



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Aspen Baker, Pro-Voice Leader, Signs Book Deal with Berrett-Koehler Publishers

Author's embrace of the chaotic, emotional complexity of abortion provides deep insights, tested strategies, and fresh ideas about what's possible in her coming book on "Pro-Voice."

Oakland, CA - Aspen Baker, Founder and Executive Director of nonprofit organization Exhale, announced that she has signed a contract with San Francisco-based Berrett-Koehler Publishers, Inc., to publish her first book. "Pro-Voice" is scheduled for publication in 2015.

Pro-voice, the term coined by Exhale in 2005, is an alternative approach to discussing abortion and other conflicted issues. In her book, Ms. Baker will take the reader behind the scenes of what it takes to change the tone around highly charged issues, like abortion, and inspire readers with true stories and tested methods.

"Berrett-Koehler," said Neal Maillet, Editorial Director, "has long been an admirer of Exhale and Aspen Baker. Frankly, we've been amazed that she can prove that the values central to so many of our books - deep listening, tolerance, and empathy, to name a few - can actually bring insight and understanding to one of the sharpest conflicts we have as human beings. Aspen won't shy away from conflict, yet she brings peace and support wherever she works. We feel privileged to be able to share her message with the wider world. "

Baker has earned a wide variety of awards and accolades. She was recently named a "Fun, Fearless Female" in the May 2013 issue of Cosmopolitan magazine; was awarded 2012 Gerbode Professional Development Fellowship; named a "Local Hero" in 2009 by San Francisco's KQED during Women's History Month; and "Young Executive Director of the Year" in 2005 by the Bay Area's Young Non-Profit Professional Network.

"Aspen Baker has been at the forefront of navigating abortion's gray areas for over a decade. Her unique perspective is inspiring and hopeful for a wide range of issues where it has become impossible to hold respectful and constructive conversations with people whose beliefs differ from our own," stated Jocelyn Yin, Exhale's Board President. "I believe Aspen's book will set a new standard for how we talk about abortion in this country and more importantly, how we treat one another."

***Founded in 2000 with a mission to create a social climate where each person's unique experience with abortion is supported, respected, and free from stigma, Exhale recently wrapped up a college campus tour with five young women who shared their personal stories of abortion with students around the country.