

**Sive, Rebecca Anne** (1950 – ) (also known as Rebecca Sive-Tomashefsky) began her fight for women's rights as a student at Carleton College, where she was a lead organizer and spokesperson for a group of women who successfully worked to obtain gynecological services on campus (1971 – 1972). She was a founder of the collective Inforwomen (1973–1975), which published the *Chicago Women's Directory/Guia para las Mujeres de Chicago*, the first guide to women's services in Chicago. As part of the Illinois bicentennial year celebration (1976), Sive served as project director of the first statewide exhibit of the history of women in that state for the American Jewish Committee, Institute on Pluralism and Group Identity. As part of her work with that group, she was the first organizer of and the spokesperson for the National Women's Agenda in Illinois. The group later developed the Illinois Women's Agenda, a statewide coalition of dozens of major women's organizations. Also, in 1976, Sive was appointed to the IWY IL committee, was PR director for it, and then a delegate to the Houston convention in 1977. During this time, Sive was also a fundraiser/PR consultant to the NWPC for its IL ERA ratification campaign. In 1977, Sive was a founder, with Heather Booth, Susan Stone, Karen Fishman and Carol Silverthorn, of the Midwest Women's Center, the first multiservice, citywide women's center in Chicago. After her election to the board of NARAL (1979), Sive became chair of the NARAL Foundation (1980). In 1980, Sive was appointed by Governor James R. Thompson as a founding member of the Illinois Human Rights Commission, one of the first commissions of its kind in the U.S., and in 1982 she founded, with Rev. Addie Wyatt, Rev. Willie Barrow and Nancy Jefferson, Women for Washington, which supported Harold Washington's campaign for mayor of Chicago. Washington was the first African American mayor of Chicago and the first pro-choice mayoral candidate in Chicago history. In addition to her B.A. from Carleton College, Sive holds an M.A. from the University of Illinois. (ABS)