



Upstander Reflection - Abortion Rights

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Our project was to be an upstander for different topics. We chose our topic to be women's rights / abortion but mostly revolved around abortion. Actions we did to fight for these rights was place posters around the school to get awareness from our peers. We also focused a lot on Instagram because we received a lot of media attention from people from different places.

Before, being an ally meant to stand up for something and it still does but now it is much more than that. For example, it is different to say you stand up for something rather than actually doing your action. Also you can attend marches, protests, etc which I hope to do in the future.

Something I learned as a person is to argue more for what I believe in. During this project, I felt like I was able to argue more since I was so passionate about this topic. This has gave me some more confidence because now I feel like I can share my opinion to many more.

In this project I was able to learn as an upstander by enlightening myself with women's rights. With this knowledge, I was able to defend women who have had / planning to have an abortion. Even though that meant arguing with people only on Instagram, I was still able to fight back.

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<https://www.youthvoices.live/2019/05/10/upstander-reflection-abortion-rights/>

For my next steps, I would like to educate more people on abortion and specifically people who are pro-life. This is because everyone should hear our side even if they disagree. I would also like to do more research since some states are sadly banning abortion. We should definitely do more about this change since it impacts many women who want (or need) the procedure.

Some advice I would give to students who want to make a change is to pick a topic you are passionate about because it affects your motivation. For example, in our class there were people who didn't care as much for their topic so it gave them lack of work. A piece of advice I would give any upstander is to not be afraid to argue back because you are using your voice to make a change !