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In June 2022, Roe v. Wade was overturned by the Supreme Court, and states moved quickly to ban abortion. Following the ruling, a 10-year-old rape victim was denied abortion due to Ohio's "fetal heartbeat" law and when her case went public, it caused a mass uproar. A colleague of Dr. Caitlin Bernand, who is in Indiana, directed the girl to her so she could have the proper procedure. Dr. Caitlin Bernand was the one who went public with the heartwrenching story via Indianapolis Star.

The overturning of Roe v. Wade caused protests to break out. Women's bodies were being violated by having rights stripped from them. As a teenage girl, I have read many horror stories about women not being granted abortions with all their circumstances varying between a life-or-death situation or inability to provide for the child. The lives of the woman and child will either end up with both of them dead if they're in a life-or-death situation or in a situation where they cannot have a good life due to their circumstances which can be due to financial hardship or toxic relationships. While California may be a state that protects women's rights to abortion, being in a state that protects a women's right to abortion doesn't stop me and other women from feeling sympathy toward those who may live in fear or be in despair because of their state's laws.

While this issue is affecting women all over the United States, there are demographics that are being affected by this issue worse than others. Women who are

poor or of color will struggle more in states that don't offer abortions because they cannot afford to leave the state to get the procedure they need. Unlike women who have the wealth to leave their state and have the procedure safely and dodge prosecution, women who are poor or of color are more likely to perform an unsafe abortion on themselves which can lead to their death.

Abortion was banned nationwide in 1910, but white and wealthy women were able to bypass the ban while others couldn't. Though abortions were banned, there were exceptions for whenever a patient's life was in danger, a decision that only doctors could make, which were 95% men. Since abortions were banned, there was an increase in deaths related to the practice of unsafe abortions. Then years later, in 1973 Roe v. Wade was passed, and abortion was safer, legal, and most importantly a protected right that women needed. It wasn't until June 2022 that once again, women would be forced to give up the right to make decisions concerning their bodies. The Supreme Court overruled on the basis Roe v. Wade has no support from the Constitution in its text, structure, or history. This ruling has once again brought back unsafe practices and there will be a surge in deaths.

There are many prominent figures, organizations, and overall regular women that are trying to bring attention to the issue. Women like Selena Gomez, Billie Eilish, and Michelle Obama have all spoken out about the issue of Roe v. Wade being overturned on media, be it on Twitter, in concert, or during an interview. While there were many female celebrities who spoke out, there were also women all over the nation who don't have the same influence that famous people have that protested for their rights. Organizations like Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), Planned

Parenthood, Afiya Center, and many more organization even if they're smaller are all fighting to help women have safe abortions and to lessen the harmful impact the ruling has caused.

The textbook describes conflict theory as the examination of social and economic factors as causes of crimes. When conflict theorist looks at the issue of Roe v. Wade being overturned, they'll look at both sides of the argument, then what are the demographics of who's arguing for each side. When they look at the demographics of it, they'll see the majority who are against abortion are white, well-off, and highly religious people as opposed to the people who are pro-choice, who are largely women who are of color and aren't as well off. This proves there is a type of power struggle to control the bodies of women to impose their views on why it's wrong in accordance with their religious views. When a woman is denied an abortion, they're more likely to go on doing it illegally putting their life in danger as well as risking time in jail or they'll have the child, and will either give it up for adoption or end up living an unfortunate life.

A year ago when I heard the news about the overturning, I originally thought nothing of it. I knew it was something that could potentially affect my future but I never thought deeply about it because I only thought of it as a political matter and nothing else. Yet the moment I went on social media, I could only see the horrors of what it truly meant to have those rights confiscated. With each day, I only saw stories being released about women who were violated or life was in danger yet doctors refused to help them because of how inflexible abortion laws were and how bad the punishment is just for providing what should be basic healthcare. Then, when I saw the case of the 10-year-old girl I mentioned in the beginning, my truly eyes opened and I remember

crying because she was only a few years younger than me and yet she was denied something that could save her future.

There are multiple things that can be done to address this issue. While there is hardly anything that can be done now since it was overturned even though there was mass backlash after the decision, there are short-term solutions that can be done by anyone. People can help contribute to organizations that can provide help to women who are in need of abortion if they are in a state that bans it. The contributions can range from financial support to fighting to bring further awareness. In the long term, we as a society can further educate the younger generations so that in the far future, there won't be as much false information about what it means to get an abortion and there won't be any more laws that restrict women's rights and reversing what was fought for.

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