



NARAL
Pro-Choice Washington PAC

Questionnaire to County Executive Candidates
Revised 2009

Name: Dow Constantine Position Sought: King County Executive

Website: www.DowConstantine.com

Incumbent Challenger Open Seat

1. Please summarize your previous involvement with reproductive choice issues and with NARAL Pro-Choice Washington in particular.

As Co-Chair of the Washington State House Judiciary Committee and Vice-Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I was on the front lines as we fought repeated attempts to limit or destroy reproductive freedom. My efforts included fighting to ensure access by low-income women to full reproductive health services, against parental consent and notification bills, and against late-term abortion ban legislation.

As a County Councilmember I have continued to champion choice. For example, I am currently working to preserve reproductive health services for the poor and disenfranchised in our public health clinics, which are suffering budget cuts.

My mother taught child development as part of the home economics curriculum in our public schools, bringing in family planning advocates to present to middle school and high school students during the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

Long prior to my election to public office I co-founded the West Seattle High School Site Council at my *alma mater* and then, not without controversy, helped usher in the new health clinic, complete with relevant reproductive health counseling and access to condoms.

I have been a personal, public, vocal supporter of and donor to NARAL, as well as other reproductive health advocacy groups and nonprofits, for many years.

2. Have you ever cast a public vote relating to reproductive rights, as a legislator or member of a political or other community organization? If so, please provide pertinent details.

YES NO

You would have my entire legislative record.

3. Do you support a woman's right to choose abortion in accordance with current Washington State law?

YES NO

4. The King County Executive's proposed 2009 budget included cuts to funding for family planning services that would have resulted in clinic closures and reduced services. Currently, these services are funded through 2009. As County Executive, would you prioritize continued county funding for family planning services?

YES NO

Family planning services are a high priority, even (perhaps especially) in tough times, and I will do everything in my power to keep services available to all.

5. Additionally, the county funds and/or staffs several key programs that provide reproductive health care services to county residents. Will you support funding of these programs including:

School health clinics or clinics located near schools?

YES NO

Access to comprehensive counseling or referral services (including abortion)?

YES NO

6. The State Legislature has enacted laws protecting medical clinics, patients, and medical personnel from harassment and blockades. Will you support strict enforcement of this law by County law enforcement personnel?

YES NO

The following issues may be unlikely to come before you on as County Executive, however NARAL Pro-Choice Washington requires that all endorsed candidates be fully pro-choice, consistent with our position on the issue, and therefore requires your response to these questions in order to consider you for endorsement.

7. Under present law, all medical patients must give their informed consent for medical procedures. Current law requires accurate explanation of every patient's medical alternatives. Do you OPPOSE policies that single out abortion and creating special "informed consent" or mandatory waiting period requirements for abortion care?

YES NO

8. Do you SUPPORT continued state funding of abortion services for low-income women of any age?

YES NO

9. NARAL Pro-Choice Washington believes it is desirable for minors to involve their parents in their decision whether or not to have an abortion. However, we recognize that sound family communication cannot be mandated by politicians. Do you OPPOSE policies that require parental notification and/or consent for a minor to terminate her pregnancy?

YES NO

10. Congress and many state legislatures have passed bans on methods of abortion referred to by our opponents as “partial-birth abortion.” While the Supreme Court has upheld the federal abortion ban, Washington State voters defeated a similar abortion ban initiative (Initiative 694) in 1998 with 57.2 percent of the vote. Do you OPPOSE bans on abortion methods that contain no exceptions for the health of the woman?

YES NO

11. In November 2007 a Federal Judge in Tacoma, Washington granted an injunction that suspended two Pharmacy Board rules originally created to protect patient access to legal and safe medicine, including Emergency Contraception. Do you OPPOSE this ruling?

YES NO

12. Do you SUPPORT the requirement that pharmacies stock a representative assortment of drugs to meet the needs of their community?

YES NO

PART TWO

1. Please provide a list of endorsements being used by your campaign.

Sen. Lisa Brown, Senate Majority Leader, 3rd LD
Sen. Ken Jacobsen, State Senator, 46th LD
Sen. Karen Keiser, 33rd LD
Sen. Joe McDermott, State Senator, 34th LD
Sen. Ed Murray, State Senator, 43rd LD
Sen. Kevin Ranker, State Senator, 40th LD
Rep. Eileen Cody, State Representative 34th LD
Rep. Bob Hasegawa, State Representative, 11th LD
Rep. Sharon Nelson, State Representative, 34th LD
Rep. Tina Orwall, 33rd LD
Rep. Geoff Simpson, State Representative, 47th LD
Rep. Brendan Williams, State Representative, 22nd LD
Snohomish County Council Chair Mike Cooper
Burien Mayor Joan McGilton
Normandy Park Mayor Shawn McEvoy
Tukwila City Councilmember Joe Duffie
Tukwila City Councilmember Verna Griffin
Former Covington City Councilmember Rebecca Clark
Port of Seattle Commissioner Gael Tarleton
ATU Local 587
Inlandboatmen’s Union
MEBA District 1
Sailor’s Union of the Pacific
SeaTac Fire Fighters Local 2919
Vashon-Maury Island Democratic Club
34th LD Democrats

2. Would you welcome an endorsement from NARAL Pro-Choice Washington?

YES

NO

3. What do you know about your opponent(s) position(s) on choice?

To my knowledge Fred Jarrett, Ross Hunter and Larry Phillips are pro-choice. Susan Hutchison does not have a voting record, but is affiliated with the Discovery Institute, an organization actively opposed to choice.

4. Has your campaign consistently complied with all PDC regulations and deadlines?

Yes.

5. Total cash raised Approx. \$250,000

6. Expected campaign budget \$550,000-\$800,000

7. Cash on hand your campaign currently has Approx. \$170,000

8. Number of households personally visited to date

Our campaign will kick off our field campaign this month.

9. Number of households contacted using volunteers

We have approximately 30 volunteers helping in various ways on the campaign. Many of them will help our doorbelling effort when we kick it off later this month.

Candidate's Signature  Date June 5, 2009

Please Return to Alissa Haslam, at alissahaslam@prochoicewashington.org; NARAL Pro-Choice Washington, 811 1st Ave, Suite 456, Seattle, WA 98104; or fax to 206-624-4505.