

# FRANKFURT ALLIANCE FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS – CALL TO ACTION FOR RESISTANCE AGAINST VIGILS AT PRO FAMILIA

FRANKFURT FÜR  
FRAUEN  
RECHTE

The right to reproductive self-determination and unbiased pregnancy-conflict counseling for women in Frankfurt must be fully guaranteed – counseling that is sympathetic, free, and anonymous.

Since Ash Wednesday, fundamentalist Christians, so-called life-guards of „40 Days for Life „, are demonstrating with „vigils“ against the right of women to reproductive self-determination directly in front of the pro familia counseling center in Frankfurt. The stated goal of the demonstrators is to prevent abortions in Frankfurt and in Germany, as a whole, and to „convert“ the staff of the counseling centers.

The protection of unborn life or even the pregnant woman is NOT the goal. Rather, it is harassment, traumatization, humiliation, and punishment of the women seeking advice. The women must run the gauntlet of slogans, large photos of embryos, loud prayers and songs, and even displays of small children's coffins.

The regulations on abortion in Germany are the result of a fierce social conflict, which could only be pacified with the current legal provisions. Regardless of how you judge this outcome, it is applicable law, including the duty and the right to counseling on pregnancy conflict. And the counseling centers work on behalf of the state.

Frankfurt stands strong for women's rights.

In the 50th year of the second women's movement, which has its roots in Frankfurt, we no longer want to see the forceful actions of these right-wing populist groups.

- We are in solidarity with the women seeking counseling and the staff of the counseling centers. The right to freedom of expression and assembly is a particularly valuable asset of our democratic constitutional state. The individual right of women to reproductive self-determination and counseling without harassment, however, is as well.
- We expect the Ordnungsamt der Stadt Frankfurt (Frankfurt City Office of Public Order) to re-evaluate these legal interests and to locate the vigils to places that secure the anonymous access to counseling facilities. The Beratungsgesetz (counseling act) expressly stipulates that there should be no outside influence on the counseling process.
- We support pro familia to take legal action against the vigils.

Join in! We are happy to welcome more supporters who join our broad social alliance, Bündnis Frankfurt für Frauenrechte . We want to make clear with numerous actions: right-wing populist and hateful groups have no place in Frankfurt.

Frankfurt stands strong for women's rights.

Bündnis Frankfurt für Frauenrechte, March 1, 2018