



Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society
Société canadienne de fertilité et d'andrologie

CFAS Position Statement on the Overturning of Roe v. Wade

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At the Canadian Fertility and Andrology Society (CFAS) we believe that it is every person's right to be able to make decisions that impact their lives, health, and future.

The recent decision by the Supreme Court of the United States of America (Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization) overturned the nearly fifty-year precedent protecting the constitutional right to abortion, as established in Roe v. Wade. The decision gave control over the legality of abortion to each state, many of which had "trigger laws" waiting for this opportunity to ban abortion. As stated by the dissent, "...a majority of today's Court has wrenched this choice from women and given it to the States." It is recognized that these restrictions will disproportionately impact vulnerable minority populations.

The CFAS is very disappointed, disturbed, and saddened by this decision. Furthermore, we feel that the impact of this decision will be inequitable, devastating, and indicative of the attacks on reproductive health, sexuality, and human rights around the world.

While Canadian law is not directly impacted by the decision in the United States, the erosion of a person's right to determine their own reproductive health care is extremely concerning. Furthermore, we are concerned this decision may lead to downstream limitations related to ART practice in the United States. While this recent decision does not automatically restrict access to IVF and the creation, use of, and destruction of embryos, each state's law, whether intentional or not, may severely affect access to fertility treatments and decisions about a patient's care. In the dissent, it was specifically pointed out how this decision may affect assisted reproductive technologies, including IVF, on a state-by-state basis.

The CFAS believes it is every human's right to have autonomy over their own body. The CFAS will continue to work to advance reproductive health and supports the right to accessible care for all aspects of reproductive care, including abortion.

Reference

Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, 597 U.S. p. 52 (2022).
<https://s3.documentcloud.org/documents/22067267/dobbs.pdf>