



REALITY OF  
**ROE**

Abortion is a  
Human Right



Abortion is a  
Human Right



STOP  
BANNING  
ABORTION



WWW.PROCHOICEAMERICA.ORG

PROTECT  
LEGAL  
ABORTION

# Reality of Roe

## ACTION HOUR TOOLKIT



# A Letter from Ilyse Hogue, NARAL's President

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If you're reading this, it probably means you're feeling like I do: angry, scared, appalled—but most importantly, ready to fight. Whether it's the first time you've done anything like this, or whether you've been in this fight for decades, I'm proud to stand with you.

When we organize together and take action, we are a powerful force for change, and we need every single one of you.

Already this year, people like you have had an enormous impact. When state legislators passed a wave of extreme and dangerous bans on abortion across the country including in Georgia, Missouri, Ohio, and more, countless advocates showed up to fight these dangerous bills. And they were joined by the thousands of you who spoke out and stood in solidarity with those whose rights and lives were on the line. On the national #StopTheBans Day of Action in May, tens of thousands of activists in all 50 states, including DC and Puerto Rico, mobilized to send a unified message: **We reject these extreme, unconstitutional attacks on reproductive freedom and we aren't going away.**

We took to the streets and held anti-choice politicians to account for their attacks on reproductive freedom—and we didn't stop there. We made sure that pro-choice lawmakers passed laws to protect the right to safe and legal abortion in Nevada, Illinois, Rhode Island, Maine, Washington, and more. That's the power of the people. That's the power of NARAL members. And we're only getting started.

This isn't a drill. With *Roe* hanging in the balance and our fundamental freedoms on the line, the stakes are high. But we have a secret weapon: NARAL's 2.3 million members, the power of the pro-choice majority, and the majority of the American people on our side. And we have a plan to fight back. As the anti-choice movement's obsession with banning abortion and punishing women reaches new heights, we are making it clear that these demeaning and dangerous abortion bans sweeping the nation will forever be remembered as a tipping point. The unprecedented outpouring of activism should serve as a signal to every anti-choice politician in this country: if you continue to use our fundamental freedoms as a political weapon, expect an army of women ready to make you pay the price.

Join us as we bring our friends, families, and communities to the table to collectively send the message to lawmakers across the country that safeguarding reproductive freedom is our priority, and it should be theirs too.

**Hosting or joining a Reality of Roe Action Hour is the first step. Are you in?**

In solidarity,

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# What's at Stake

## Threats to *Roe v. Wade*

In 1973, the landmark ruling *Roe v. Wade* affirmed what we all know to be true: Every American deserves to make decisions about their own life, body, and future. But in the years since that ruling, anti-choice organizations and politicians have continuously ramped up their extremist agenda, stacking the lower courts with anti-choice judges and attacking a woman's right to privacy by advancing dangerous legislation to chip away at reproductive freedom.

As a result, there are at least 20 cases currently in the pipeline to the Supreme Court that could significantly gut or overturn the protections of *Roe*. With two of Trump's anti-choice appointees now on the Supreme Court, **the threat of overturning *Roe v. Wade*, criminalizing abortion and punishing women, is real and immediate.**

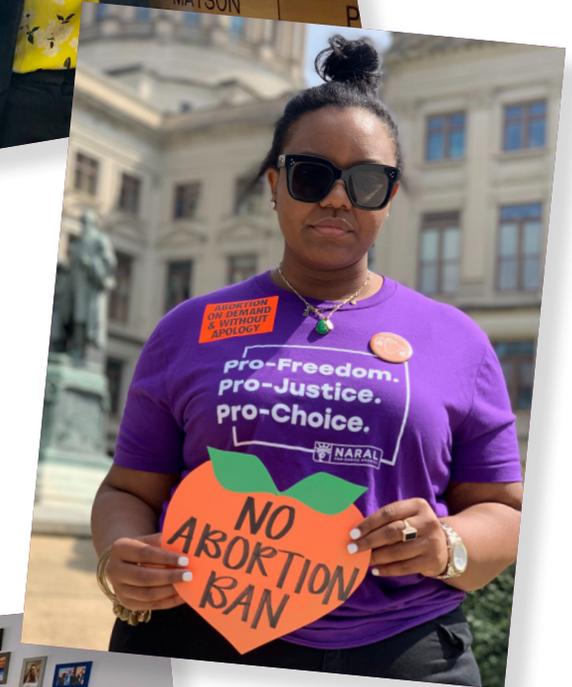


## State Laws Matter

As the fate of *Roe* hangs in the balance, reproductive rights will largely be determined at the state level. It's more important than ever that we look to our state lawmakers and act to safeguard reproductive freedom and fight to keep access to abortion safe and legal.

