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*Easy Read Edition*

# **Our Bodies, Our Rights:** **What's Going On at the** **Supreme Court?**

**Part 7: Why are some people  
so angry?**

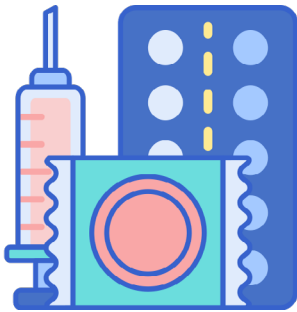
*This toolkit was made possible in part by the generous support of the Ford Foundation and the WITH Foundation. No WITH or Ford Foundation funds were used to produce the components of this toolkit which may constitute lobbying.*

# Words to Know in Part 7



## Abortion

When a person decides to end their pregnancy without giving birth.



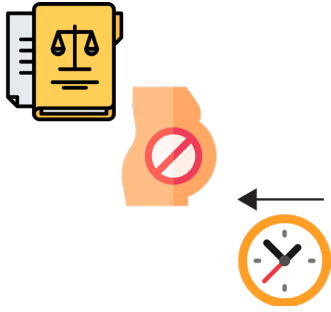
## Birth control

Medication that makes it so you can't get pregnant as long as you keep taking it.



## Bodily autonomy

The right of people to control what happens to their bodies. Bodily autonomy means people get to make their own decisions about their bodies.



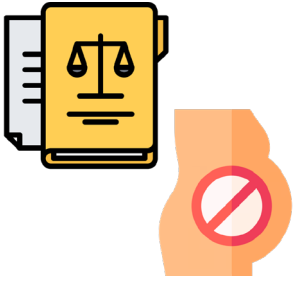
## Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey

A Supreme Court case decided in 1992. Planned Parenthood is a group that provides abortions and other health care. They brought a lawsuit against the state of Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania had passed laws making it harder to get an abortion in that state. The Supreme Court decided that abortion would still be legal. But the Supreme Court also decided that there could be more laws against abortions.



## Right to privacy

A right that says the government should not interfere with people's privacy. When we say "the right to privacy," we are not talking just about people doing things in private. We are talking about the government not getting to decide what people do in their personal lives.



## Roe v. Wade

A Supreme Court case decided in 1973. We sometimes call Roe v. Wade “Roe” for short. A woman who went by the fake name Jane Roe needed an abortion in Texas. But Texas law said that abortion was illegal. So Jane Roe brought a lawsuit to try and change the law so she could get an abortion. The Supreme Court decided that abortion had to be legal in most cases during pregnancy.



## Self-determination

The right to make choices about your own life. Self-determination means people get to choose what they do with their lives.



## Sterilized

Having surgery so you cannot get pregnant anymore.



## Supreme Court

The highest court in the United States.  
They have the final say on laws.





## Why are some people so angry?

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People are angry because the Supreme Court undid the decision in Roe v. Wade.



Abortion doesn't have to be legal anymore.



Different states can say that abortion is illegal in those states.



People can't get abortions anymore in states where it is now illegal.

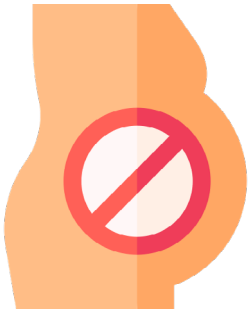
This is very bad.

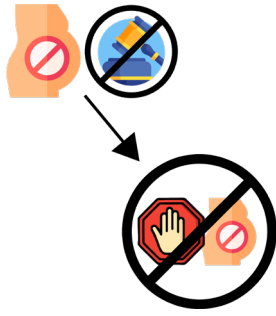


People have bodily autonomy.



A pregnant person should be able to get an abortion if they want one.





Banning abortions does not stop abortions from happening.



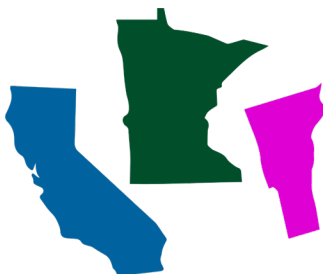
It only means people who want abortions might have to do illegal things.



And it would mean that pregnant people might have to travel long distances to get abortions.



Some states are making abortion illegal.



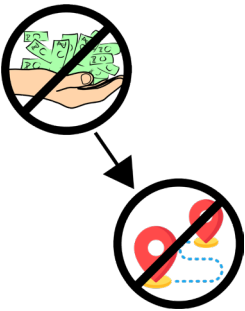
Other states are not.



So people will have to travel between states to get an abortion.



Traveling between states to get an abortion costs a lot of money.



This would mean people who don't have a lot of money couldn't travel to get abortions.



People also worry about the right to privacy.



The **right to privacy** is a right that says the government should not interfere with people's privacy.



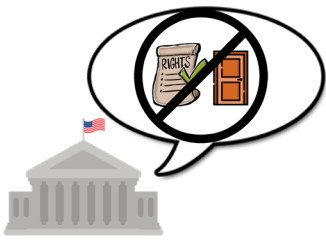
When we say "the right to privacy," we are not just talking about people doing things in private.



We are talking more about the government not getting to decide what people do in their personal lives.



Without the right to privacy, people wouldn't have a lot of other rights.

