



Pushing back on the global influence of U.S. anti-choice groups

“Women have always sought out abortions, and they will continue to do so, whether they are legal or not. Abortion is healthcare and we will continue to fight for access to safe, legal care everywhere.”

Araceli Lopez Nava
MSI's Latin America
Managing Director



Decisions made in the US have an impact far beyond their borders.

The anti-choice movement has been systematically chipping away at abortion rights for decades. In the US this culminated in a 2022 Supreme Court decision to remove the right to abortion for Americans (known as *Roe v. Wade*). The Court's decision unravelled decades of progress for women. Individual states are now making their own rules – and some have already begun to restrict and ban abortion.

Abortion bans cause unspeakable harm. They violate dignity, autonomy, and human rights and put healthcare workers at risk of imprisonment.

Restrictive laws don't prevent abortions, they only make them less safe

When abortion rights are under attack, we feel it around the world. We're seeing a rise in anti-choice activities worldwide including the harassment of our staff and clients as they enter our clinics, and an increase of disinformation online to dissuade people seeking an abortion. Emboldened by their victories in the US, these tactics are being shared across the globe, and are often propped up by US groups' funding – an estimated \$280 million of 'dark money' is being funnelled from US groups across five continents to dismantle women's and LGBTQ rights.

These attacks have only strengthened the resolve of the international pro-choice community. The global trend is countries expanding abortion rights and access, not restricting them. These countries have seen the data showing that safe abortion saves lives and helps us reach a more equal and healthier world, so they're making evidence-based decisions to protect and expand access to abortion.

We're partnering with governments and local communities across six continents to advocate for reproductive rights. We will never stop working towards a world where everyone, everywhere has the right to choose.

Our impact: a snapshot

Since 2016, MSI's advocacy efforts have contributed to more than **78 high impact changes** in policy, law, regulation, or financing. This has increased reproductive choice for millions around the world.

MSI Mexico's network of 9 clinics offers abortion to whoever needs it, including **American clients in the wake of their abortion access being restricted.**

We're a member of grassroots, national, and global coalitions advocating for reproductive rights and human rights – **collaborating with diverse organisations.**

Stand for choice

The anti-choice movement are diligently undermining reproductive rights at every turn. They are sophisticated in their tactics and well-resourced. But progress is winning.

Since 1994, only four countries have rolled back abortion rights while **59 countries** have expanded them.

Join us by investing in abortion rights and access. We hire and partner closely with local people in the countries we operate in because they're the ones leading this change and fighting for their own rights. We're proud to support them by sharing advocacy resources, training and mentoring, and helping to navigate political processes. In short, we put the support of our global organisation behind community change, and together we're shaping the decisions that will secure reproductive healthcare for generations to come.

Please stand for choice with us. Reach out to our team today.

Mexico case study

Dr Susana Oyamburu is MSI Mexico's medical quality supervisor. She travels across the country to train abortion providers.

When I heard the decision – that American people's right to abortion, which they'd had for 50 years, had been stripped from them – I was shocked. I know the feeling of not having the right to abortion and fighting for it, but I can hardly imagine having the right and then it being taken away. The frustration of that must be unbearable. I can't understand how America is going backwards while its neighbours here in Latin America are moving forward.

MSI Mexico's nine clinics open our blue doors to everyone who needs to access safe abortion care, and that includes Americans travelling across the border. We opened a clinic in Tijuana right across the border in 2022, and we're soon opening another bordering America's southern states. While laws differ across our states here in Mexico, our own Supreme Court ruled to decriminalise abortion in 2021.

I know that the anti-choice movement has felt validated by what's happening in the US, but from my perspective they're fighting a losing battle. Progress is winning, and most countries across the world are expanding abortion rights and access. I've seen this progress first-hand.

I'm proud to work for MSI, training abortion providers. Every person I teach means another safe provider in the world. Everyone who visits MSI gets options, counselling, safe and quality care; we support them to choose the life they want.

And it's not just access to abortion that I've seen change over time, it's people's attitudes too. When I first started, women were ashamed, secretive, and afraid. Now women are generally far more empowered and informed, confident about what their needs are. Of course, stigma still exists, but the more people talk about abortion the more we normalise it. For me, it's about giving everyone a choice.

MSI Mexico is just getting started – we're making plans to open more clinics and expand our safe abortion care training.



Dr Susana Oyamburu

MSI Mexico's medical quality supervisor

As for global reproductive rights, we're on the right side of history, moving forward in solidarity, and with more resolve than ever.