ABORTION RIGHTS 2021 TIMELINE

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JANUARY

04.01.2021 Abortion Rights' Telemedicine Email Your MP Campaign

07.01.2021 Abortion Rights published accessible telemedicine consultation guidance

14.01.2021 Blog - Abortion by Telemedicine: The case for home use has been made
The case for home use has been made by shorter waiting times and high patient satisfaction, but as Kerry Abel from Abortion Rights explains, it also breaks down other barriers.

14.01.2021 Argentina's legalisation of abortion was signed into law

21.01.2021 Blog - International Repro-Round-Up: The Good, Bad & The Ugly
We pulled together the good, bad and downright UGLY in reproductive news from around the world.

28.01.2021 Blog - Why the NICE Abortion Guidelines are important
AR welcomed this vital step towards ensuring that access to the highest quality abortion care is accessible to ALL women and pregnant people.

28.01.2021 Poland introduces near-total abortion ban

FEBRUARY

18.02.2021 Blog - Abortion is common and unfortunately so is abortion stigma
It's time to stamp abortion stigma out, and the first step is to start treating it like any other medical procedure. Abortion Rights' campaign manager Ailsa Berry-Ryan breaks down different ways in which stigma manifests and what you can do about it.

24.02.2021 Blog - Data Drop: New studies find telemedicine for abortion care is safe and more accessible
Another week and yet more research was published, proving that self-managed abortion is so much more than a provisional solution for times of pandemic.

25.02.2021 Blog - Press Release: Abortion Rights welcomes Edinburgh Council move to back 'buffer zones' to tackle clinic harassment

MARCH

15.03.2021	Blog - Keeping Campuses Pro-Choice *While we've seen progressive moves to make access to abortion easier over the last two years, we have to be vigilant to anti-choice campaigners' tactics, writes Abortion Rights Chair Kerry Abel.*
18.03.2021	Blog - Protecting Our Rights Requires Vigilance & Protest *What does the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill mean for abortion campaigning?*
25.03.2021	Blog - Statement: Abortion Rights UK expresses concern over misleading 'abortion reversal pills'
27.03.2021	Abortion Rights AGM

APRIL

08.04.2021	Blog - Decriminalise Abortion Now *Abortion Rights Chair Kerry Abel writes about why the decriminalisation of abortion is an urgent matter.*
08.04.2021	Emergency Resolution: The Police and Crime Bill *We had an Emergency motion on the fall out from the Police and Crime Bill and the effects on women and our right to protest.*
30.04.2021	Blog - Abortion Rights Is a Trade Union Issue *Davena Rankin writes about how abortion and the right to choose has and always will be both a trade union issue and a class issue.*

MAY

04.05.2021	Scottish elections: Abortion Rights Scotland put together a manifesto, calling on politicians and policymakers to review 3 key areas which are central in the aim of removing current obstructions to women's reproductive rights. We also rounded up all the parties' manifesto commitments.
06.05.2021	Scot/Wales/NI/London local elections
13.05.2021	Blog - Review: Three Families shows abortion is personal *BBC drama Three Families "explores the emotional background to a controversial campaign which culminated in the UK government forcing a liberalisation of the law in Northern Ireland" and allowed Abortion Rights executive member and actress Lilly Burton to reflect on her own experiences of abortion.*
26.05.2021	Kill The Bill meeting

JUNE

01.06.2021	Summer school sessions *We held four amazing panels across June, titled:* *What does intimate Partner Violence have to do with abortion?* *Abortion Poverty: The Hidden Cost of Abortion* *Going beyond choice | Abortion experiences of people of colour in the UK* *What we can learn from anti-choice narratives*
10.06.2021	Blog - The biggest threat to abortion rights in the US *The biggest threat to the right to access abortion across the US has been tabled to be heard in the Supreme Court later this year, Judith Orr writes.*
11.06.2021	Abortion Rights' Paid leave for abortion campaign
14.06.2021	Telemedical abortion services: joint letter to Maree Todd MSP, Minister for Public Health, Women's Health, and Sport *Abortion Rights' were signatory to an open letter to Scottish Government, arguing for retention of telemedicine.*
18.06.2021	Blog - Going beyond choice: Abortion experiences of people of colour in the UK *Decolonising Contraception's Barbara Ntumy presents the current research and statistics of abortion experiences of people of colour in the UK.*
24.06.2021	Gibraltar legalised abortion
24.06.2021	Blog - European Repro-Round-Up *The European Parliament have voted for abortion to become a right following a report from the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality, but scratching the surface, it's not just about legislation.*

