

# How to Plan an Abortion Access House Party

## Have a Vision

What will be the theme, how many you can accommodate, and what is the best venue that meets your needs? Remember, the real key to having a successful event is your enthusiasm for the work.

## Pick a Theme

Have a barbeque, throw a cocktail party, or host a holiday themed gathering. Things to consider are: the time of year, place of your event, interest of your guests, and the weather.

## Pick a Date

Consider other events happening around the same time and when guests are most likely to be able to attend. Pick a day that works best for your needs, and where there is little else going on. Once you've picked a date, go ahead and send your invites early so everyone can get it on their calendar. Also let us know that you are having a party by emailing [abortionaccess@aclu.org](mailto:abortionaccess@aclu.org).

## Create an Agenda

At your house party make sure you accomplish these 5 things:

1. Thank everyone for coming. Make sure they know you appreciate their initial interest and commitment.
2. Let them know why they are here. Tell them about the local abortion ban epidemic and why it's a problem. Consider sharing your personal connection with the issue and why you've chosen to get involved. Make sure they know that they can make a real difference in the community by getting involved.
3. Give them a chance to talk about why they are interested in getting involved and their connection to the issue. Ask them about what types of actions they think they might want to take in this space.
4. Make an ask. Ask them to sign up to be on your rapid response team. Share with them the types of actions they can take including:
  - Posting on social media
  - Visiting their council members
  - Recruiting others to be a part of the rapid response team
  - Submitting an op-ed or letter to the editor around the issue
5. Follow up with them after the meeting to solidify their interest. This is a great opportunity to invite them to your email list or Facebook group so you can stay in touch.

## Follow Up With Us

Let us know how your house party went and, if you and they feel comfortable, share your guests' contact information with us so we can keep them in the loop as well.