This year, an unprecedented number of extreme bills to ban abortion were introduced and passed in states around the country. Anti-choice politicians are waging an all-out assault on reproductive freedom in states from Alabama and Louisiana to Missouri and Ohio. But we have the opportunity to fight back and safeguard our rights. We'll continue to fight these dangerous attempts to ban abortion as they are challenged in court.

Despite the attacks from Trump and anti-choice state lawmakers, advocates for reproductive freedom have been working to protect our rights wherever possible—and it's working. This year, new laws securing the right to safe and legal abortion from Rhode Island to Nevada and Illinois were signed into law. Bucking the trend of states attacking reproductive freedom, these states have taken critical steps to lock-in the fundamental right to abortion that is enshrined in *Roe v. Wade*. And as that right is more at risk than ever in states across the country, the time to act is now.



# How We Fight Back

We have to work to ensure state lawmakers put new protections in place, repeal dangerous restrictions, hold the line against further attacks, and show the country that politicians have no place coming between a woman and her ability to make the best decision for herself, her family, and her future, including the ability to access safe and legal abortion.

Regardless of where we live, our futures are intertwined and the first step is making sure people understand what's at stake, and how the reality of *Roe*, access to abortion and reproductive freedom varies across the country. Just this year alone, nearly 30 bans on abortion have been introduced, passed, or signed into law in statehouses around the country. That's why NARAL members are taking up the mantle with Reality of Roe Action Hours to educate and mobilize their family, friends, and communities.

At events around the country, volunteers just like you will bring together people to learn about the lay of the land around abortion access—including threats and opportunities—and to take immediate action that day and plan for what's next together. For your Reality of Roe Action Hour, we'll provide you with an informative presentation you can share by video or present yourself, a fact sheet about laws in your state, a discussion guide, opportunities to stay involved, and other tools for your event.

We have to send the message to state lawmakers that their constituents expect them to fight for our reproductive freedom in 2020. Hosting or joining a Reality of Roe Action Hour is the first step. **Are you in?**



# Plan Your Action Hour

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## BRAINSTORM YOUR LOCATION

Different locations can help make your event more accessible to your friends and family. When considering your event space, keep the following in mind:

- Would your own home or a community space, such as a library, church, or coffee shop better accommodate your event?
- Will the hours of that space work for the time you'd like to host your event?
- Can the space accommodate all of the guests you plan to invite?
- Would you need more parking or seating space?
- Will you have access to parking or, if necessary, public transportation?

## REGISTER YOUR ACTION HOUR

To officially register your Reality of Roe Action Hour, go to [nara.us/mobilize](https://nara.us/mobilize) and click "Host An Event" in the top right corner. Then, you will fill out a form with your event information, and hit submit. After you hit submit, we will approve your event and it will go live on the event map! Officially registering your Action Hour will alert a NARAL Pro-Choice America organizer who can help you plan your event and invite your friends to join you. Once your event is registered you will have a fully customized link that you can share to invite friends to your Action Hour!

- After registering your event, keep an eye out on your email because we will be reaching out to you with more info.

## RECRUIT FOR YOUR ACTION HOUR

The best way to invite guests is to tap into your own personal networks! People are more likely to turn out to an event where they have a personal connection to the host. Invite your pro-choice neighbors, coworkers, friends, teammates, and share the event on Facebook. Remember to ask folks to invite a friend or two to maximize turn out. Local Facebook groups are often the best place to invite people to turn out.

