

The Liberate Abortion Guide for Advocates Ahead of the SCOTUS Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization Decision

Before the decision

- 1. <u>Connect</u> with local organizations to find out what kind of actions will be taking place in your community following decision day;
- 2. If you live in Texas, Louisiana, or Mississippi, check the <u>Liberate Abortion Caravan website</u> to see if any events are taking place near you that you can attend;
- 3. Amplify resources on social media and in your networks that you think would best help members of your community. To avoid any accidental spreading of misinformation, look to trusted groups (abortion funds, providers, and advocacy organizations) in your community for resources and messages to amplify;
- 4. Our activities will be focused on three complementary strategies, get involved here:
 - Storytelling: A wave of user-generated storytelling on social media, amplified across paid/organic/earned/owned channels
 - **Mobilization and Civil Disobedience**: Distributed events in the form of rapid–response rallies or direct actions on Decision Day, and mass walkouts two weeks after
 - Community Care: Support for those seeking abortion, both immediate and long-term
- 5. Sign up here to receive action alerts before and after the SCOTUS decision.

Immediately after the SCOTUS decision

Don't Do This	Why	Do This Instead
DON'T: Use anti-abortion language or images on signs, fliers, posters, or social media posts. This includes: X late-term abortion X Handmaid's Tale imagery X coat hanger abortion X back alley abortion X bringing coat hangers to rallies X chemical or medical abortion X illegal abortion X partial-birth abortion X born alive	Using inaccurate, outdated or harmful language fuels anti-abortion narratives and encourages national media outlets to share images that spread misinformation and stigma. Some terms may seem common and benign but are either calculated terms used by anti-abortion bigots to make abortion sound unsafe or increase stigma, are exclusionary and center white women or are outdated and may scare people unnecessarily. We need to continue to share that abortion is safe and, even if banned in a particular state, remains a human right.	Make sure to use medically accurate, gender-inclusive terms, and imagery that does not repeat any antiabortion phrases. Any person may opt to have abortions on their own, with helpers, or in a clinic or hospital setting. All these choices are valid and should be available. If you need signs to hold at rallies please contact a local organization like an abortion fund or other reproductive rights group that can provide you with materials to use.

Don't Do This	Why	Do This Instead
DON'T: Share confidential or identifying information about a storyteller without permission.	As we are well aware, we now live in a time where those seeking abortions or helping are targeted by authorities. We know that in moments of sadness, frustration, or anger we may share things that we otherwise would not. Sharing any personal or confidential information could put yourself, a storyteller, or a patient at risk of legal consequences.	Be thoughtful about sharing identifying information about yourself, or a storyteller's name, location, or where they receive/provide abortion care when speaking to the media of to groups at rallies. Have some talking points prepared beforehand, just in case you do come in contact with any members of the media. Share generally about the pregnancy and abortion experience. Allow storytellers themselves to provide more broad answers about location, time period, and helpers. Contact We Testify at media@wetestify.org to connect with storytellers who may like to speak about their experiences and for furth guidance in working with storytellers.
DON'T: Engage with anti-abortion protesters at rallies or online.	Anti-abortion protesters often show up to pro-abortion rallies to get a reaction out of us or get videos and photos to try to mislead and confuse the public about what is actually going on. We have seen rallies get out of hand and turn dangerous or even violent quickly when there are anti-abortion protesters present who are antagonizing rally goers.	If anti-abortion protesters are present, ignore them. Travel to a rally with a group or, if you do decide to go alone, make sure to surround yourself with friendly people and allies from the movement. You are there to make your voice heard and do not need to engage with anti-abortion protesters to get your message across. Be alert at all times. Familiarize yourself wit the area and learn any march or walking routes beforehand. Also make sure that you devices are fully charged and that you are carrying a back-up battery.
DON'T: Use gendered language or images when you are marching at rallies.	The right to decide if, when, or how to have children is a human right and a diverse range of people seek abortion care. Women are not the only people who get abortions and we do not want to marginalize any person, so it's important to make sure to avoid exclusionary and inaccurate language or imagery that only centers women.	Use inclusive signage or imagery that supports abortion access and reproductive justice for all people. Any person may opt to have an abortion, and we need to make sure that others know that. Use gender-inclusive language like: People who have abortions Folks who have abortions Those of us who have abortions People seeking abortion care Abortion fund clients