



National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NAESV Condemns Supreme Court Decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization Overturning Roe v. Wade

The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence condemns today's decision by the Supreme Court of the United States to overrule Roe v. Wade eliminating the constitutional right to an abortion. Recovering from sexual violence and access to reproductive justice are both fundamentally about bodily autonomy, empowerment and choice, and person-centered care. We can't address and end sexual violence unless survivors and all people are able to freely decide what happens to their bodies.

According to the most recent [National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey](#), 14.9% of female victims of rape became pregnant. Survivors of sexual violence, who have experienced the devastation of having their bodily autonomy attacked, must have access to the full range of reproductive healthcare choices and options including abortion in order to heal and thrive regardless of whether or not they report to law enforcement. Abortion bans harm survivors, and rape exceptions to abortion bans do not meet the needs of survivors. Most survivors do not report their experiences and should not have to, and all people deserve access to a full range of reproductive healthcare options including abortion. Restrictions on abortion will have even greater impacts on survivors who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color as well as LGBTQ survivors and those who have a disability who already face oppression and additional hurdles to their recovery.

While many states will continue to ensure access to abortion, many other states will not. As survivor advocates, we will continue and deepen our work to ensure all survivors, regardless of the state they live in and their life circumstances, have access to all of the services and responses they need including abortion.

We call on Congress to pass the Women's Health Protection Act. We also recognize that the rights of many to bodily autonomy are currently threatened, and we call on local and state governments and the federal government to protect those rights including abortion access; the rights of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color; and the rights of LGBTQI+ people.

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The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence is the voice in Washington for the 56 state and territorial sexual assault coalitions and 1500 rape crisis centers working to end sexual violence and support survivors.