



Members of the House Committee on the Judiciary,

My name is Kristan Hawkins, and I'm the President of Students for Life of America and Students for Life Action. On behalf of our 1,200+ active groups and more than 130,000 trained youth activists across the nation, I would like to express our support for the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* and ultimately ending the violence of abortion across the nation.

Nearly 50 years ago, seven men wrongly alleged the right to "privacy" and "abortion" were written between the lines of the U.S. Constitution in invisible ink. These Supreme Court Justices overstepped the bounds of their judicial authority to allow the killing of innocent preborn children in the name of "women's rights."

Science has finally caught up with what we've always known to be true – human life begins at conception.

When the egg is fertilized, unique human DNA is created that will never be replicated again, forming the blueprint for the child's [physical characteristics](#), including height, eye and hair color, and even hair thickness, which will develop given the appropriate time. At approximately six weeks gestation, the baby's heart beats, which is a well-known indication of life. Around 12 weeks gestation, the preborn child can feel pain. Babies have been observed retreating from surgical instruments in the womb and even screaming during a dismemberment abortion. By 15 weeks, a preborn baby has a nose, eyebrows, and lips that are fully formed. Technological advancements have given us a window into the womb to observe these traits in real time. Using modern [ultrasounds](#), the baby's life and humanity are illustrated in his or her distinct features and movements, such as thumb sucking, yawning, and even smiling.

Despite what some Democrat elected officials and abortion supporters claim, the American people do NOT agree with *Roe v. Wade*, and they certainly do not agree with the extreme *Women's Health "Protection" Act*. *Roe v. Wade* allows abortion for any reason through all nine months of pregnancy. The *Women's Health "Protection" Act* attempts to go even further, [striking down](#) reasonable state laws that limit and regulate abortion. Basic health and safety standards, bans on dangerous late-term abortions, and informed consent laws are popular policies that serve as essential safeguards for women and empower them to be well-informed prior to making a life-or-death decision.

The reality is that more than 75% of Americans – including a majority who identify as "pro-choice" – WANT significant restrictions on abortion, according to a [recent Marist poll](#). To further confirm this fact, a [2018 Gallup poll](#) found that only 13% of Americans support abortion in the third trimester, meaning 87% favor abortion restrictions that *Roe v. Wade* precludes. According to our [Demetree Institute for Pro-Life Advancement](#), 3 out of 4 Millennial and Gen Z Americans – the generations most targeted by the predatory abortion industry – want limits on abortion. Almost 6 in 10 oppose *Roe v. Wade* after learning about its radical extent of abortion for any reason through all nine months of pregnancy. These two generations now make up nearly [one-third](#) of the American electorate, and more than HALF of them would even support legislation to ban abortion when a heartbeat is detected.

Now, the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* case presents a significant and historic opportunity for the most diverse Supreme Court in American history to right the wrongs of 1973, which have led to the horrific deaths of nearly 63 million innocent babies. **It is long past time the Supreme Court throws *Roe v. Wade* onto the ash heap of history where it belongs with *Plessy v. Ferguson* and *Dred Scott v. Sandford*.** Further, it is the moral and legal obligation

of state and federal officials to protect the innocent preborn and their mothers from the violence and trauma of abortion.

Abortion is not healthcare. Abortion is not compassionate. Abortion is not empowering. These serious, unnatural, and unsafe procedures are intended to prematurely end a pregnancy by violently killing a baby, often resulting in physical and/or psychological [harm to the mother](#). Effects can include heavy and persistent bleeding, internal organ damage, infection, sepsis, and even death. Past abortions have been linked to fertility issues, breast cancer, and adverse effects on mental health such as grief and regret, substance abuse, insomnia, nightmares, isolation and relationship issues, depression, anxiety, and even suicide.

Expanding abortion access is antithetical to “pro-women” and “pro-science” values, only benefitting an industry that preys on vulnerable women in their time of need. Abortion facilities have been known to [manipulate](#) and [force](#) women into abortions, [aid sexual predators](#), disregard [basic health and sanitation standards](#), provide medical services with [unqualified staff members](#), and even enable reckless abortionists like [Kermit Gosnell](#) who’ve harmed and killed women during abortion procedures. **Knowing the risks and past corruption of abortion facilitators, they should be subject to more government oversight, not less.**

If *Roe v. Wade* is reversed – as it should be – the pro-life movement has invested in preparing free, local life-affirming resources to help meet women where they’re at, empowering them with the information and support they need to make the best decision for themselves and for their child. The Pro-Life Generation is more than ready for a post-*Roe* America where both mothers and children are valued, protected, and loved amidst life’s challenges.

Democrats in this committee have raised an alarm over a fabricated crisis, blindly serving Corporate Abortion and demeaning women by asserting that they must have the ability to kill their children in order to succeed in life. Nothing could be further from the truth. Women deserve to know the truth about abortion – how these gruesome procedures are performed, the effects they can have on her physical and emotional wellbeing, the alternative life-giving resources available to her, and the reality that a living human being is growing inside her womb.

Throughout history, people have been assigned worth and value – or lack thereof – based on various natural traits they could not choose, which has only led to pain, suffering, and destruction. **Let me be clear, abortion is NOT a human right.** The ultimate human right, which is represented in the U.S. Constitution, is the God-given right to life. Without life, no other rights matter or exist.

For nearly five decades, *Roe v. Wade* has retained a chokehold on state and federal legislators, preventing them from protecting innocent and vulnerable human life in the womb. If you choose to dig your antiquated heels into the sands of abortion extremism, I assure you that the American people will leave you behind for a future of life, liberty, and true justice.

Thank you,

Kristan Hawkins