- After officially registering your event, you will have a link where people can register. Make sure everyone you invite RSVPs at that link. Share the link to your event on social media, over text, and on email.
- Share your Action Hour on social media using the hashtag **#RealityOfRoe** and tagging NARAL Pro-Choice America:

 /NARALProChoiceAmerica

 @prochoiceamerica

 @NARAL

## MAKE AN AGENDA

Build an agenda for yourself with *rough time estimates* for each section of your event. An agenda should include the time you'd like people to arrive, when you'll play the presentation, when your discussion will start, and when you'll take group pictures of your event. You'll find a sample agenda further down in this toolkit.

## GATHER SUPPLIES

Once you have an agenda for your event, make a list of all the supplies you'll need. Check out and download all of our NARAL resources before your event at [naral.us/actionhour](https://naral.us/actionhour)! Your supplies you should include a sign in sheet found on [naral.us/actionhour](https://naral.us/actionhour), any snacks you'd like to provide, and a computer with an internet connection for the presentation.

## JOIN OUR PLANNING WEBINAR

On **August 7, 2019** we will host a planning webinar. In this webinar, we will go over all the components of a successful event, and will answer all of your questions. This webinar will be hosted by the NARAL Pro-Choice America Organizing Team—experts in planning and hosting events—so definitely don't miss out on a chance to learn from the best! Make sure to register for the webinar ASAP at [naral.us/webinar](https://naral.us/webinar)

If you are busy during the time of the webinar, don't worry: we'll post a recording of the webinar at [naral.us/actionhour](https://naral.us/actionhour) for you to watch at your convenience.

# Sample Agenda

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**11 AM** **Guests Arrive**

Make sure everyone signs in!

**11:10** **Play Welcome Video and Introductions**

Ask everyone to introduce themselves and share with the group why they are here and why reproductive freedom is important to them

**11:25** **Play Reality of Roe Presentation**

**11:45 PM** **Host Presents State Fact Sheet**

**11:50** **Discussion**

**12:05** **Host Guides Guests Through Calls to Action: What's Next!**

**12:15** **Attendees Take Action**

Including posting photos on social media and tagging @NARAL on Twitter and @prochoiceamerica on Instagram. Don't forget to use the **#RealityOfRoe** hashtag

**12:25** **Closing Circle**

Everyone shares one Action they are committed to taking next

**12:45** **Final Steps**

After your guests are gone, submit photos of the event and photos of your signing sheets sign in sheets from the Action Hour to [organize@prochoiceamerica.org](mailto:organize@prochoiceamerica.org)



We'll provide Sign-in sheets, Welcome Video, Presentation Video, Fact Sheets, Discussion Guide and other tools for your event at [naral.us/actionhour](http://naral.us/actionhour).

# During Your Action Hour

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## WELCOME VIDEO

At [nara.us/actionhour](https://nara.us/actionhour), you will find the Welcome Video that you will play once all of your guests have arrived.



## REALITY OF ROE ACTION HOUR PRESENTATION

At [nara.us/actionhour](https://nara.us/actionhour), you will find the video of an informative presentation about the reality of *Roe* for you to play during your event. The presentation requires internet access.

Alternatively, if you would like to give the presentation yourself, there will be a slide deck available at [nara.us/actionhour](https://nara.us/actionhour). In that slide deck, you will find all of the information needed to give your presentation including talking points and a speaking guide. Be sure to review the presentation before your event so that you are prepared for questions. And remember: you don't have to be an expert! It's okay if you don't know everything.



## FACT SHEETS

At [nara.us/actionhour](https://nara.us/actionhour), you will find fact sheets for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. These fact sheets will help you educate yourself and others about the reality of *Roe* in your state!

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

### TAKE 15-20 MINUTES TO DISCUSS THE BEST WAYS THAT EACH OF YOU CAN STAY ENGAGED IN THIS FIGHT

Select a few of the sample questions from below to guide your discussion.

