



PRESS RELEASE

AUTHORIZED FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

Catholic Medical Association Dismayed at SCOTUS Overturning Safety Requirements for TX Abortion Clinics

Philadelphia, PA – July 14, 2016 - The Catholic Medical Association (CMA), a professional body of over 2,000 physician and allied health members nationwide, and 99 local guilds across the United States, was dismayed and saddened by the June 27 Supreme Court decision against basic safety requirements for Texas abortion clinics.

States, including Texas, have a legitimate interest in protecting the health and safety of women who seek abortions. They also have a valid reason for regulating abortion because it is a surgical or drug-induced medical procedure that carries significant health risks. Due to documented unsanitary conditions and poor safety records at many abortion clinics across the country, the Texas state law was useful and necessary.

In enacting the law known as H.B. 2, Texas required that abortion facilities meet the same health and safety standards as required of outpatient surgical centers. The state also sought to ensure that doctors who terminate pregnancies are able to treat abortion-related emergencies, during or after an abortion, by having admitting privileges at a hospital within thirty miles of the location of the abortion. Abortion complications which can occur, such as major hemorrhage, uterine perforation, or serious infection, often require the care of a nearby hospital.

The Supreme Court decision (5-3) reversed a lower court decision that had previously upheld Texas' law. Because of the judicial activism of five unelected justices, maternal health will be put in danger and basic safety practices will be allowed to be disregarded, in Texas and other states.

While not condoning abortion under any circumstance, the CMA believes that the quality of medical care provided to women seeking abortion should not be any lower than the quality of care provided to women undergoing similar invasive procedures at other ambulatory care centers. All patients should be treated with respect, dignity, and true concern for their health and safety. This Supreme Court decision unfortunately exhibits none of these basic human concerns for patients.

Contact:
Catholic Medical Association
Marguerite DeGrassa, Director of Communications
degrassa@cathmed.org
484-270-8002 x.11
29 Bala Ave # 205, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004