

College Abortion Access Amid COVID-19

I. Project Summary

Our project began with our alarm at news reports of the new barriers to abortion access that emerged due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To understand the full scope of this issue, we conducted 30 interviews with OB-GYNs, pregnant women, and pro-choice activists and organizations, and others. Combined with our own online research into abortion resources, these interviews revealed a more specific problem: Online resources on abortion for college students are severely limited. The vast majority health center websites, including Vaden's, never mention abortion, and online searches lead to misinformation campaigns from anti-abortion organizations posing as valid medical resources. We worried that college students are not currently empowered with the information they need to make informed choices about their bodies, and that this problem is exacerbated by socioeconomic and geographic differences.

To address this problem, we prototyped a platform consolidating the information most critical for those seeking abortions. Students can search by their college for the nearest abortion clinic, university insurance coverage, funding networks, and on-campus resources. For our initial launch, we focused on California, as we are most familiar with the schools here and the college population is large.

II. Team Members and Contributions

Jennifer John researched the reproductive rights technology space, strategized the project direction, and coordinated conversations with related organizations.

Donovan Tokuyama helped coordinate and conduct interviews, collected data, created prototypes in Figma, and implemented our web app prototype.

Jill Rogers helped scope the problem area, established a working partnership with Planned Parenthood and the Generation Action network, and coordinated collection of data on abortion resources at different colleges.

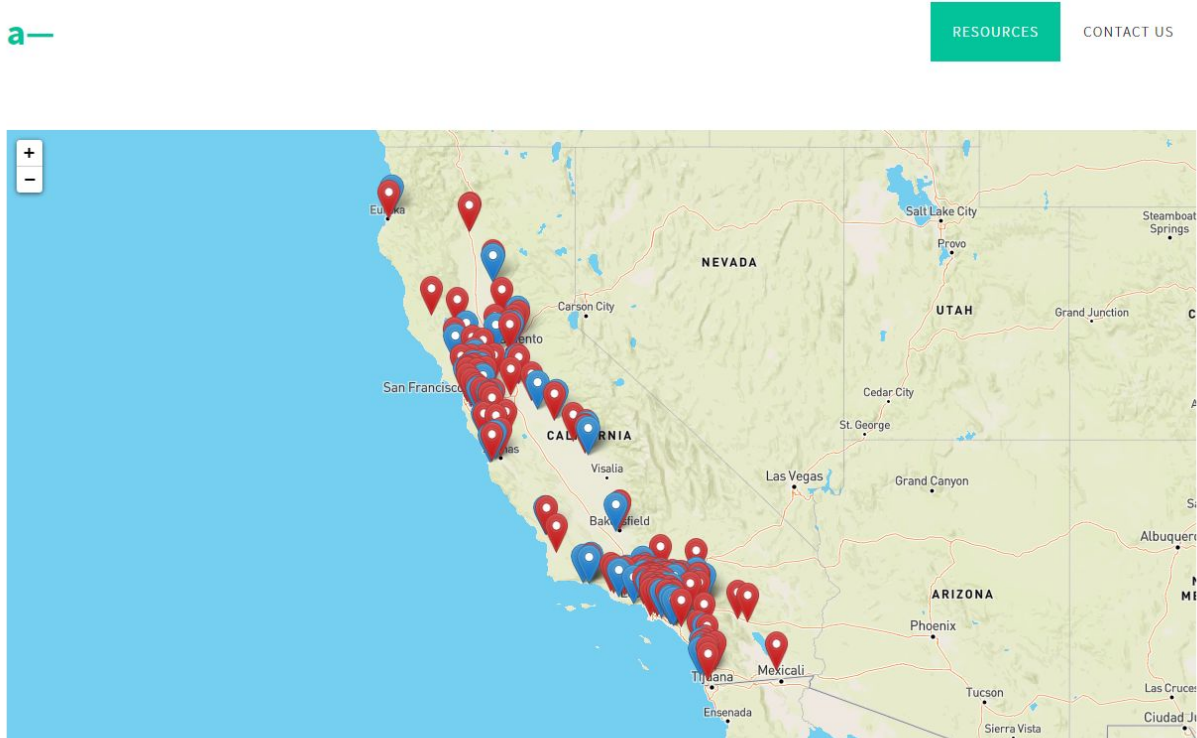
III. Future Work

For the prototype, we conducted data collection ourselves. To more efficiently expand nationwide, we plan to leverage the national network of Planned Parenthood Generation Action clubs. We are in conversations with individuals from Planned Parenthood, the Guttmacher Institute, the Policy Surveillance Program, Rewire.News, and Vaden, and we plan to solidify these partnerships to increase our impact. Later on, we hope to incorporate other methods of engaging with advocates through our platform.

