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## Abortion Rights

Dobbs v. Jackson  
Women's Health  
Organization

Vote 6-3

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## Climate Change

West Virginia v.  
Environmental  
Protection Agency

Vote 6-3

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## Gun Control

New York State Rifle &  
Pistol Assoc. v. Bruen

Vote 6-3



## Independence Day for a Few

**The Supreme Court of the United States of America (SCOTUS) is the highest court in the land and the only part of the federal judiciary specifically required by the Constitution. Trump was able to nominate and have three conservative Justices confirmed, bringing the balance of SCOTUS to 6 conservatives v. 3 liberals.**

And therein lies the rub... the confirmation hearings we all sat through and watched as Trump Supreme Court Justice Nominees Gorsuch, Barrett, and Kavanaugh lied about how they felt certain topics, typically taboo to Republicans, were "settled law", as if they would never consider an entreaty to take them down. But here we are.

In 2022, we experienced the joy of confirming our first Black woman Supreme Court Justice, only to be crushed later by the overturning of Roe v Wade, loosening of gun control, and gutting the EPA. In this issue, we'll take a look at everything that SCOTUS did to prove elections really do matter and have long term impact (like lifetime appointment long term impact), and a thing or two that they actually did right.



## SCOTUS Wrought Havoc on the US

***West Virginia v. Environmental Protection Agency:*** The Court rolled back the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to reduce the carbon output of existing power plants. Too bad, Climate Change.

***New York State Rifle & Pistol Assoc. v. Bruen:*** SCOTUS said that guns were more important than women's health and children's lives by ruling that Americans have the right carry handguns outside the home for self-defense. If conservatives could arm a fetus, they would.

***Vega v. Tekoh:*** The Court backtracked substantially on Miranda warnings. Individuals who are denied Miranda warnings and whose compelled statements are introduced against them in a trial cannot sue the police officer who violated their rights, even where a criminal jury finds them not guilty of any crime. Bill of Rights... Who needs them?

***Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta:*** State officials have the power to prosecute non-Natives for crimes against Native Americans within tribal reservations. Hmm, I wonder what the outcome of such prosecutions might lean? Probably not good for the Native Americans, as always.

## Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization

**Holding:** The Constitution does not confer a right to abortion, therefore *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey* are overruled. The authority to regulate abortion is returned to the people and their elected representatives.

Hoooo boy, what could go wrong there? The people and their elected representatives vary across the country. Many red states had trigger bans against abortions in place the moment this leaked opinion entered the discourse in May. Protests ensued, but nothing stopped its juggernaut passage into a SCOTUS decision.

California, ever progressive, immediately went into action to protect a woman's right to choose. Governor Newsom signed AB1666 on 6/24/2022 to protect Californians who help out of state residents seek abortions, and an abortion protection amendment will be on our California November ballot for the General Election.

## What SCOTUS Got Right

***Biden v Texas:*** The Biden Administration has the authority to reverse a Trump era Policy that requires asylum seekers to remain in Mexico while their cases are reviewed in U.S. courts. Conservative Justices Roberts and Kavanaugh joined the Court's three liberal Justices.

***Biden v. Missouri:*** Despite blocking the large employer COVID vaccine mandate, the Court upheld the vaccination requirement for most healthcare workers at facilities which receive Medicaid/Medicare funds.

