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July 2022

Take me to your leader.



Are you sure? They have pointed sticks.

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to the *California Connection*, the monthly e-blast sent to every member from your state organization for a quick read of things to know and do in AAUW!

Editor's Note: Due to the fact that our new 2022-2023 leadership team is just getting its sea legs and the less-than-mirthful circumstances in our country at this time, this month's California Connection will be brief with less to laugh about.

Things to Know

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The newly-elected [board of directors](#) and other key leadership team members met in the decently-covered flesh for a retreat weekend in Davis. The good news is that they did not burst into flames in the triple digit heat. The bad news is that the hotel ran out of soap when the need for



showers was high. Those vampire-repelling stakes in the photo were actually fence pickets, part of an icebreaker exercise (oh how we wished it was real ice) to learn what makes everyone tick. Drawing on the idea that a fence is stronger when supported by pickets that are joined together, the activity was an introduction to the 2022-2023 theme “Linking together for our mission.” Oh, the symbolism. But wait, there’s more. Participants crafted more pickets with ideas for ways to “support” (get it?) the action priorities for the coming year. Did we hear you ask what those priorities are? You’ll have to wait for the August issue. You cannot binge-watch AAUW.

Things to Do

We have a new word in our vocabulary: Dobbs. It’s a short word with a long shadow. What does this momentous Supreme Court ruling mean for AAUW? What does it mean for California? What does it mean for YOU? Our Public Policy Committee chair, Kathi Harper, has some answers. Come and listen. Come and talk. This is big.



Zoom webinar: AAUW California’s Position on the Dobbs Decision

Thursday, July 7th, 7 pm

Topics:

- What the opinion does – and does not – say
- What the opinion means for California
- What the post-Dobbs landscape looks like for women
- What can – and can’t – be done to counter the effects of this ominous opinion

[Click here to register](#)

Admit it. You want to be part of that fun picket-bearing group in the photo. And you can be. Join

a state committee and help the state help the branches. What can you do? More than you think. Can you talk, type, make a phone call, imagine, plan, write, organize, play with technology, walk and chew gum? Of course you can. You are an AAUW member. Read about the committees, what they do (including some of the special volunteer opportunities within them), and complete an application [HERE](#). The deadline is July 12th. Come on, be a picket.



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Okay, let's be honest. Dues renewals are not going as well as they could. Some folks had trouble using AAUW National's new Community Hub to renew their membership (a nice way of saying "to send us money."). Our message: try, try, try, again. Many glitches have been resolved. If you haven't already renewed, go to National's [website](#) to get started. If the new process baffles you, watch a how-to video [HERE](#) or read written instructions [HERE](#). Let's prove that California is a tech-savvy state.



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**Dramatic times call for dramatic closing quips.
We don't have one.
Instead, we leave you with this image:**



Photo by Gayatri Malhotra for Unsplash



AAUW's mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

[AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org)

AAUW California's mission: AAUW California facilitates California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education and resources.

www.aauw-ca.org



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