

Recently, news outlet Politico published a draft majority opinion written by Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito that, if formally adopted, would repeal the Court's 1973 *Roe v. Wade* ruling on reproductive rights. It appears likely the court will issue its official decision in early June. The California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS) stands unified in the belief that fair and legal access to healthcare, including those regarding reproductive decisions, is an inalienable right for all.

Roe has been settled law for nearly 50 years, but the core principle at issue is a matter of human rights that predates the ruling: Birthing people have the right to make their own medical decisions. And taking away human rights is *never* the correct answer.

Historically, CAPS has publicly addressed matters that impact our members' hours, wages, and other terms and conditions of their employment. More recently, we have also spoken out to support freedom and equality and to oppose virulent racism and systemic injustice. We recognize that individual rights are important to personal and professional success and as such, they are well within the bounds of our organization's concern.

It is the same with a birthing person's control over their reproductive health, which has major implications for a person's life path and professional opportunities. The draft Alito decision would hand that control to the government.

CAPS stands for equal rights, dignity, respect, safety, bodily autonomy, and access to safe, legal healthcare, including reproductive decisions, regardless of gender identity. We firmly oppose diminishing or eliminating human rights. This decision will undoubtedly affect many CAPS members and millions of citizens nationwide.

Hence, CAPS condemns the draft Alito decision and urges the Supreme Court to reject it.

In solidarity,

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