

Fast Legislation Facts...(excerpts taken from Center for Life and Hope, Columbus, Ohio)

Roe v. Wade...

What Roe Did. Roe invalidated prohibitions in all 50 States. Under Roe, States may not prohibit abortion before viability, which is when the child may survive outside of the mother.

Doe v. Bolton...

This was decided the same day as Roe, and the court further limited what States could do regarding abortion. The Court defined health as encompassing “all factors—physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman’s age—relevant to the well-being of the patient.”

Therefore, under *Roe* and *Doe*, a woman must be permitted to obtain an abortion through all nine months if it is for her “well-being.”

What happens When Roe is Overruled?

The decision regarding abortion would go back to the States to decide.

Is Roe v. Wade what the American people wanted?

Not at all. Roe subverted the democratic process. The U.S. Supreme Court was willing to use its judicial power to trample the legislative power—and the voice of the people—of all 50 States. A majority of the States rejected making abortion legal. Public Opinion was against it.

So Women need abortion and Roe?

Not only has Roe not helped women, it has hurt them. Except for abortion, Roe has never been used as a legal basis for establishing any rights for women. Abortion exposes women to serious physical and psychological risks: breast cancer, miscarriage, perforated uterus, cervical laceration, infection, and post-abortion traumatic stress, to name only a few.

Would Overturning Roe Force Women to Turn to Illegal Abortions, Resulting in Massive Numbers of Women Dying From These Procedures?

Overturning Roe won’t make abortion illegal—it will finally allow the American people to decide what the law should be. Plus, there is no evidence that banning abortion will lead to more deaths for women. Poland, a nation of 40 million people, banned legalized abortion in 1993. The number of abortions fell an average of 150,000 per year under the Communists to 124 in 2001. Records of all deaths due to pregnancy, abortion, and childbirth indicate that the rate dropped from 70 in 1990 to 21 in 1999. With the exceptional level of medical care available in the U.S., there is no reason to think our experience will be worse.

Would Criminalizing Abortion Send Women to Jail?

Overruling Roe will not make abortion illegal, it will just send it back to the States for the people to decide. And, no one is interested in sending women to jail. Pro-life people have been helping women with unplanned pregnancies since the 1960’s. It is the abortionist who makes his or her money by taking advantage of women’s problems who belongs in jail, not the woman. The goal of the pro-life movement is to re-awaken America to the absolute value of each innocent human life and to help women and their families, now and always.