



What is *Dobbs*?

- *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* is a court case that is currently being heard by the U.S. Supreme Court.
- The case began in 2018, after an abortion facility challenged the newly passed Mississippi law which banned abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy.
- This case directly challenges the Supreme Court's ruling in *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, which together prevent states from banning abortion before viability.
- Heartbeat filed an amicus brief in support of the Mississippi law, refuting the claim in made in both *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* that women must be able to have abortions to be successful. Heartbeat's brief argued the pregnancy help network is a primary source of support for these women.
- Oral arguments are scheduled to begin Dec. 1, 2021, with a ruling expected in June 2022.

What are the potential results of the case?

- *Roe v. Wade* could be re-affirmed, which would keep the current limits on states' abilities to ban abortions before viability.
- *Roe v. Wade* could be overturned, which would give the power back to each state to pass laws to ban, sanction, or regulate abortion.
- The Supreme Court could create a new standard and allow states to ban abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

What will happen if *Roe* is upheld or re-affirmed?

- Legislation seeking to ban abortion before viability that is currently working its way through the courts would likely be struck down.
- Other legislation that regulates abortion may also see more intense scrutiny in the courts.
- At the same time, pregnancy help organizations will continue to serve women and provide compassionate support and real choices.
- As the availability of chemical abortion increases, and with the loosening of FDA regulations under the current administration, APRN will continue offer a second chance at life to women through Abortion Pill Reversal.

What will happen if *Roe* is overturned?

- Each state will be in control of its abortion restrictions, meaning that in states such as California and Vermont, abortion will continue to be permitted at least up until 24 weeks.
 - Pregnancy help organizations in these states will continue to provide free services to the women who live there, and to those who travel to their states, thinking that abortion is their only choice.
- In states such as Texas and Louisiana, abortion will almost immediately be banned.
 - Pregnancy centers, maternity homes, and adoption agencies in these states will step up to serve the women who previously may have turned to abortion facilities.
 - Providers with APRN will provide Abortion Pill Reversal, as women receive chemical abortions from states where abortion is still legal.
- Other states will have some regulations on abortion, such as North Carolina and Virginia, and will become the focus of advocacy organizations as they struggle to either ban or permit abortions.
 - In these undecided states, pregnancy help organizations will step up to give women the love, support, and information they need to protect her child through and unexpected pregnancy.