

VYFL's Rhetoric	Initiated Measure 11's Reality
<p><u>CLAIM: Measure 11 Will Not Affect Health Care</u></p> <p>“[VYFL spokesperson Brandi] Gruis says, ‘Everything being done now at Sanford, when it’s to protect the life and health of the mother, which is the only instances in which they do abortions, would be covered under Measure 11.’ [KSFY, 10/14/08]”</p> <p>“After Measure 11 passes on Nov. 4, they will be able to practice medicine the same way they always have,’ said Brandi Gruis.” [Rapid City Journal, 10/15/08]</p> <p>“Under the initiative, doctors would practice medicine normally and ‘would simply have to explain what they did and what factors led them to their decisions on treatment,” he [Dr. Glenn Ridder] said.” [Argus Leader, 9/28/08]</p>	<p><u>REALITY: Measure 11 Jeopardizes Women's Health</u></p> <p>“This ban [Measure 11] puts the physician in the unthinkable position of either treating her in a medically appropriate fashion and being prosecuted as a criminal, or not treating appropriately and not only facing claims of negligence but, worse, seeing her suffer.” [South Dakota Section of ACOG, 10/21/08]</p> <p>“This ban harms the women of South Dakota, it jeopardizes health care within our state, and it strips South Dakota residents of their fundamental right to appropriate and safe medical care without government interference.” [South Dakota Section of ACOG, 10/21/08]</p> <p>“While appearing to permit a physician to exercise his or her clinical judgment, in fact this ban places physicians and their patients in an untenable situation with grave consequences for women’s health.” [South Dakota Section of ACOG, 10/21/08]</p> <p>“The exceptions in the new South Dakota proposal create some knotty questions for voters. For instance, [...] How ill must a woman be to qualify for an abortion under an exception for a woman in poor health?” [Wall Street Journal, 8/12/08]</p>
<p><u>CLAIM: Measure 11 Is Reasonable</u></p> <p>“She [Unruh] said the new version of the measure [11] should be more attractive because it is ‘more moderate, more reasonable, more of a middle ground.’” [Washington Post, 9/21/08]</p>	<p><u>REALITY: Measure 11 Injects Government Into Private Medical Decisions</u></p> <p>“At its September 17, 2008, meeting, the governing Council of the South Dakota State Medical Association (SDSMA) reaffirmed its previous position of support for AMA policy that the issue of support of or opposition to abortion is a matter for individuals to decide, based on personal values or beliefs. Additionally, the Council established a position that the SDSMA opposes Initiated Measure 11 solely based on interference by the government in medical practice and restrictions on physician-patient communications.” [SDSMA Position Statement, 9/17/08]</p>

“Measure 11 is reasonable. [...] Please vote yes on Measure 11, it is South Dakota’s reasonable vote.”
[\[VoteYesForLife.com\]](http://VoteYesForLife.com), :30 Television Ad]

“The South Dakota initiative is a near twin of the sweeping abortion ban handily rejected by South Dakota voters just two years ago. To make the ban seem less harsh, its backers have included language purporting to make exceptions for incest, rape or the life and health of the mother. But no one should be fooled. The exceptions were drafted to make it nearly impossible to get an abortion, even during the first trimester of pregnancy.” [\[New York Times\]](http://www.nytimes.com), 10/12/08]

Initiated Measure 11 requires doctors to turn over patients’ medical records to the government.
[\[Initiated Measure 11\]](http://www.southdakota.gov), §18 (2)]

CLAIM: Measure 11 Does Not Ban Selective Termination

“Vote Yes for Life representatives say the Campaign for Healthy Families ad about twin to twin transfusion syndrome is supported under the measure. The bill does refer to standard medical practice with the goal to extend life and health, but when asked to identify which section specifically these doctors couldn’t.”
[\[KOTA\]](http://www.kota.com), 10/9/08]

“After [Tiffany] Campbell appear in an Internet advertisement sponsored by the South Dakota Campaign for Healthy Families, [...], A [VYFL] news release also said her abortion would not be illegal under the proposed law, because it was ‘an unintended death.’” [\[Washington Post\]](http://www.washingtonpost.com), 9/21/08]

“Today, Dr. Glenn Ridder, a family practice doctor affiliated with Vote Yes For Life suggested selective termination might not actually be banned. ‘This situation may actually cause significant problems to the mother, which then of course would be covered by Initiated Measure 11.’” [\[KSFY\]](http://www.ksfy.com), 10/3/08]

“I don’t know what procedure was done for this young lady who had the twin-to-twin transfusion, [...] If it’s someone’s advice to kill your offspring, that doesn’t make a whole lot of sense.” - Dr. Glenn Ridder [\[KSFY\]](http://www.ksfy.com), 9/24/08]

REALITY: Measure 11 Bans Selective Termination, With No Exception For Fatal Fetal Anomaly

“Supporters of the initiative see no need for a specific reference to fetal anomalies.” [\[Argus Leader\]](http://www.argusleader.com), 9/28/08]

“We know that in some situations, that there’s nothing we can do to save one of the fetuses.” - Dr. Michael Bebbington in a speech in Sioux Falls about treatment options for twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome. [\[KSFY\]](http://www.ksfy.com), 10/3/08]

“I think in the immediate period when you are doing these procedures or offering these procedures [selective termination] to patients, it’s not to prevent complications to the mother.” – Dr. Peter Van Eerden , a specialist in internal fetal medicine. [\[KSFY\]](http://www.ksfy.com), 10/3/08]

“Under this ban, terminating a pregnancy due to anencephaly would be a criminal offense. Under this ban, families in our state would lose the right to make their own private decisions about whether to continue such a pregnancy [involving lethal congenital birth defects].” [\[South Dakota Section of ACOG\]](http://www.southdakota.acog.org), 10/21/08]

“Scott Goldberg: ‘Even in a case like Tiffany Campbell’s, when a doctor says the fetus cannot survive, Unruh is committed to the ban.’
Leslee Unruh: ‘In South Dakota, she will make the decision to give her baby life.’
Scott Goldberg: ‘She won’t have another choice if this ban passes.’
Leslee Unruh: ‘That’s correct.” [[KARE 11](#), 10/9/08]