



Important Supreme Court Cases

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The role of The Supreme Court



Can be broken down into 3 main topics

- Interprets the Constitution
- Can protect, expand, or limit rights
- Judicial Review: Power to declare laws / actions
 Unconstitutional

What is a landmark case?

- A landmark case is a case that sets a major legal precedent (past court decision which is used as a guide for future cases)
- Changes or defines national laws or rights



Miranda v Arizona 1966 1963 1963 1963 1965 1966

23 year old Ernesto Miranda is arrested by Phoenix police for kidnapping and rape

March 13th

Miranda confesses during a 2 hour police interrogation without being told his rights

March 13th

Miranda is convicted based on his confession and is sentenced to 20-30 years

June

unconstitutional claims

All year

The Arizona courts upholds his conviction, rejecting

Feb 28th - Mar 1st

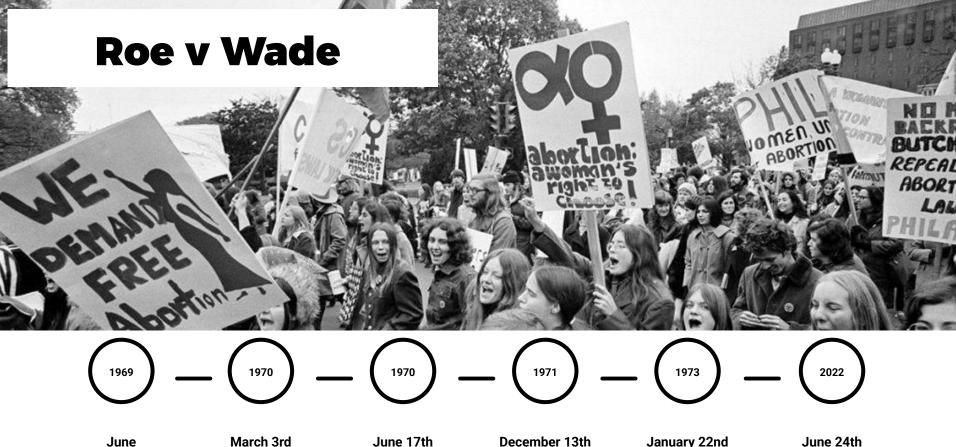
U.S. Supreme Court hears verbal arguments in Miranda v Arizona

June 13th

The Court rules a 5-4 decision in favor of Miranda, creating the term Miranda Rights

Question

Do you think the Miranda decision protects justice for both the accused and the victim? And why.



Norma McCorvey (Jane Roe) gets pregnant in Texas and is denied an abortion under state law

Roe and her attorneys file a lawsuit against Dallas County DA Henry Wade

June 17th

A Texas federal court rules the abortion law unconstitutional, but does not block enforcement

December 13th

The Supreme Court first hears verbal arguments in Roe v Wade

January 22nd

The court delivers a 7-2 ruling in favor of Roe, legalizing abortion nationwide

June 24th

The Supreme Court, in Dobbs v Jackson, overturns Roe, allowing states to ban abortion

Question

What do you think are the consequences (positive or negative) of leaving abortion laws up to each state?