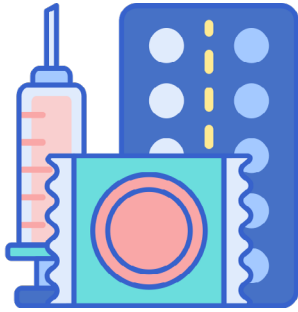


The Supreme Court's decision in Dobbs threatened the right to privacy.

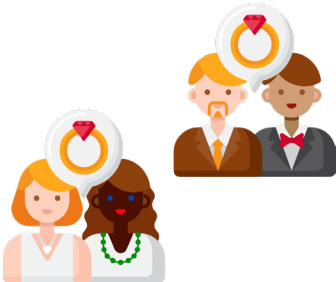


One of the justices on the Supreme Court wrote in the Dobbs decision that he wanted to undo the right to privacy and a lot of other rights.

Some of these rights are:



- The right to get birth control. **Birth control** is medication that makes it so you can't get pregnant as long as you keep taking it.



- The right for two adults of the same gender to get married.

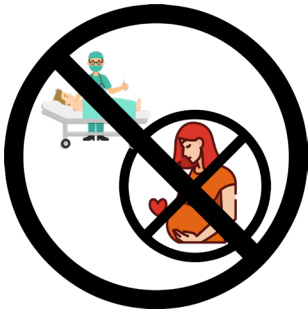


- The right of two adults of the same gender to have sex with each other.





- The right for two adults of different races to get married.



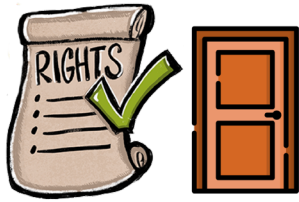
- The right of people not to be sterilized if they don't want to be.



(We don't know that the Supreme Court would get rid of these rights.)



But we are pretty sure they would if they got the chance.)



All these rights are based on the right to privacy.

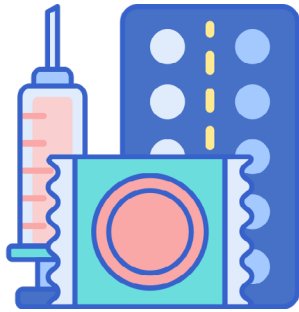


All these rights have to do with bodily autonomy and self-determination.

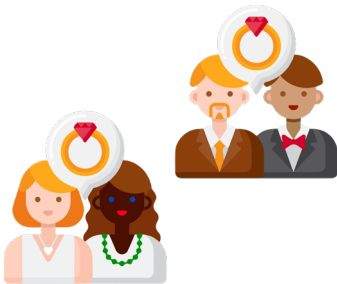


Bodily autonomy and self-determination say that people have the right to make choices about their own bodies and lives.

Many rights have to do with bodily autonomy and self-determination, such as:



- The right to get birth control. Birth control is medication that makes it so you can't get pregnant as long as you keep taking it.



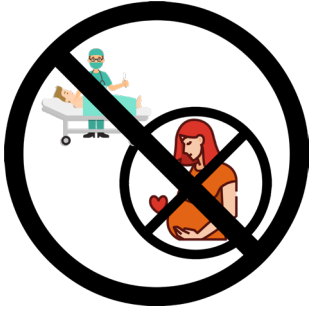
- The right for two adults of the same gender to get married.



- The right of two adults of the same gender to have sex with each other.

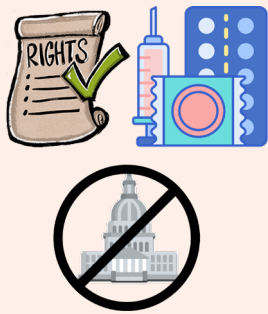


- The right for two adults of different races to get married.

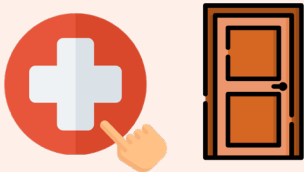


- The right of people not to be sterilized if you don't want to be.

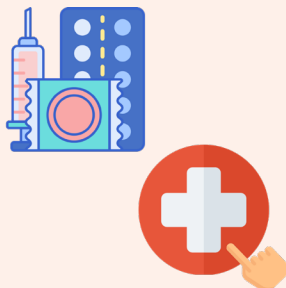
For example:



People have the right to get birth control without the government knowing about it.



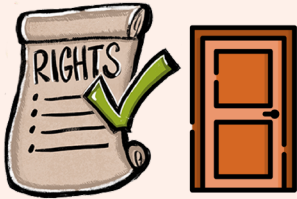
This is because people have the right to keep their medical decisions private from the government.



Getting birth control is a medical decision.



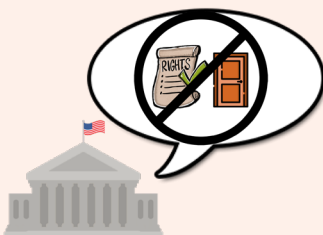
Right now, the government can't say only certain people can get birth control.



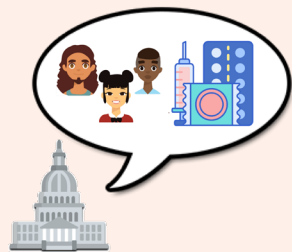
This is because of the right to privacy.



The government has to let anyone who wants birth control get it.



But the Supreme Court could undo the right to privacy.



Then the government could say who is or isn't allowed to get birth control.