choice by launching its landmark BenchMark campaign in 2001, two years before the dismantling of *Roe* became national news.



## CHILDREN

### 1911

NCJW resolves that the health, welfare, and education of children are a public responsibility

### 1960s

NCJW pilots the Head Start and HIPPIY child development programs

### 1972

NCJW publishes the groundbreaking *Windows on Day Care* report

### 1985

NCJW opens the NCJW Center for the Child research institute

### And in 1990

Congress creates the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG), the first comprehensive federal child-care subsidy program.

NCJW's enduring demand for laws to protect children became part of the national debate at the end of the last century. And as Congress continues to compromise on child-care initiatives, NCJW remains dedicated to true progress — empowering children and their families by activating grassroots resources and advocating for essential legislation.



## CIVIL RIGHTS

### 1908

NCJW appeals for antilynching laws

### 1940

NCJW declares discrimination a danger to the nation

### 1949

NCJW passes a resolution condemning segregation

### 1963

NCJW adopts its own civil rights agenda

### And in 1964

Congress passes the landmark "Civil Rights Act" barring discrimination in America.

While the nation came to terms with its own bigotry, NCJW led by example. Volunteers worked directly with black women and girls all over the country, providing support and an open exchange of ideas that helped pave the way to a truer democracy. In the years that followed, NCJW extended that effort, defending domestic minority groups, Soviet Jews, and those oppressed by apartheid in South Africa.





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NCJW's legacy: Leaders pose on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC, 2004.

## CIVIL LIBERTIES

**1951**

NCJW launches a Freedom campaign, promoting the right to speak, study, and read without limits

### And in 1954

The US Senate votes to censure Senator Joseph McCarthy (R-WI), denouncing his crusade to crush dissent in America.

NCJW stood up and shouted when it was safer to sit quietly in the shadows. And when right wing fundamentalists demanded library censorship three decades later, NCJW volunteers took to their feet again. Today, that tradition lives on as members fight to protect the civil liberties of all Americans from government intervention.

## FAMILIES

**1890s**

NCJW develops an ongoing program to train and educate immigrants

**1900s**

NCJW supports legislation for newcomers

**1903**

NCJW founds the Department of Immigration Aid to assist and protect new arrivals

**1904**

NCJW establishes a permanent station on Ellis Island

### And during WWI

The US government moves all welfare agencies off of Ellis Island except for NCJW, which assumes responsibility for all incoming women and children.

NCJW enriched humanity-at-large through uniquely comprehensive efforts — aiding immigrants, rescuing children, supporting concentration camp survivors, and rebuilding native communities. And in the years since, NCJW has selflessly served families of all conditions and circumstances through landmark service and advocacy initiatives.

## ISRAEL

**1945**

NCJW initiates the Ship-a-Box program, providing supplies and educational materials to needy individuals

**1948**

NCJW underwrites graduate fellowships for Israeli students

**1959**

NCJW builds the Hebrew University High School and teacher training center

### And in 1967

Israel Minister of Education and Culture Zalman Aranne declares, "Education is the passport of life."

After the Six Day War, NCJW solidified its commitment to improving educational opportunities in Israel — sustaining the critical social safety net while the state allocated its precious resources elsewhere. NCJW continues to respond today with innovative scholastic programs at the Hebrew and Tel Aviv Universities, as well as progressive local outreach and social action efforts.



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