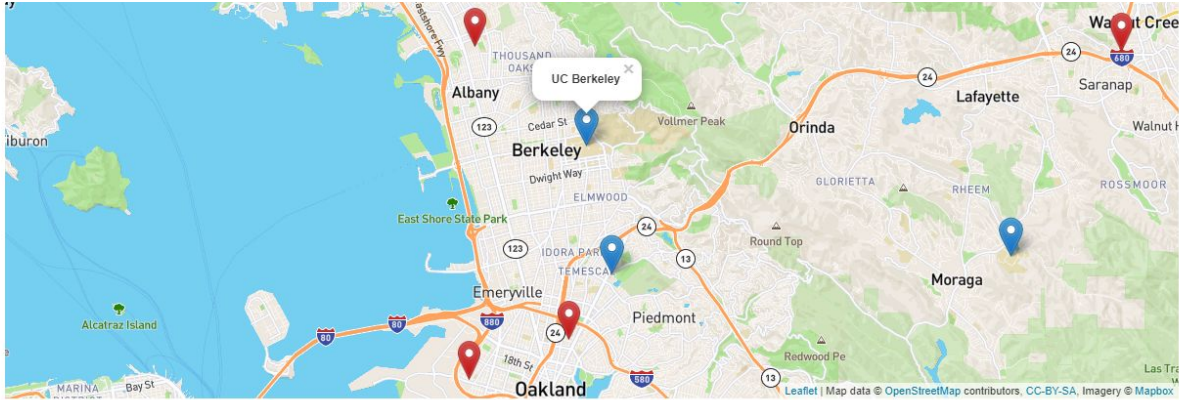
IV. Project link (Github Page/Website)

- [Figma Prototypes](#): Medium fidelity prototypes used to help solidify branding, UI/UX, and create page mockups.
- [Google Drive](#): Meeting notes, interview notes, other project related information
- [GitHub](#): Website code. Contains csv files with data, HTML, JavaScript, and CSS files which implement the prototype.

V. Visuals/Tables



Landing Screen



UC Berkeley

Nearest Clinic: Planned Parenthood El Cerrito Health Center
320 El Cerrito Plaza El Cerrito CA 94530
510-527-5806
[Website](#)

School Resources: Medication abortion available on campus starting 2023,
Pregnancy counseling, Pregnancy tests, Resources on PPFA, EC

[SEE MORE](#)

School Information Quick View

UC Berkeley

COVID-19: Abortions have been explicitly defined as essential in California so all clinics should remain open.

NEARBY PROVIDERS

LEGAL INFORMATION

CAMPUS RESOURCES

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

School Resources Page

NEARBY CLINICS

Planned Parenthood, El Cerrito Health Center

(510) 527-5806

320 El Cerrito Plaza

El Cerrito, CA, 94530

[Website](#)

Planned Parenthood, Hilltop-Richmond Health Center

(510) 222-5290

2970 Hilltop Mall Road #307

Richmond, CA, 94806

[Website](#)

UCSF Women's Options Center

(415) 353-7003

2356 Sutter St.

San Francisco, CA, 94143

[Website](#)

Nearby Clinic Modal

LEGAL INFORMATION

California prohibits abortions **at or after viability**. Exceptions are made for **life endangerment** or serious health risk.

California **does not** prohibit abortion based on the woman's reason for seeking an abortion.

California **does not** prohibit specific methods of abortion.

Legal Information Modal

VI. References

We thank Dr. Paul Blumenthal, Dr. Erica Cahill, Jill Lafer, Dennis Carter, the I Need an A team, Tessa Alexanian, and many others for sharing their insights in conversations with our team.