



Fighting for Life in Anticipation of Supreme Court Decision in Mississippi Abortion Case

Our country was founded on the principles that we are created equal, have God-given potential, and the **right to life**, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We believe in the **dignity and value of each human being from conception to natural death**. We, ***the American people, are at our core pro-life.***

In 1973, the [Supreme Court decision in *Roe v. Wade*](#) struck down many state laws that protected life on the flawed reasoning that any law restricting access to abortion prior to an unborn child's "viability" is unconstitutional. Because of this decision, abortion-on-demand, until birth, became the law of the land.

The Supreme Court will soon make a decision in the Mississippi Abortion case ([Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization](#)). The decision in this case could [correct half a century of error](#) by overturning *Roe's* extreme position. The decision may also restore the ability of [state and federal officials to enact new or additional pro-life legislation](#), and give Americans the ability to protect babies while supporting mothers and families.

Republicans stand united with the American people and look forward to living out the following pro-life principles:

We celebrate that the American people may once again have the opportunity to protect life at all stages.

Why is this important? As part of the *Dobbs v. Jackson* decision, not only might Mississippi be able to uphold its law to protect unborn babies at 15 weeks, but other states may again be able to advance laws that protect the lives of unborn babies at their earliest stages. The American people could have their voices restored – rightfully heard through elected officials, not silenced by unelected judges. This is just the beginning. Regardless of the decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson*, state and federal lawmakers will have increased opportunity and responsibility to take action in defense of life.

Who supports these efforts? By a [2 to 1 margin](#), Americans want abortion policy to be set by elected leaders, and not unelected judges. [71%](#) of Americans support legal limits on abortion. Only [7%](#) of Millennials share the position of the Democratic Party platform: abortion-on-demand, through all nine months, paid for by taxpayers.

Tip: Know where your state stands on protecting life by checking out educational resources from [American United for Life](#), [Concerned Women for America](#), [Family Research Council](#), [Family Policy Alliance](#), [National Right to Life](#), and [Susan B. Anthony List](#).

Advances in science help us understand the humanity of unborn babies and support mothers and families who bring new life into the world.

Why is this important? The *Dobbs v. Jackson* case focuses on a Mississippi law that aimed to protect unborn babies at 15-weeks. Through [incredible advances in science](#) families and medical professionals are now able to understand that at [15 weeks](#), the unborn baby can not only feel pain, but have a fully developed heart pumping 26 quarts of blood per day. At 15 weeks, we can see an unborn baby move their fingers and suck their thumb and see the unique features of their fully formed nose, lips, and eyelids. For babies diagnosed with conditions previously believed untreatable or terminal, doctors can now perform successful surgery on a 15-week unborn baby, bringing new hope and health to families.

Who supports these efforts? [55%](#) of Americans are more likely to support a 15-week limit on abortion when they learn that an unborn baby can feel pain. [80%](#) of Americans reject abortion after the first three months of pregnancy. [81%](#) of Americans agree that laws can protect both the health and well-being of a woman and the life of the unborn. [More than 4 in 10 Millennials and Gen Z](#) favor either no abortion at all or abortion limited to the exceptions of rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother.

Tip: Share [what we know](#) about the [humanity of unborn babies](#). *Roe* was based on [outdated science](#). Incredible advances in science and medical technology now provide a far superior understanding of and support for unborn babies, mothers, families and medical professionals both during a pregnancy and at birth.

Americans across the country are already invested in supporting babies, mothers, and families and are committed to furthering a culture of life in our communities.

Pregnancy care centers. A [recent report](#) summarizes the effect community-based pregnancy centers have on unborn babies, mothers, and families: In 2019 alone, over 2,700 pregnancy centers provided over 1.85 million people in the United States with free support and maternal services both during a mother's pregnancy and after the baby is born, estimated at a value of over \$266 million.

Support for pro-life protections at the state level. Currently, [18 states](#) already have robust pro-life protections that would go into effect if the Supreme Court were to overturn *Roe*. [12 additional states](#) would provide some pro-life protections, with an opportunity to improve legislation. States such as Texas already have focused pro-life programs. The [Texas Alternatives to Abortion program](#) "promotes childbirth and provides support services to pregnant women and their families, adoptive parents, and parents who have experienced miscarriage or the loss of a child."

Support for home and faith-based childcare options. More employers offering maternity, parental, and family leave. American workers, families, communities, and employers also see the value of policies that support mothers and families in the earliest stages of their baby's life. When [polled](#), parents' top preferences for where babies and young children spend their day was at home or with a faith-based childcare provider. Republicans are engaged in making sure families have [increased options for affordable, quality childcare](#). In a win for parents and families, recent trends show a [64% increase](#) in the number of workers with access to employer-provided paid family leave over the past five years, while [access has doubled](#) for people working at small and medium-sized companies. Additionally, 29% of workers also have access to state-based programs providing [paid family leave](#), with more states considering adding their own programs.

Why the Left misses the mark.

The Left holds the extremist position. Today's Left believes in a position even more extreme than *Roe*: taxpayer-funded abortion, on demand, until birth. However, they stand isolated around the globe as the extremists. A recent study shows that [90%](#) of countries already have laws in place to protect unborn babies at 15 weeks. Mississippi's 15-week law is mainstream even compared to most European nations. [47 out of 50](#) European countries either don't allow for elective abortion or limit elective abortion to 15 weeks or earlier. The U.S. is [only one of seven countries](#) in the world that permit elective abortion past 20 weeks. Currently, U.S. abortion laws are among the most extreme in the world and [on par with China and North Korea](#).

The Left is in favor of taxpayer-funded abortions. [Current legislation](#) to allow taxpayer funding for abortion unfortunately has robust support by the Left with 24 Democratic co-sponsors in the Senate and 186 Democratic co-sponsors in the House. The current chair of the House Appropriations Committee has made extreme claims that the Hyde Amendment and other pro-life policies, which protect taxpayer dollars from being used to fund elective abortion, are "[discriminatory](#)." However, [58%](#) of voters oppose taxpayer funding of abortion in the U.S. and [77%](#) oppose the use of tax dollars to support international abortion. In the beginning of the 117th Congress, the [Republican Study Committee led 201 Republicans in the House and 48 Republicans in the Senate](#) to side with the majority of American people, opposing any form of taxpayer funded abortion.

The Left disregards the health and safety of women and makes false claims that the pro-life movement does nothing for mothers. Unfortunately, the Left's only response to an unplanned pregnancy is the death of an unborn baby and the pain for mothers and families that accompany it. Even data from the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute shows that the [risk](#) of a mother dying from an abortion rises exponentially (by more than 2,200%) between the 8th and 18th week of her pregnancy. Pushes for increased use of chemical abortion and chemical abortion pills distributed by mail have put more pregnant mothers at serious medical risk. [Data](#) shows that "abortion-related emergency room visits following a chemical abortion increased over 500% from 2002 through 2015." Yet polls show that [63%](#) of Americans, including 42% of Democrats, oppose new federal rules that allow abortion pills to be sent through the mail without an in-person visit to a medical professional. In stark contrast, the pro-life movement seeks to come alongside mothers, offering life and support for both her and her baby during and after pregnancy. Countless [non-profit organizations](#), [faith-based organizations](#), [community-based programs](#), and [campus programs](#) already support pregnant and parenting mothers and families, and plan to grow their services in the years ahead!

Our message is clear. There is dignity and value in every human life from conception to natural death. We will celebrate every opportunity to protect life, share science-backed truth of the humanity of unborn babies, and support unborn babies, mothers, and families in our communities as we fight for a culture of life in the U.S.