

SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH UPDATE

PRESENTED BY HEATHER MAISEN

PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE & KING COUNTY FAMILY PLANNING PROGRAM MANAGER

PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE & KING COUNTY'S SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

- Family Planning clinics in Auburn, Bellevue, Federal Way and Kent provide full scope services.
- Sexual Health Clinic (across from Harborview) is primarily focused on STI/HIV prevention services and provides some contraceptive services.
- Primary Care in Downtown Seattle, Burien and Bellevue, school-based health centers, and Medical Mobile van (Seattle/KC) provides some family planning services in the context of primary care.
- CSO and NFP provides limited family planning services

PUBLIC HEALTH – SEATTLE & KING COUNTY'S ACCESS TO ABORTION SERVICES

- Implements non-directive voluntary pregnancy options counseling and provides referrals for all options, including a comprehensive abortion referral packet.
- Clients also receive support with Pregnancy Medicaid enrollment to cover the costs of abortion services and/or connects them with the Northwest Abortion Access Fund (NWAAF), if needed.
- Developed a new abortion services website: kingcounty.gov/abortion
- Conducts internal presentations across all relevant programs to support abortion information and access.

The human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy,
have children, not have children, and parent children
in safe and sustainable communities

OVERTURNING
OF ROE V WADE

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE

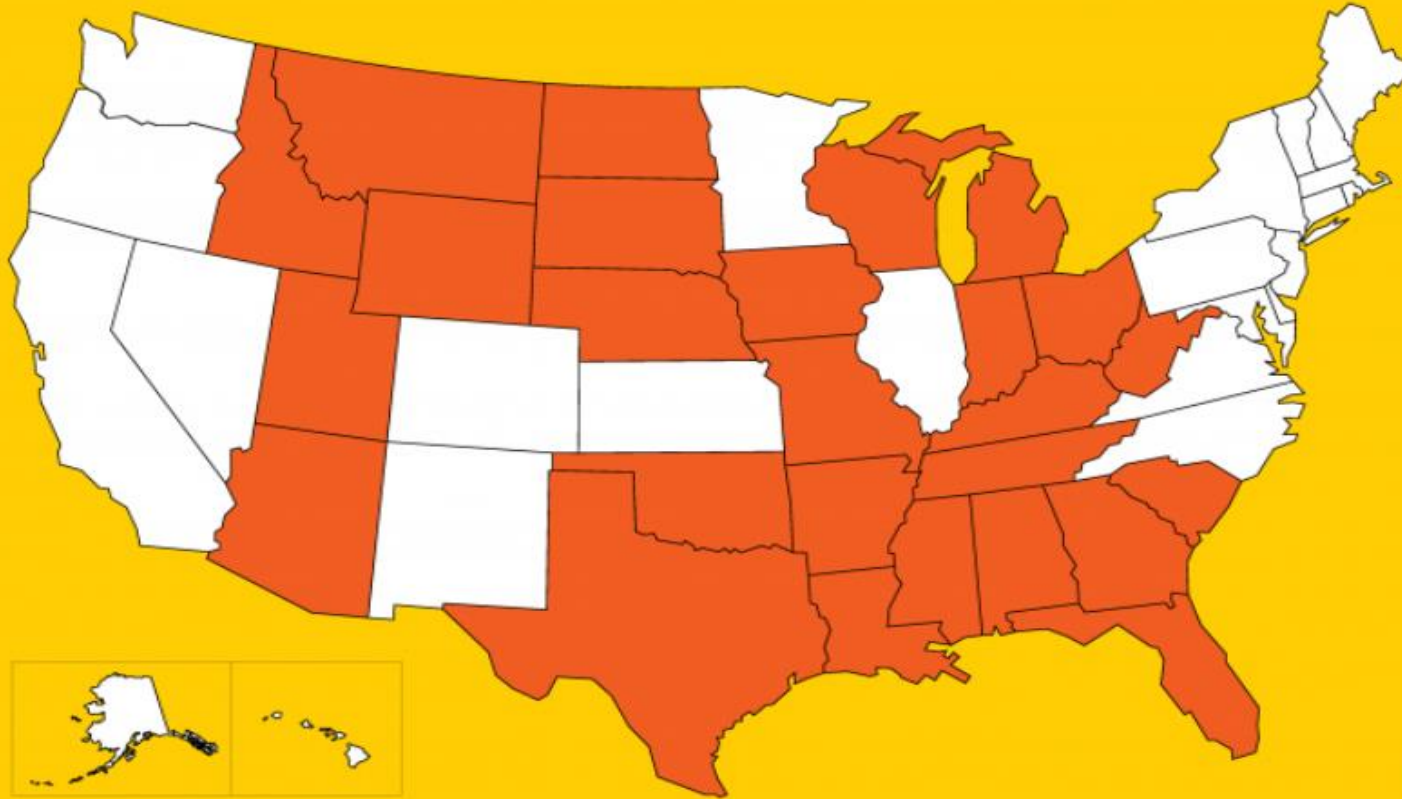
SCOTUS OVERTURNING ROE V. WADE

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE SUPREME COURT HAS RESCINDED AN INDIVIDUAL RIGHT IN ITS ENTIRETY.



GUTTMACHER INSTITUTE

If the U.S. Supreme Court overturns or guts *Roe v. Wade*, 26 states are certain or likely to ban abortion



guttmacher.org

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ABORTION ACCESS IS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE

- Restricting access to abortion results in erosion of the health of women, trans and non-binary people, especially those with low-incomes and BIPOC
- Restrictive reproductive health policies impact maternal and infant health
 - Women living in states with less restrictive reproductive health policies were less likely to give birth to low-weight babies
 - Restrictive abortion laws cause a higher rate of abortion-related maternal deaths.
- Restrictive abortion laws affect the economy, too.
 - Research from *The Lancet* found that “ensuring women’s access to safe abortion services does lower medical costs for health systems.”

