

Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization

Updates from the Office of MS Attorney General Lynn Fitch

September 3, 2021

KEY ARGUMENT:

Today, women enjoy both a full family life and successful career.

As we approach Labor Day, we recognize the incredible change in labor force participation of mothers with young children. There are nearly double the number of mothers with young children in the workforce today compared to five decades ago. In the early 1970's, there were only 400,000 female small business owners. Today, there are more than 11.6 million women-owned businesses. And these businesses employ 9 million people!

Women are making a conscious decision to have both a career and a family and society is overwhelmingly supporting them, even if public policy is doing so only gradually. In the 1970s, pregnancy could derail a professional career. Today, taking maternity leave is more than accepted; it is routine. In fact, paternity leave, which was a fairy tale 50 years ago, is becoming a norm as millennial moms and dads increasingly share childcare responsibilities.

Abortion policy has been tethered to 1973, when women's career options were far more limited. In the meantime, women, men, and the workplace have all changed, allowing women to have both a full family life and a successful career. Our laws are gradually following society's lead. Through a favorable ruling in the Dobbs case, public debate will be allowed to flourish, both empowering women and promoting life.



WHAT WE'RE READING

Newsweek: Abortion Rights and Women's Equal Citizenship

Opinion by Erika Bachiochi

"...the current justices should ask themselves, as they review Dobbs, whether women's equality is actually promoted by the abortion license. A growing number of women—including the 240 scholars and professionals who, with several pro-life feminist organizations, filed an amicus brief in Dobbs—think not."

National Review: The History of the Case That Could Topple Roe

By Alexandra DeSanctis

"As many observers have noted, the facts of the [Dobbs] case make it a unique opportunity to strike directly at the heart of Roe and Casey. Because the justices are considering the constitutionality of a pre-viability abortion regulation, they will have a difficult time concocting a middle-ground decision of the sort we have come to expect from the Court in abortion cases."

The time has come

instead to discard the male-normative theories of equality on which the putative right to abortion is constructed today. But let's not throw the baby out with the bathwater. Let's make room, as earlier generations of women's rights advocates did, for vulnerable and dependent children, and for the women—and men—responsible for their care.

ERIKA BACHIOCHI

Use this graphic on your social channels. Read [Erika Bachiochi's opinion piece at Newsweek](#).

[#EmpowerWomenPromoteLife](#)



ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH IN THE NEWS

Y'all Politics: Texas allowed to enact 6-week abortion ban ahead of Mississippi U.S. Supreme Court case

"We remain focused on our case. We won't read too much into the Court's consideration of an emergency request. The Texas law will get thorough consideration as it continues to proceed through judicial channels rather than be short circuited by a contrived emergency filing," said Debee Hancock, Communications Manager for the Mississippi Attorney General's Office.

SuperTalk Mississippi: Mississippi joins lawsuit challenging federal anti-discrimination guidance

"With the stroke of a pen, the Biden-Harris Administration is tearing down all the advances we have made over decades for equality in girls' sports. My colleagues and I will not stand by and let school-aged girls be a political pawn in the Administration's power games," Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch said in support of the lawsuit.

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