

SCOTUS Abortion Rights Decision One-Pager

Context: In *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, the Supreme Court considered a case to determine the constitutionality of a Mississippi law banning all abortions after 15 weeks. This put two Supreme Court precedents into question: *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and *Casey v. Planned Parenthood* (1992). These cases both found and then later upheld that women have the constitutional right to an abortion.

What Today's Decision Says: Today, the Supreme Court's conservative justices violated a nearly 50-year precedent by erroneously finding that the Constitution – specifically the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment – does not protect the right to abortion. The Court calls abortion as a constitutionally protected right "egregiously wrong from the start," stripping this fundamental right from women across the U.S.

Implications: Abortion is now banned in 13 states in the first and second trimester because of this decision. Moreover, this decision empowers state legislators and anti-abortion activists to pursue bans and severely restrict other abortion protections. This will have a disparate impact on minority and impoverished women, causing individuals to seek dangerous methods to self-manage a pregnancy or carry an unwanted pregnancy to term.

Threats to Other Rights: Equally as troubling, Justice Alito claimed that any Due Process right must be "deeply rooted in this Nation's history and tradition." This leaves room for anti-abortion activists to challenge the constitutionality of basic reproductive rights, including contraception, morning-after pills, and in-vitro fertilization. Justice Thomas explicitly writes that the Court should reconsider cases establishing other fundamental human rights, including same-sex marriage. Other rights could be on the chopping block.

Why It's Protected in Nevada: For more than 30 years, Nevada has protected abortion rights prior to 24 weeks. In a 1990 initiative, voters chose to constitutionally protect the right to abortion. This can only be struck down through a majority vote by Nevadans.

Resources:

- Learn about your rights and available resources at <u>Reproductiverights.gov</u>
- Find a Verified Abortion Provider
- Learn more about <u>Health Insurance Portability and</u>
 <u>Accountability Act (HIPAA) Privacy Rule and Disclosures of Information Guidance Relating to Reproductive Health Care</u>
- Take steps to <u>safeguard reproductive health information on your smartphone</u>