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AGAINST
UNSAFE
ABORTION

CLACAI'S INSTITUTIONAL DECLARATION IN RESPONSE TO THE OVERTURNING OF ROE V. WADE IN THE U.S.A.

Friday June 24th, 2022

The Latin-American Consortium Against Unsafe Abortion (CLACAI) expresses its profound concern over the recent decision of the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn the historic “Roe v. Wade” ruling eliminating the constitutional right to abortion, recognized at the federal level since 1973.

In the “Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization” ruling of June this year, the Court analyzed the constitutionality of a Mississippi law banning abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy. In a vote that was 6 against 3, justices argued that the U.S. Constitution does not confer a right to abortion and, consequently, recognized the power that each State has to regulate -and even ban- abortion in their jurisdictions.

At least 26 states expressed their willingness to move quickly to ban abortion following this new ruling by the Court. According to Planned Parenthood Global, at least 36 million women of childbearing age and other persons capable of becoming pregnant will no longer have access to abortions or could be legally penalized if they attempt to have one.

It is a historic and cruel step backward in sexual and reproductive health and rights. It will affect those who already face many obstacles, such as African Americans, Native Americans, undocumented immigrants, the LGBTQI+ community, persons with disabilities, people living in rural areas, young people, and the economically disadvantaged.

Considering the situation, in CLACAI, we want to express our rejection of this legal decision, which goes against global trends. It is evident in the “Green Wave Movement” in the last decade in our region or the recent WHO guide on abortion, both examples of expanding access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, including abortion.

We believe the situation will not only have a devastating effect on access to basic medical care but will also contribute to the stigmatization of abortion and discrimination towards those who provide medical care and those who seek medical care.

Thus, as a network of activists, researchers, healthcare providers, and communicators from all over Latin-America, we unite and renew our commitment to the struggle for access to safe and quality abortion and reiterate our strong opposition to this decision from the Court. A Court that seems to be unaware of the essential nature of this life-saving service. **We stand in solidarity with U.S. activists and call for transnational and global networks of resistance.**

Your struggle is our struggle!

CLACAI
Latin-American Consortium Against Unsafe Abortion