

# ŽENSKI PARLAMENT

WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT  
B E L G R A D E  
29th of May 1994

To President of Republic Serbia

We demand that you refuse to sign the abortion law because it brings us back to a state of denial of our rights. What our grandmothers achieved is slowly being taken away from us step by step.

Abortion is the last chance for women to have control over their lives and bodies. Abortion is not a woman's goal. Women choose abortion only as a last option. Do not create hell in women's lives. Do not force women into illegal and unsafe abortion. Illegal abortion is the legalization of women's death. Women carry heavy burdens in everyday life, They have no need for physicians who will make profit from them. Nor do women have the additional money necessary to pay for such illegal abortions...

Instead of a law that will limit human rights, and women's rights are human rights, we demand laws that promote human rights.

Women are the ones who should make decisions about women's rights, These decisions should not be made by a group of people who are rapidly advancing towards senility, In our view the male parliament which passed this law, with which even the Pope would be satisfied, has long been illegitimate.

We believe that you realize that by refusing to sign this law you are concerned about protecting your reputation. We, women disloyal to patriarchy and a regime that oppresses us, will find networks of women's solidarity and we will survive even the terror of this law. In history textbooks you will be identified as a President who let himself to be ruled by the church, patriarchy and nationalism in his policy towards women.

Rise above your own party's politics and consider the amendments that have been proposed by Ms. Vesna Pešić and which are supported by Belgrade feminists and University female law professors.

NEDA BOŽINOVIĆ  
VERA LITRIČIN  
NADEŽDA ČETKOVIĆ