



JULY
2022

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SUPREME COURT DECISION

by Pastor John Mochel

This article will be simple reporting, with a word of thanks at the end. To cut through all the chaff that comes from the American news media, I read through the entire 213 pages of the SCOTUS ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, argued December 1, 2021, decided June 24, 2022. I read it before I listened to commentary on it. I will share it with you.

After introducing the case, the 6-3 majority opinion of the court reads as follows, "The Constitution does not confer a right to abortion; *Roe* and *Casey* are overruled; and the authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives."

Justice Alito wrote the opinion, joined by Justices Gorsuch and Barrett. Justice Thomas concurred in his own written addition, as did Justice Kavanaugh. These two justices wanted to add perspective on why *Roe v. Wade* had been wrongly decided. Chief Justice Roberts concurred only in the judgment, not in the details, nor in the repudiation of *Roe v. Wade*. Justices Breyer, Sotomayor, and Kagan joined together in a lengthy written dissent. Curiously, the dissent does not seriously try to defend *Roe* on legal or constitutional grounds.

The majority opinion first looked to the constitutional question. "The Constitution makes no express reference to a right to obtain an abortion, but several constitutional provisions have been offered as potential homes for an implicit constitutional right. *Roe* held that the abortion right is part of a right to privacy that springs from the First, Fourth, Fifth, Ninth, and Fourteenth Amendments. The *Casey* Court grounded its decision solely on the theory that the right to obtain an abortion is part of the "liberty" protected by the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause"

The argument states that "Like the infamous decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, *Roe* was also egregiously wrong and on a collision course with the Constitution from the day it was decided. *Casey* perpetuated its errors."

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The argument goes on to dismantle *Roe*, calling it the sort of writing “that might be undertaken by a legislative committee... Its survey of history ranged from the constitutionally irrelevant (e.g., its discussion of abortion in antiquity) to the plainly incorrect (e.g., its assertion that abortion was probably never a crime under the common law).” It imposed upon the nation “a detailed set of rules for pregnancy divided into trimesters.” It spoke in ignorance of pre- and post- viability abortions. *Roe* entirely refused to consider the effect of its decision on what *Roe* called “potential life.” Nor was *Roe* grounded in any specific constitutional principle.

“*Stare decisis*, the doctrine on which *Casey*’s controlling opinion was based, does not compel unending adherence to *Roe*’s abuse of judicial authority. *Roe* was egregiously wrong from the start. Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences. And far from bringing about a national settlement of the abortion issue, *Roe* and *Casey* have enflamed debate and deepened division.”

Secondly, the decision asked if the “right to obtain an abortion is rooted in the Nation’s history and tradition and whether it is an essential component of ‘ordered liberty.’” The opinion makes it clear, by argument and by the extensive citation of state laws, that this nation does not have a lengthy history prior to *Roe* of any right to abortion. The opinion clearly demonstrates that, until the latter part of

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the 20th century, a right to an abortion “was entirely unknown in American law.” Later the text states that “at the time of the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, over three-quarters of the States had adopted statutes criminalizing abortion (usually at all stages of pregnancy), and that from the early 20th century until the day *Roe* was handed down, every single State had such a law on its books... There is ample evidence that the passage of these laws was instead spurred by a sincere belief that abortion kills a human being.” In fact, in most places at most times in this nation, abortion on demand at any point in a pregnancy has been illegal. The opinion points out that this is still the case in most of the liberal democracies in the world.

Third, “the Court considers whether a right to obtain an abortion is part of a broader entrenched right that is supported by other precedents. The Court concludes the right to obtain an abortion cannot be justified as a component of such a right. Attempts to justify abortion through appeals to a broader right to autonomy and to

define one’s ‘concept of existence’ prove too much.” The opinion goes on to point out a critical issue that abortion raises. “What

sharply distinguishes the abortion right from the rights recognized in the cases on which *Roe* and *Casey* rely is something that both those decisions acknowledged: Abortion is different because it destroys what *Roe* termed ‘potential life’ and what the law challenged in this case calls an ‘unborn human being.’” The decision overruling *Roe* and *Casey* found that “protecting the life of the unborn” was a legitimate interest of the state with a rational basis. The decision concludes with a clear statement: “Abortion presents a profound moral question. The Constitution does not prohibit the citizens of each State from regulating or prohibiting abortion. *Roe* and *Casey* arrogated that authority. The Court overrules those decisions and returns that authority to the people and their elected representatives.”

Anyone who disagrees with this decision ought to read it carefully first and then ask themselves how the arguments are in error. It is well written, logical, and thoughtful.

These Justices have made a good and courageous decision. They will be blasted by the press, threatened by the left, but they did the right thing. Therefore, I am thankful to God for this ruling. It is clear in the Bible that God cares about babies, even the ones who are not yet born. We should as well.



BODY BUILDERS & BITS

"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

I Thessalonians 5:11



Awana is a kids club that will meet Wednesday nights from 6:30 - 8:00. We're rapidly coming up on our start date, and we have a good roster, but there's always room for more staff. If anyone would still like to volunteer themselves or a friend, I'd be happy to have them contact me. The goal is to have 2 directors for each group and several listeners for each group depending on the number of kids in each. The volunteer opportunities are:

Cubbies - preschool

Sparks - K-2 grade

Truth & Training - 3-5 grade

Each group will have a 25 minute lesson all together, then 25 minutes of small group time (Sparks & T&T will be broken into boys and girls) to talk through any questions and recite the memory verse from that week's lesson.

Directors are in charge of planning the lessons from the provided curriculum and leading/delegating the lesson as they see fit. Listeners function as crowd control, support teaching staff, and verse signers.

