

Despite great strides made in recent decades, discrimination on the basis of gender remains a problem. Today, it takes many forms – unequal pay in the workplace, gender differences in health insurance coverage and cost, and ongoing attempts to limit access to reproductive health care, including abortion. Until full equality is a reality, the ACLU of RI will continue our important work to advance gender equality. Here are a few cases from our long history:

1973: *Doe v. Israel*

Successful challenge to state anti-abortion law that was passed immediately after the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* decision.

1975: *Fortin v. Darlington Little League*

Favorable decision which found that a Little League rule barring girls from playing in the League was unconstitutional.

1979: *Traugott v. Petit*

Favorable state Supreme Court decision holding that women have a right to use the name of their choice on their driver's license and registration.

1988: *Parrillo v. Parrillo*

R.I. Supreme Court appeal filed on behalf of a mother barred by Family Court from allowing her boyfriend to stay overnight when her children were present.

1998: *Rhode Island Medical Society v. Pine*

Successful federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of a law banning so-called "partial birth abortions."

2003: *Melendez v. Town of North Smithfield*

Federal lawsuit, on behalf of a female Hispanic firefighter applicant, challenging a state law which exempted North Smithfield from the Fair Employment Practices Act so the town could hire an all-white, all male fire department.

2016: *Perreault v. Harmony Fire District / Ferragamo v. Harmony Fire District*

Successfully settled lawsuits on behalf of two female EMT/firefighters who were terminated from their jobs after they raised concerns about unequal treatment of male and female firefighters.

2018: *Borrelli v. Premier Entertainment II, LLC.*

A successfully settled discrimination suit against the Newport Grand Casino on behalf of a female employee, who for years was paid significantly less than a younger male colleague despite performing the same duties in the same position.

For more information, or if you feel your rights have been violated, visit www.riaclu.org or call the ACLU of RI at (401) 831-7171.

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