

Abstract

This thesis aims to explore the circumstances in Mississippi and shed a light on the pattern of restrictive policies, some of which are in place for decades, that led to the ultimate ban on abortion. The Supreme Court agreed to review a case regarding the constitutionality of Mississippi's 15-week abortion ban from 2018 in *Jackson Women's Health Organization v. Dobbs*. This came as a no surprise – there is a significant conservative majority in the Court and the United States have recorded an unprecedented rise of abortion restrictions across the country. By taking up the case, the Court was expected to rule on the constitutionality of *Roe v. Wade*, a landmark decision from 1973 affirming the women's right to abortion. Mississippi's ban was ground-breaking at the time of passing, being the first state to push the time limit so low. After that, some states went even further, namely Texas and its heartbeat bill, banning abortion after only 6 weeks. This diploma thesis provides an overview of the most important judicial cases preceding *Dobbs v. Jackson*, namely *Roe v. Wade* and *Casey v. Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania*. It also analyses the consequences of the restrictive and discriminatory policies, like the ban on common second-trimester procedures or the federal funding on abortion, requirement of informed and parental consent for minor's abortion, targeted regulations of abortion providers, or mandated waiting period. All of these restrictions cause significant hardships with the goal of preventing women to access abortion care. Last but not least, the thesis examines the arguments used in before the Court.