



AMHP Statement on Dobbs v. Jackson Ruling

As an organization committed to upholding health equity, social justice, and civil liberties as principles fundamentally grounded within the Islamic faith, American Muslim Health Professionals (AMHP) is deeply concerned about the Supreme Court's decision in the case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which dismantles long-standing rights to critical reproductive health care in the United States and leaves the decision to allow these services to fall on individual state governments. The SCOTUS decision eliminates constitutionally guaranteed personal liberties, and compromises reproductive health, patient safety, and health equity in the United States by impacting the availability of comprehensive and safe reproductive services. The SCOTUS ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* also interferes with critical health decision making, which must remain in the control of patients in concert with their healthcare providers.

While we take comfort in the fact that our faith offers ample space for reproductive choice,¹ AMHP recognizes that a woman's views on abortion are ultimately determined by *her own* values and beliefs, and we support access to the full spectrum of reproductive health care options. Within the sanctity of individual choice on their reproductive health and the patient-provider relationship, there should be no government interference, or the imposition of personal religious views as a matter of public policy. We firmly stand by the principle that intervening in the patient-provider relationship by enacting laws based on the beliefs of one religion or opinion is unconstitutional.

Banning legal safe abortions in some states will force many women to face known risks associated with self-managed abortions, pregnancy-related complications (i.e. ectopic pregnancies, miscarriages), and entering a pregnancy with pre-existing health conditions, all alongside the morbidity and mortality associated with childbirth. We know that these outcomes of injury, harm, or death will disproportionately affect historically disadvantaged communities who already face structural and systemic barriers to accessing health care, including women of color and women living in rural and/or low-income areas. Equitable healthcare should remain a right for all and not be a privilege for the few. With increased state control over reproductive rights, the criminalization of abortion-related healthcare will render health care providers hesitant and unable to provide lifesaving interventions when needed, and results in increased surveillance and unjust criminalization of women. Equitable access to healthcare for all women is essential for optimal quality and safety, and

¹ Islam generally has a more liberal and nuanced view on abortion, allowing Muslims to follow different rules about the permissibility and timing of pregnancy termination. With Islam offering ample space for reproductive choice, historically it's been used as a tool for the empowerment for women and families to make individual and choices about their bodies that best suits their circumstances. Read more [here](#).





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we strongly urge the passage of legislation that ensures full access to safe, equitable reproductive healthcare for all.

As American Muslim Health Professionals, we are called on by our faith to continue supporting an equity-centered public health strategy that protects a woman's right to exercise personal choice, champions equitable access to reproductive care regardless of race, socioeconomic status or place of residence, and oppose government interference and restrictions that undermine our constitutional rights, so that we may continue to protect the health and wellbeing of all Americans.