GAMES - 25 minutes with each age group to play some active games, does not have to involve any lessons/teaching, just movement

TRAFFIC - supervise the parking lot and road, directing traffic and pedestrians as needed to keep everyone safe on their way to and from club each night.

We will have a staff meeting with pizza provided at 6:00 Wed. Aug 31.

Curriculum will be given to directors during July, and training resources will also be sent to staff members during August to help prepare everyone before we start.

Club kicks off on Wed. Sept 7th.

Registration forms are available starting this Sunday on the Welcome Desk in the foyer and can be turned in to me any time before then, and I'll also be running registration during kick-off night as well.

SUNDAY SCHOOL starts Sept. 11 and we will need 2 teachers in each classroom: Middle School, 4-5, 2-3, K-1, and Preschool. Curriculum is provided, and teachers can split the lesson planning/teaching however they choose. The school year runs until Memorial day, with 2 weeks off for Christmas and a week off for Easter. Anyone who has any interest or questions about teaching can talk to me or Sandy Fahlberg.

Please consider serving in any way you can!

Thank You!

Sarah Wergin



sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
					1	2
3 8:30-10a Breakfast for Church & NorthStar families 10:30a Worship	4  4TH OF JULY INDEPENDENCE DAY	5 6:30p Women's Study	6 9a Mom's Group 12p Community Study, Library 1:30p Women's Study	7 9:30a Women's Study 7:30p Men's Discipleship	8	9
10 9a SS 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 6p Supper for North Star families	11 6:30p Women's Study	12 6:30p Women's Study 7p Deacon Board Meeting	13 9a Mom's Group 12p Community Study, Library	14 9:30a Women's Study 7:30p Men's Discipleship	15	16
17 9a SS 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 6p BW Prep & Prayer Meeting	18 6:30p Women's Study	19 VBS Craft & Lunch 6:30p Women's Study	20 9a Mom's Group 12p Community Study, Library 1:30p Women's Study	21 9:30a Women's Study 7:30p Men's Discipleship	22	23
Community VBS, City Park						
24 9a SS 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship 6p BW Pack & Prayer Meeting	25 6:30p Women's Study	26 6:30p Women's Study	27 9a Mom's Play Group	28 9:30a Women's Study 7:30 Men's Discipleship	29	30
Youth Boundary Waters Canoe Trip						
31 9a SS 10a Fellowship 10:30a Worship	1 6:30p Women's Study					

Happy Birthday to:

3 Scott Bird
 7 Joan Latendresse
 9 Dale Swanstrom
 13 John Fahlberg
 14 Sandy Fahlberg
 15 Isabel DeLay

17 Noah Paulson
 18 Jim Sorensen
 19 BJ Pramann
 20 Bohdan Thomas
 21 Mitzi Rozeboom
 21 Steve Sims

24 Julyan VanHofwegen
 25 Lewie Gordon
 25 Solomon Saugstad
 26 Connie Schmidt
 28 Chris Smith
 31 Clint Koth

Happy Anniversary to:

2 Caleb & Heather Wynia
 8 Terry & Glenyce Hagen
 26 Dan & Kate Erickson
 28 Ben & Talisha Fahlberg
 30 David & Daisy Lindsay

MINISTRY AND WORSHIP

July 3

AM: Acts 17:1-15

Theme: At Thessalonica & Berea

PM: No evening service

July 10

AM: Acts 17:16-34

Theme: Paul Preaches at Athens

PM: Supper for NorthStar Families

July 17

AM: Acts 18:1-17

Theme: Paul at Corinth

Pm: Boundary Waters Prep & Prayer

July 24

AM: Acts 18:18-28

Theme: Priscilla, Aquilla and Apollos

PM: Boundary Waters Pack & Prayer

July 31

AM: Guest Speaker, Arlyn Abrams

PM: No evening service



MINISTRY INVOLVEMENT

Date	Greeters	Nursery	Storytime	Music/Missions	Scripture Reader
7/3	A/J Charrlin	Karla Bovill	Lindsay Zylstra Elsie Bovill	Open	Robin Leikvold
7/10	C/S Carnes	Stacy Sims	Sandy Fahlberg Adell Zylstra	Missions Moment	Allen Sveeggen
7/17	C/M DeLay	Nancy Mochel	Connie Schmidt Nora Hyronimus	Sarah Wergin	Lindsay Zylstra
7/24	K/R Leikvold	Paige German	Nancy Mochel Owen Hyronimus	Adell Zylstra	Reid Jensen
7/31	A Sveeggen	Talisha Fahlberg	Sarah Wergin Bethany Hoffman	Missions Moment	Marilyn Jensen
8/7	R/M Jensen	Karla Bovill	Julie Saugstad Trevin Fahlberg	Communion	John Morrison
8/14	D/M Nelson	Stacy Sims	Lindsay Zylstra Hannah Fahlberg	Randy Schmidt	Shelley Morrison
8/21	M/K Bovill	Nancy Mochel	Sandy Fahlberg Sydney DeLay	Open	Dan Paulson
8/28	D/J Paulson	Paige German	Nancy Mochel Jon DeLay	Missions Moment	Sandy Fahlberg

July Worship Leader: Brian Fahlberg

Sound Tech: Chris Smith

Keyboard: Doreen Fahlberg, Jill Paulson

Ushers: Dave Nelson, Andy German,
Logan Hovland, Reid Jensen

August Worship Leader: John Fahlberg

Sound Tech: Ben Fahlberg

Keyboard: Connie Twedt, Jill Paulson

Ushers: Clif Carnes, Karl Leikvold,
Dan Paulson, volunteer needed