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## **NEW REPORT: First-of-its-Kind Report Maps Impacts of Trump’s Expanded Global Gag Rule, Unprecedented Threats Across all Areas of Global Health, Human Rights**

*New Findings by the Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE) Show Trump’s Version of the Rule Has Far-Reaching Impacts on Global Health Beyond Reproductive Health, Hurts Marginalized Groups*

**Washington, D.C.** — A new report from the Center for Health and Gender Equity (CHANGE) released today details the loss of a wide array of healthcare services directly caused by the Trump administration’s expanded global gag rule—also known as the Mexico City Policy—around the world.

The first-of-its-kind report, entitled *Prescribing Chaos in Global Health: The Global Gag Rule from 1984-2018*, maps the policy’s development and implementation from 1984 to the present, and the ways in which Trump’s expansion of the rule poses an unprecedented threat to human rights and health across the world—including sexual and reproductive health; HIV; the health of adolescent girls and young women; maternal, newborn and child health; nutrition; water and sanitation; infectious diseases; malaria; and more.

### **VIEW A COPY OF THE REPORT:**

[http://www.genderhealth.org/files/uploads/change/publications/Prescribing\\_Chaos\\_in\\_Global\\_Health\\_full\\_report.pdf](http://www.genderhealth.org/files/uploads/change/publications/Prescribing_Chaos_in_Global_Health_full_report.pdf)

The report’s findings show Trump’s iteration of the global gag rule exacerbates the harm of past Republican administrations’ versions of the policy, which mandated that for foreign NGOs to receive U.S. foreign assistance for family planning, they cannot perform or actively promote abortion as a method of family planning, even if they paid for such activities with their own, non-U.S. funds. Soon after Trump took office, the administration expanded the policy to *all* global health assistance, rather than only family planning funding—implicating over \$8.8 billion in global health assistance funding. CHANGE’s report provides an analysis of the loss of services directly caused by Trump’s global gag rule around the world, which inhibits the work of health care providers in developing countries struggling to provide critical health issues to marginalized, at-risk groups including LGBT people, sex workers, people living with disabilities, and survivors of gender-based violence.

“Trump’s expansion of the global gag rule pours gasoline on an already extreme policy,” said **Bergen Cooper, Director of Policy Research** at CHANGE and one of the report’s authors. “This is the first time a reader can find all of the impacts of the policy in one place. The evidence is clear—this policy is an assault on health and human rights around the world.”

The report is also the first to publish research on the policy’s impacts in Mozambique and Zimbabwe under the Trump administration.

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The report comes on the heels of the Trump administration's announcement of the 'domestic gag rule' late last month. [The new policy](#) would ban federal Title X funds for family planning clinics that discuss abortion as an option with clients.

"Trump's global and domestic gag rules show no matter what side of the U.S. border you reside, no one is outside the reach of this administration's brutal attacks on health and rights," said **Serra Sippel, President** of CHANGE. "Evidence shows that the global gag rule is a failed and deadly policy—and under President Trump it's downright catastrophic for global health. It's time for Congress to act now to end this policy once and for all."

**Among the report's key findings in Mozambique:**

- Some rural communities have been cut off from access to health services.
- Multiple HIV prevention programming for youth has abruptly ended.
- Health providers are forced to withhold information from their clients about safe, legal abortion.
- Girls who live in rural communities who have been cut off from services are now at increased risk of early marriage and unintended early pregnancy.
- Several clinics have been forced to lay off both nurses and activists (community health outreach workers). This has resulted in massive reduction of young people who received HIV testing and counseling.
- Girls who live in rural communities are put at increased risk of early marriage and early pregnancy.
- Many health services for key and vulnerable populations including sex workers have been suspended.
- Several coalition spaces and networks have been fractured.

**Among the report's key findings in Zimbabwe:**

- Access to health providers in some rural communities has diminished significantly and has impacted access to family planning.
- Girls who have been cut off from services are at an increased risk of sexual violence and exploitation.
- Strategic coalitions and partnerships made up of complying and non-complying organizations are fractured.
- Many health services for key and vulnerable populations including those living with disabilities have been suspended.
- Many integrated health service provision (HIV & Family Planning) have been disbanded.

To mark the launch, CHANGE hosted a panel at the National Press Club featuring the authors of the report and advocates from Mozambique and Zimbabwe who gave first-hand testimony on the impacts of Trump's version of the global gag rule in their communities. More information [HERE](#).

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*CHANGE ([www.genderhealth.org](http://www.genderhealth.org)) is a Washington, D.C.-based women's rights organization that promotes sexual and reproductive health and rights as a means to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by shaping public discourse, elevating women's voices, and influencing the U.S. government.*

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