

Nurses for America Statement on SCOTUS Decision Regarding Roe v Wade

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Nurses for America strongly oppose the SCOTUS decision to overturn Roe v Wade. We are speaking out to defend patients who are seeking comprehensive reproductive healthcare services and their healthcare providers. The American Nurses Association Code of Ethics requires the nurse to provide “compassion and respect for the inherent dignity, worth, and unique attributes of every person. The nurse’s primary commitment is to the patient, whether an individual, family, group, community, or population. The nurse promotes, advocates for, and protects the rights, health, and safety of the patient”. (<https://nursing.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/ANA-Code-of-Ethics-for-Nurses.pdf>)

We affirm the right to full reproductive healthcare services. Abortion, in all its forms, is a key component of reproductive healthcare and has been for 50 years in the US. Every person has the right to choose who they are intimate with, when and if they will have children, and have full access to all types of contraception. All healthcare is a private decision between each person and their healthcare provider.

This assault on reproductive justice will disproportionately affect Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian people who are experiencing a maternal mortality crisis. We urge all public officials to promote access to comprehensive reproductive healthcare services.

We urge the Senate to pass the Women's Health Protection Act of 2021 to protect a person’s ability to determine whether to continue or end a pregnancy, and to protect a healthcare provider’s ability to provide abortion services.

We urge each state to support efforts to expand access to comprehensive reproductive health care for patients, protect healthcare providers, their education and training, and clinical practices by supporting comprehensive reproductive rights within health systems, insurance providers, policy, and legislation.