



DOVE Statement in Response to Overturning of Roe v. Wade

The Supreme Court has overturned Roe v. Wade, and decimated the right to abortion in the United States.

In doing this, the Supreme Court is allowing Mississippi to institute their harmful 15-week ban on abortion and is opening the door to further restrictions in other states. **While abortion in Massachusetts will continue to be protected under the ROE Act, this decision is a devastating blow to the fundamental rights for all people in the U.S.**

Abortion services are essential health care, and it is vital that all people, everywhere, have the right to determine their own lives. **For domestic violence survivors, abortion access is a matter of safety.** Controlling a person's sexual and reproductive life is abuse; forcing a partner to stay pregnant is unfortunately an effective way to keep them dependent and trapped in the relationship. When survivors are able to choose for themselves whether to continue pregnancies, they are safely more able to leave abusive partners and create new lives for themselves.

Everything is connected. Justice Clarence Thomas released a separate opinion questioning access to contraceptives and LGBTQ+ rights in the U.S. This decision will not only effect reproductive rights, but fundamental rights of all Americans.

We echo and endorse a statement made by Jane Doe, Inc., the MA Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence:

*This dynamic is at the root of one of JDI's policy priorities – to **add coercive control to our state's domestic violence protection order (209A).***

*It is also why JDI continues to advocate for the **Healthy Youth Act.** It's essential that our youth receive medically accurate, LGBTQ inclusive and age-appropriate sexual health education that offers lessons on a comprehensive range of topics, including healthy relationships, consent, sexual orientation and gender identity, and the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).*

*And it's why our expansive advocacy includes calling for **sensible gun laws, criminal justice reforms, and other efforts** to remedy these attacks on our cherished constitutional guarantees.*

DOVE will continue to provide crucial services to survivors and work to end domestic and partner violence. We refuse to stand by silently while reproductive rights are taken away.

Now more than ever, we must support local providers, patients, and abortion funds, as well as advocate for federal protections such as the Women's Health Protection Act, the EACH Act, and the elimination of the Hyde Amendment from the federal budget.

There will be many reflections, analyses, and calls to action in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

Thank you in advance for keeping survivors front and center and for being in community with us. We can't do any of this without your support.

We will list helpful resources and ways to advocate below:

- [Read Jane Doe Inc's statement](#) about how the loss of Roe affects survivors.
- Learn more about direct service and care and consider donating to these organizations
 - [Planned Parenthood](#)
 - [The Abortion Rights Fund of Western Massachusetts](#)
 - [The Jane Fund of Central Massachusetts](#)
 - [The Eastern Massachusetts Abortion Fund](#)
 - [Tides for Reproductive Justice](#)
 - [Indigenous Women Rising](#)
 - [National Network of Abortion Funds](#)
- Keep updated with important action steps
 - [Reproductive Equity Now](#)
 - [Beyond Roe Coalition](#)
- Helpful hotlines
 - [M+A Hotline](#)
 - [If/When/How: Lawyering for Reproductive Justice](#)
 - [Crisis Text Line](#) for mental health support