Ethics Panel –
Considerations for women and their physicians today –

MPS Fall Educational Program 2022 - On Her Shoulders: The Impact of a Woman’s Mental Health Saturday, October 1, 2022 – Minnesota Humanities Center, St. Paul, MN

Panelists:
Corrine Brown Robinson, MD, FACOG
Katie Cullen, MD
Jerry Kroll, MD
Tracy Tomac, MD, FAPA

Moderator: Mary Beth Lardizabal, DO, DLFAPA

Minnesota Psychiatric Society
Improving Minnesota's mental health care through education, advocacy and sound psychiatric practice and achieving health equity. Our vision is physician leadership creating the nation's highest quality, affordable and accessible system of mental health care.
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1893 CO is 1st state to grant the right to vote for women

1920 19th amendment is added to the US constitution granting the right to vote on a federal level

1972 The Equal Rights Amendment is passed by Congress but fails to be ratified by the states and struck down in 1982

1973 Roe vs Wade decision grants the right to abortion based on the “right to privacy” in the constitution. The majority opinion spoke of “the right of a woman in consultation with her physician to choose an abortion”

June 24 2022 Roe vs Wade decision is overturned after 49 years. Abortion rights decision to be returned to the states to be returned to States Justice Samuel Alito uses the derogatory term “abortionist”

September 13 2022 Senator Lindsey Graham introduces a federal bill to ban most abortions

Multiple State Trigger Laws Go into Effect

State legislators propose bills to charge women who undergo abortions with murder

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American Psychiatric Association Statement on Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization –

Washington, D.C., June 24, 2022 — The American Psychiatric Association is deeply disappointed in the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, that overturns Roe v. Wade and will ultimately restrict an individual’s right to an abortion. By dismantling nearly 50 years of legal precedent, the Court has jeopardized the physical and mental health of millions of American women and undermined the privacy of the physician-patient relationship.

While the immediate implications of the ruling will vary state-to-state, the underlying national protection allowing pregnant women and doctors to determine what course of action is most suitable for their health now no longer exists. This move will disproportionately impact our most vulnerable populations, such as communities of color, people living in rural areas and those with low incomes who may have to travel long distances to receive abortions.

In light of the ruling, the American Psychiatric Association, alongside many of its colleagues in the house of medicine and in the field of mental health, pledges to continue its long-standing support for legal abortion services. While we determine our next steps, we iterate that today’s ruling will put many pregnant women and their families into life-threatening and/or traumatic situations.

We urge Congress and the administration, with public opinion strongly behind it, to act immediately to protect access to abortion services.
American Psychiatric Association Statement on Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization – continued

See also a statement from APA, the American Psychological Association, and the National Association of Social Workers: Major Mental Health Associations Decry U.S. Supreme Court Decision Overturning Roe v. Wade; and a statement from APA and four other organizations representing more than 400,000 physicians and medical students: Physicians: SCOTUS Decision Jeopardizes Patient-Physician Relationship, Penalizes Evidence-Based Care (.pdf).

Physicians: SCOTUS Decision Jeopardizes Patient-Physician Relationship, Penalizes Evidence-Based Care

Washington, D.C. (June 24, 2022) – Our organizations, representing over 400,000 physicians and medical students, condemn the Supreme Court decision in Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, striking down the protections afforded to people in need of abortion care for five decades. Our organizations have consistently opposed any legislation or regulation that interferes in the confidential relationship between a patient and their physician and the provision of evidence-based patient care for any patient—and this decision will allow states to gravely interfere in that relationship by penalizing and even criminalizing the provision of evidence based medical care. This ruling will curtail access to critical reproductive health care for millions of people across the country, will grow the health inequities that already exist in the medical system, and will set a dangerous precedent for legislative interference across medicine.

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Questions for the Panel

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Further resources – Psychiatry Unbound Podcast
Thank You to our Panelists

• Interested in continuing this conversation on this topic or other topics raised today?

• Join us for the Salon our last session today.