

# Comms & Strategy Call

Monday, May 9, 2022

# SCOTUS Leaked Draft Opinion on Abortion



SPECIAL SERIES

Roe v. Wade and the future of reproductive rights in America



## The political consequences of the Supreme Court's leaked draft opinion on abortion

May 3, 2022 · 1:20 PM ET



DOMENICO MONTANARO



The [draft opinion from the Supreme Court](#) obtained by *Politico* that shows the conservative majority ready to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, which made abortion legal in this country almost 50 years ago, is going to have wide-ranging political consequences.

While it's a draft opinion and justices can change their votes before a final decision, this draft ruling has the potential to be an earthquake in this election year.

In a statement, Chief Justice John Roberts [confirmed the authenticity](#) of the draft opinion and said the leak would be investigated.

"To the extent this betrayal of the confidences of the Court was intended to undermine the integrity of our operations, it will not succeed," Roberts said. "The work of the Court will not be affected in any way."

On the left, there are likely going to be [mass demonstrations](#) from women — and men — in favor of abortion rights — and the draft opinion could fire them up to vote in a midterm year in which Democrats are facing enormous political headwinds.

"I believe that a woman's right to choose is fundamental," [President Biden said in a statement](#). "Roe has been the law of the land for almost fifty years, and basic fairness and the stability of our law demand that it not be overturned."

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# Comms Corner

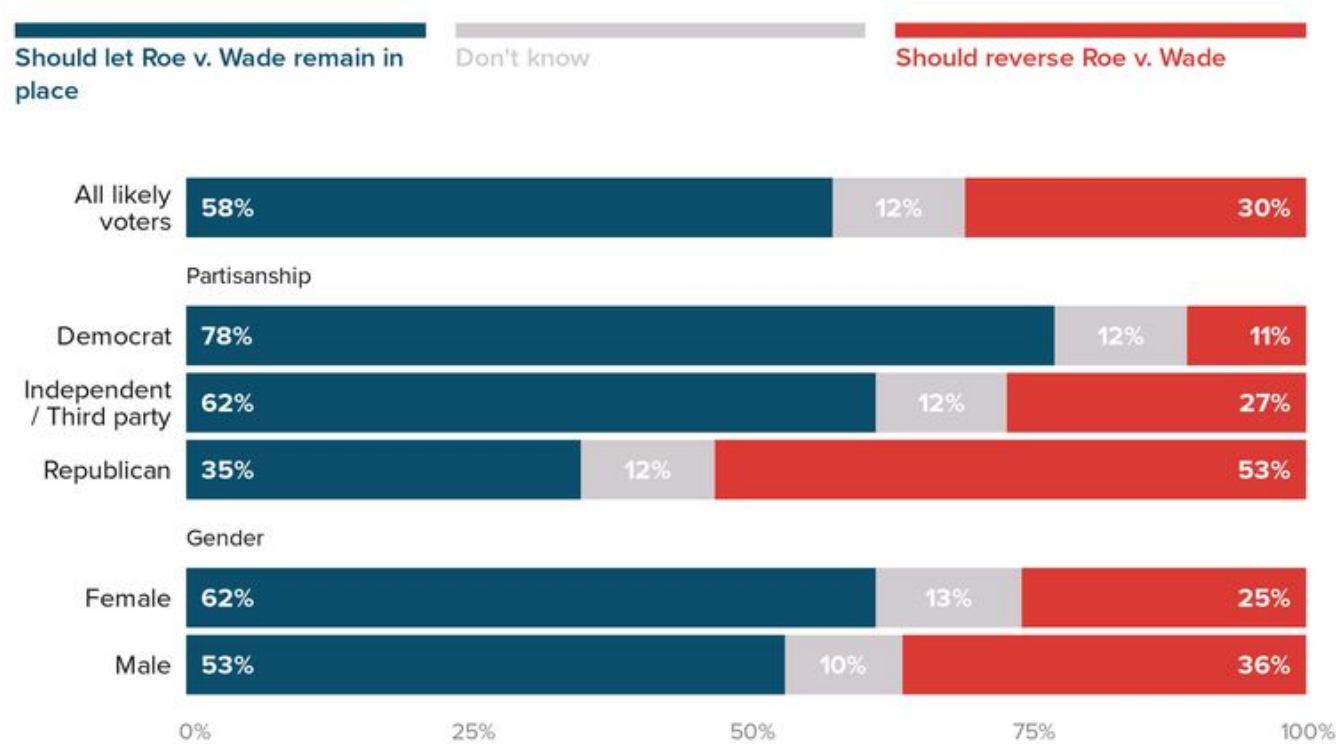
## Abortion

## Recent Polling from Data For Progress

- Voters believe that the Supreme Court should uphold *Roe v. Wade* by a +28 point margin.

### A Majority of Voters Support Keeping *Roe v. Wade* in Place

Would you like to see the Supreme Court reverse *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 decision concerning abortion, or let it remain in place?



May 3-4, 2022 survey of 1,236 likely voters

DATA FOR PROGRESS

## Messaging

- **Legal: Abortion is still legal and clinics remain open.** While this leaked draft decision would strike down the constitutional right outlined in Roe, at this moment, it is still just a draft.
  - The official ruling will not come until June and there is still a chance the vote count could change. Abortion funds, clinics, and support networks remain open and are providing care to patients throughout the state.
  - Here in Florida HB 5, the 15-week abortion ban, does not go into effect until July 1 and we expect a separate lawsuit to be filed challenging this law in state court.
  - All patients in need of abortion services should seek that care and know that it is available to them.

## Messaging

- **Harm: This leaked draft decision is wrong and will harm millions of people.** We should all be able to make the personal health care decisions that impact our lives, health, and futures.
  - The U.S. Supreme Court is poised to issue a shattering blow to the right to access abortion in the U.S., leaving even more people struggling to access the essential health care they need.
  - If this decision moves forward, politicians throughout the country and here in Florida will act quickly to put themselves between patients seeking abortion care and their doctors.
  - Let's be clear: abortion is health care. However we feel about abortion at different points in a pregnancy, a person's health should drive important medical decisions – not political agendas. Politicians should make sure abortion is safe, legal, and accessible and then stay out of it all together.

## Messaging

- **Hope:** While this leaked draft decision is horrifying and unprecedented, it was not unexpected. The right to safe, legal abortion has been under attack from the moment the Roe decision was first handed down. **Now is not the time to hang our heads or give up hope.**
  - It is more important than ever that we defend our rights and for the rights of all marginalized communities that will come under attack next. We will keep fighting until every person, no matter where we live, how much money we make, or what we look like, has the freedom to make our own decisions about our lives and futures.

## Messaging

- Abortion bans compound existing hurdles to accessing care. Due to this country's legacy of racism and discrimination, these barriers disproportionately harm Black, Latino, and Indigenous communities, people with low incomes, and people living in rural areas.
- People who do not have access to the resources and support they need to travel out of state may be forced to carry pregnancies against their will or seek abortion outside of the health care system.
- We must organize, protest, knock on doors, register our friends to vote and mobilize folks to the polls this fall to ensure that politicians understand that these types of assaults on our rights are not acceptable. The time for action is now!



# Abortion & Reproductive Rights Roundtable Discussion

Floridians for Reproductive Freedom

## BLACK IN REPRO

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**June 22 at 6pm**  
**Black Parenting**  
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Floridians for Reproductive Freedom, Black in Repro  
partnering with Dignity Power

# FREE BLACK MAMAS

**MAY 11 | 6:30PM**

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