

Save *Roe v Wade*, the Right to Privacy, and American Democracy Itself

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court 1973 decision in *Roe v Wade* established that a woman has the fundamental right to make decisions over her own body,

WHEREAS, the leaked draft opinion, written by Samuel Alito on behalf of Clarence Thomas and the three Trump nominated judges: Neil Gorsuch, Bret Kavanaugh, and Amy Comey Barrett would overturn *Roe v Wade*, and represents one of the grossest violations of the rights of women to make intimate and private decisions about their bodies and whether to carry a pregnancy to term or not, as well as to make decisions about their private lives without government regulation and interference.

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court is thoroughly compromised. The three Trump judges constitute an ongoing far right-wing coup inside the nation's highest judicial body, and clearly intend to use their undemocratic power to overturn progressive legislation for decades to come.

WHEREAS, the Trump movement aims to create an American government completely subservient to the interests of a section of America's giant corporations and wealthiest individuals, without any meaningful Constitutional or democratic restraints on the use of governmental power to serve their purposes. Trump's three Supreme Court appointees and far rightwing control of the Court are pivotal to the Trump movement achieving their objectives.

WHEREAS, electoralism alone cannot provide a solution to this crisis. Even if the Democrats pass state or federal legislation to uphold abortion rights, those laws will be challenged by the Trump movement and inevitably brought before this Supreme Court. The new civil rights and labor movement can defeat these attacks through mobilizing our members and supporters to take mass action across the country to maintain *Roe v. Wade* and defend women and all Americans from this fundamental attack on civil and human rights.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) will use all means at our disposal to defend reproductive freedom and *Roe v Wade*.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the AFT will defend AFT members and students who need access to abortions and birth control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the AFT demands that Biden increase the number of Supreme Court justices, and/or impeach the justices who went against their sworn testimony to not overturn *Roe v Wade*.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the AFT calls for an end of the Senate filibuster that is being used now, as it has in the past - to maintain white privilege and Jim Crow laws and to block progressive legislation.