- › What have you done in your own community to protect reproductive freedom?
- › What more could you do as a team of activists working together to protect reproductive freedom?
- › Who are you excited to share this presentation with? What will you tell them was the most impactful information you learned today?
- › Do you know who your state representative and state senator are and more importantly, do they know YOU?
  - Have you ever contacted any of your state elected officials (e.g. your state representative, state senator, governor, attorney general)?
  - If so, how did you contact them? By calling the district office, writing a letter or a postcard, or going to an in-district meeting?
  - Do you know how they voted in 2019 and if you should be thanking them or sharing disappointment with them?
- › What actions are you inspired to take after coming to this event?
  - Take a look at the next page for actions you can take now and after the event!
- › What organizing skills or resources do you have that can help you stay engaged and take further action after this event? Consider anything and everything—some examples are:
  - A space to host people for an event
  - A wide network of friends who might be interested in getting involved
  - A faith-based community or neighborhood association to mobilize
  - Professional skills and background
  - A bit of free time to make phone calls each week
  - Time to show up to different events in the area

# Call to Action

## TAKE OUT YOUR PHONE TO SIGN UP FOR ACTION ALERTS

Text **ACTIONHOUR** to **21333** to be the first to learn and find out at a moment's notice how you can protect reproductive freedom!

**Text 10 friends** and let them know you are taking action at a Reality of Roe Action Hour. Tell them why reproductive freedom is important to you and ask them to commit to fighting alongside you. Ask them to text **REPRO** to **21333** to stay informed.

## SHARE ON SOCIAL

We know not everyone is a social media user, so if you're not, think about asking a friend who is to help spread the word about your action online! If you are on social media, great! Here's how to inspire folks around the country with your action:

- **TAKE PHOTOS** and share on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.
- Include the hashtag **#RealityOfRoe**
- **TAG** us by using these handles:

 **/NARALProChoiceAmerica**

 **@prochoiceamerica**

 **@NARAL**



# Call to Action

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## ON YOUR OWN

**Hit the phones!** Between August and September, you will be able to go to [nara.us/mobilize](https://nara.us/mobilize) any evening and login to a virtual phone bank to make calls into states that are fighting for pro choice legislation. To make calls for a Reality of Roe Virtual Phone bank, go to [nara.us/mobilize](https://nara.us/mobilize). You'll see the phone bank link at the top of the page and all you'll have to do is click "Act Now" to start making calls.

## ORGANIZE YOUR FRIENDS

**Host your own Reality of Roe Action Hour event!** Did you just attend a Reality of Roe Action Hour and you want to bring this to more of your friends? Host your own! To officially register your party, go to [nara.us/mobilize](https://nara.us/mobilize) and click "Host An Event" in the top right corner. Be sure to visit [nara.us/actionhour](https://nara.us/actionhour) to download all of the necessary materials to host your own Action Hour event.

**Host a phonebank in your own home!** Invite friends over to make calls into the Reality of Roe Virtual Phone bank together! To make calls for the Reality of Roe Virtual Phone bank, go to [nara.us/mobilize](https://nara.us/mobilize). Find the link at the top of the page and click "Act Now" to start making calls from the comfort of your own home.



# After Your Action Hour

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- Email photos and sign-in sheets from the Action Hour to [organize@prochoiceamerica.org](mailto:organize@prochoiceamerica.org)
- Fill out the survey found on [naral.us/actionhour](https://naral.us/actionhour) to tell vNARAL about your event and to help us organize with you in the future! We use this information to make sure we have the tools you need for your events going forward and help us better communicate with you in the future. Filling out this survey helps us evaluate our collective impact with the Reality of Roe Action Hour.
- Send a thank you email to all of the volunteers who helped make your event a reality.

## ONLINE RESOURCES

These resources will be provided on our website. [naral.us/actionhour](https://naral.us/actionhour)

If they aren't there yet, check back shortly! We'll reach out as new resources become available.

- Link to the Welcome Video to play at the start of the event
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- Slides of presentation for if the host wants to present it themselves
- State Fact Sheets
- Sign-In Sheets
- Sample invitation email
- Post-Event Survey

NARAL Pro-Choice America runs on our over 2.3 million members who strengthen our movement for reproductive freedom. Thanks to members like you, we are having critical conversations and engaging more people in meaningful actions to protect our fundamental freedom. Thank you for being a leader in your community with NARAL. We could not do this important work without you.

NARAL Pro-Choice America's Reality of Roe campaign aims to educate and mobilize people on the threats to *Roe v. Wade* and the critical opportunities to fight back. For more information visit [RealityOfRoe.com](https://RealityOfRoe.com)

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To learn more about NARAL Pro-Choice America visit [prochoiceamerica.org](https://prochoiceamerica.org)

Text ACTIONHOUR to 21333 to receive our mobile action alerts.



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