JULY

01.07.2021	Blog - What we can learn from anti choice narratives *From shame and stigma to intimidation and silence, the antis go to great lengths to further their agenda. It's vital for us as pro-choice campaigners to take stock of their tactics and always be one step ahead,*
07.07.2021	Blog - Telemedicine for abortions should be here to stay *Abortion Rights Vice Chair Jillian Merchant's article published in The Times on July 5, makes the case for keeping on abortion telemedicine beyond the pandemic.*
08.07.2021	Telemedicine petition - Email Your MP: Make Abortion Telemedicine a Permanent Healthcare Provision
22.07.2021	Blog - Who's calling the shots? *After seeing that the anti-choice activists set up camp outside a vaccination centre near Oval cricket ground last weekend, Chair Kerry Abel put down her thoughts.*
22.07.2021	March for life petition - Don't let March For Life bully us out of our right to choose!
28.07.2021	Blog - The Abortion Pill: What are the facts? *Despite being a very normal and common procedure, not everyone is clued up on medical abortion, and antis are eager to spread misinformation and lies. Abortion Rights Secretary Davinia Hamilton has the facts.*
30.07.2021	It's my party and I'll have an abortion if I want to! *In celebration of our 18th birthday, we organised a great big blowout, full of amazing acts, fantastic prizes to be won, and a noughties playlist that had everybody cha-cha-sliding on the dance-floor.*

AUGUST

19.08.2021 Blog - Why Class Matters for Abortion Rights

While abortion is freely available on the NHS, research suggests that in practice, abortion provision varies according to region. Gillian Love writes about how and why class analysis matters for abortion rights and reproductive justice.

SEPTEMBR

01.09.2021 CHOICE-FEST: Our 18TH birthday series

It's been 18 wonderful years of campaigning and fighting the good fight. And we're just getting started! To celebrate this milestone, we organised a series of panel discussions that took us through the history of abortion, via Britney Spears, and through an examination of cultural stigma, to meet some incredible trailblazers with a lot to say.

04.09.2021 March for Choice

07.09.2021 Mexico Supreme Court unanimously ruled that penalising abortion is unconstitutional, setting an important precedent across the whole country.

09.09.2021 Abortion Rights Student Conference and Zine volume 1 release

We held the first ever national UK student reproductive justice community conference which involved an exciting and dynamic array of sessions and panels run by and specifically geared towards students including:
How to keep campuses pro-choice
Tackling abortion stigma
What's an abortion?
How to build a campaign

23.09.2021 Blog - The #FreeBritney movement has wider implications for abortion rights

The first Abortion Rights Chair, Anne Kane, writes on Britney Spears' conservatorship and looks at the wider implications for reproductive choice.

OCTOBER

02.10.2021 Abortion Rights organised a march and rally to the US Embassy in London , plus demos in Edinburgh and Cardiff to protest at new law in Texas restricting abortion.

24.10.2021 STUC Women's Conference

NOVEMBER

04.11.2021 Scottish Parliament Member's Debate: Motion on Abortion Clinic Buffer Zones

Parliament noted the campaign by Back Off Scotland for the Scottish Government to introduce 150m buffer zones, or protest-free areas, around clinics that provide abortion services across Scotland.

DECEMBER

09.12.2021 End of year fundraiser

We raised £1,750 to bolster our fighting fund, so we could hit the ground running in 2022. We have a really exciting year planned for 2022. We want to be more radical, more effective, and bring more people into the fold.