OUTCOMES OF BEING DENIED AN ABORTION

- Increased economic hardship and insecurity lasting years; children living under the federal poverty level
- More likely to experience physical violence from the person got pregnant with
- More likely to raise child alone, without a partner or family member
- More serious health problems
- Lower level of maternal bonding

Reference: UCSF, ANSIRH's TurnAway Study. [The Turnaway Study | ANSIRH](#)

ROE V WADE OVERTURNED

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON KING COUNTY

- There is a **385% increase** in people who could get pregnant (ages 15-49) whose closest abortion provider is in WA State. *Reference: Guttmacher Institute*
- If local abortion services become overcapacity, King County residents in need of abortions could have **delayed access to abortion services.**
- There is already an **increase in people coming from out of state to Seattle for abortions.** Seattle has very good abortion access and provides later-term abortions, in addition to being a psychologically and physically safe place to come for services.

ROE V WADE OVERTURNED

POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON KING COUNTY

- King County abortion providers may become additionally **vulnerable to violence as well as lawsuits** from states that have outlawed abortion.
- The overturning of Roe v. Wade will lead some King County residents **to believe that abortion is no longer legal anywhere** in the United States.
- King County will almost certainly see an **increased demand for birth control**, and especially for emergency contraception.

KING COUNTY'S INITIAL RESPONSE

- **Fund NW Abortion Access Fund (NWAAF):**
 - NWAAF has extensive experience providing financial support and coordination for both King County residents and people traveling to King County for an abortion. Currently, King County is funding \$500K and Seattle is proposing \$250K to NWAAF.
- **Establish an Emergency Fund (\$500K):**
 - To provide timely financial resources for addressing barriers to care in King County.
- **Support policies**
 - To maintain abortion rights and safety

CURRENT PROPOSED OR ENACTED LOCAL POLICIES

- **Abortion Access:**
 - Make seeking and obtaining abortion services a protected class
 - Provide funding to abortion funds and community organizations to support access
- **Abortion services protections from violence:**
 - Codify into local code [RCW 9A.50.020](#) to protect access to healthcare facilities
- **Abortion services legal protections from other states' abortion bans:**
 - Directives for law enforcement to not cooperate with out-of-state abortion investigations
 - Executive orders to not use government resources to comply with out-of-state abortion bans and interfere with abortion access