Dealing with the Anti-Choice
A basic guide when confronted by protesters

It can be intimidating to arrive at the clinic and see people along the sidewalks holding signs, praying, or yelling. If we could stop the intimidating scare tactics we most certainly would. However, due to our free speech laws, we are unable to completely ban protesters from our clinic sites; but whenever they overstep the bounds of legality, we have and will contact local law enforcement officials.

Cedar River Clinics wants to ensure that you and your support people have the safest visit possible. Here is your guide to what protesters CAN and CANNOT do legally.

Protesters CAN:
- Picket on public sidewalks
- Yell at you
- Walk up to you (as long as they don't enter onto clinic property)
- Pass out literature
- Sidewalk "counsel"
- Take photos and or video or pretend to take them
- Try to get you to leave the property

You CAN:
- Ignore them
- Speak your mind (this may cause them to be more vocal)
- Press charges with local police if they touch or assault you
- Walk away

Protesters CANNOT:
- Block the entrance to the facility
- Use voice enhancing devices
- Touch, hit or push you
- Make you take their literature
- Make you listen to them
- Stop you from receiving medical treatment

You CANNOT:
- Touch, hit, or push them
- Use threats

As a client it is important to know your rights. Please notify us if you witness a protester defying any of the above as they are then in violation of the F.A.C.E. (Freedom to Access Clinic Entrances) Act and can be prosecuted.

If you want to be escorted into the facility, call the appointment line (800-572-4223) in advance and follow the instructions given. Your photo identification will be required.