## Voices in Response to the Roe v. Wade News

Below are quotes from a range of people responding to the leaked draft of the Supreme Court's Roe v Wade decision.

"The writing has been on the wall for a while, and I hope that this will be a wake-up call to other pro-choice Catholics like me, to be a little more outspoken about their beliefs." <u>Ashley Wilson, 32</u>

"I was surprised at the nature of the decision, but I wasn't surprised at the content. I think that what we're seeing is 50 years of religious overreach by the Catholic bishops into American government, in the Supreme Court, in Congress, and last night, we just happened to see it in the Supreme Court."

## Ashley Wilson, 32

"To support democracy it means to recognize the voice of people in each and every state, and to support any valid concept of human rights means that you must recognize every human, every member of the human species. You can't discount some people just because they're smaller, less mature."

Robert Byrd, 29

"The Supreme Court is out of line trying to take back multiple rulings .... But also legislators need to step up here because we had the chance to enact federal law that will protect reproductive choice and it's been stalled. So I really hope this motivates legislatures to, before the midterms, get something through." Izzy Rowland, 19

"I think women are awesome, ... We can have a baby, have a job and go to school, and we can do all those things. .... they sometimes will say you can't do any of those things — unless you have an abortion and that somehow a child is going to hold you back. I just don't believe that." <u>Kristen Day, 53</u>

"Having the right over your own body so implicitly ties into all of the other things that we're fighting for that if we ban abortion, then we're effectively controlling people of color especially and trans people — I don't want to leave anyone out of this debate — but it's freedom to just exist."

Nat McGartland, 27

"I work in Virginia right now [as an abortion provider]. We've already seen an uptick in people that ... fly in the morning of, get their procedure, fly out 2 hours later. And I am concerned ... that specifically minority women do not have, necessarily, the same wealth that other people do. And I'm concerned that people are going to take this into their own hands. We all know what happened before this. There were illegal abortions and illegal abortions means unsafe abortions. It means women, people that can get pregnant, are gonna die, that's what's going to happen."

## Kimberly Mohaeir

"We're not going to take anything less than a near-total prohibition on abortions in Florida. The Supreme Court has apparently given us the green light. And so there's nothing prohibiting the governor from amending the special legislative session to consider this life-saving legislation." <u>Andrew Shirvell</u>

"I feel like I'm doing everything I can do in terms of organizing, registering voters, donating to abortion funds, and it's just like not enough in a way that's really frustrating," <u>Sarah Lanford</u>

"It's heartbreaking to think of a woman having an abortion. And I think sometimes the prochoice movement can take that emotional side out. ... if you make abortion illegal, women are still going to get abortions. It's just going to become harder. And specifically, that's going to negatively impact lower class women, our Black and brown sisters. ... I haven't always been proabortion. I even wouldn't say that I am. But I'm just hoping that people can realize that it's more complicated than pro-life, pro-choice." Sarah Garland

"When our highest court cannot operate free of political interference or intimidation, it serves as a stark example that nothing is sacred anymore. While we fervently pray for legal protections of unborn children, we will not dignify the goals of the leaker by commenting on the contents of the draft document."

## <u>Dennis Poust</u>

"I'm gay and I will likely never need access to this, ... but I'm out here to support people who will. .... At times I feel very cynical about being one person, one voice, one voter ... I do know that there's a power in our collective voices." <u>Libby Kernahan, 25</u>