

Vera House Responds to the Supreme Court Decision to Overturn Roe v. Wade

Is abortion still legal in New York?

YES! Abortion has been legal in <u>New York State</u> since 1970, three years before the Roe v. Wade decision to legalize abortion nationally. While abortion rights are under attack in certain states, New York remains a safe place to obtain an abortion.

Who will this Supreme Court decision affect?

Abortion bans and restrictions affect everyone who can become pregnant, but they fall hardest on those struggling to make ends meet and on Black, Indigenous, and other people of color. One part of building a more just and equitable society is ensuring quality health care, including abortion care, is available and affordable for all. Ensuring that everyone can get reproductive health care, including abortion, is part of addressing racial and economic injustice.

Why is the right to choose an abortion so critical to survivors of abuse?

Removing the option to safely terminate a pregnancy impacts the trajectory of one's life and limits their right to self-determination. For survivors of abuse, who have already had their bodily autonomy violated, this Supreme Court decision may contribute to further trauma that comes not only for those forced to carry the abuser's baby but also for those looking to escape relationships with abusers.

Why is Vera House getting involved in political issues?

Vera House is an organization that serves victims/survivors of domestic and sexual violence and other forms of abuse and believes that all people deserve access to safe, legal, and accessible sexual and reproductive healthcare. This position is rooted in our commitment to protecting our basic human rights to bodily autonomy, informed choice, and survivor-centered care. We are nonpartisan in our work to advance policy that supports our mission.



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