


The Impact of the Dobbs Decision on Cancer Care: Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications

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- Today's Talk
 - Framing Reproductive Justice (RJ)
 - *Dobbs* as an Impediment to RJ

What is Reproductive Justice?

- Reproductive Justice (RJ) encompasses a woman's human right to:
 - Decide if and when she will have a baby and the conditions under which she will give birth.
 - Decide if she will not have a baby and her options for preventing or ending a pregnancy.
 - Parent the children she already has with the necessary social supports in safe environments and healthy communities, and without fear of violence from individuals or the government.
 - Loretta Ross, Trust Black Women
(<http://www.trustblackwomen.org/our-work/what-is-reproductive-justice/9-what-is-reproductive-justice>)



What is Reproductive Justice?

- Human rights based.
- Intersectional.
- Rooted in the experiences of women of color.
- Recognizes that reproductive oppression is experienced differently across communities of color and other marginalized communities.





RAISING THE FUTURE THE CHILD CARE CRISIS

 PBS **NEWSHOUR**



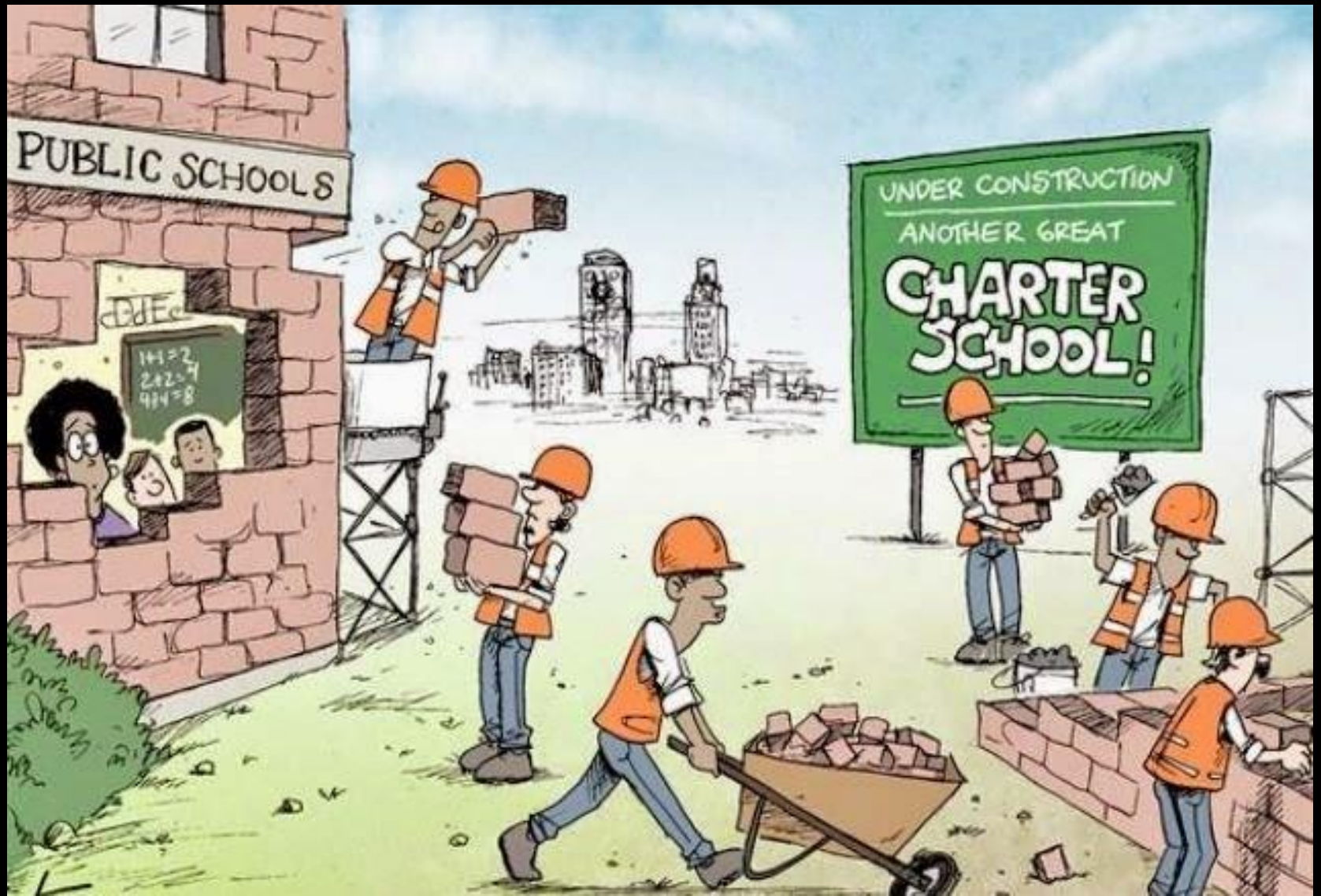
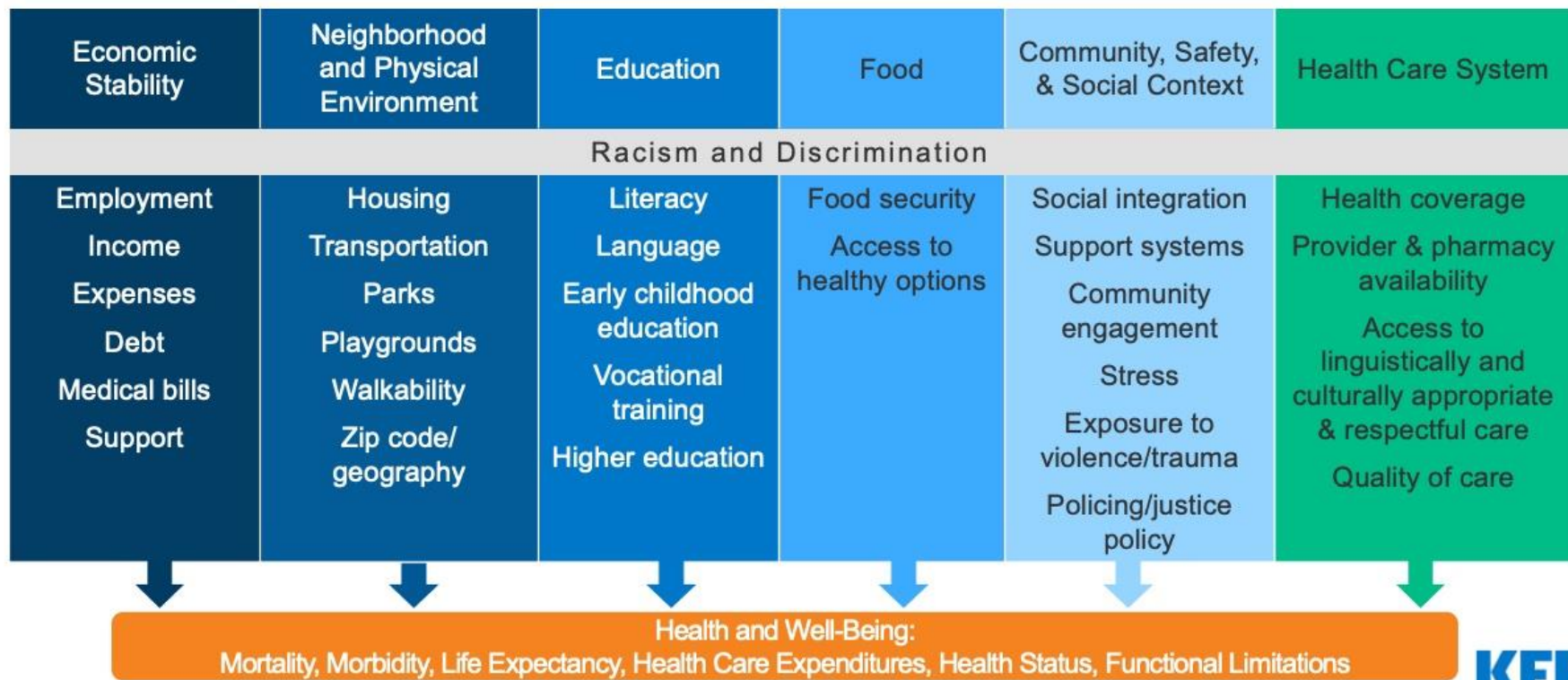


Figure 1

Health Disparities are Driven by Social and Economic Inequities











Roe & Casey Taken Together

The right to privacy is broad enough to encompass a woman's right to determine whether to terminate her pregnancy.

A fetus is not a constitutional person.

No bans before fetal viability.

Any bans must include an exception for life and health of the pregnant person.

No spousal notification or consent.

Young women (under the age of 18) can be required to notify or get consent from parents or guardians before having an abortion but only if there is a judicial bypass option.



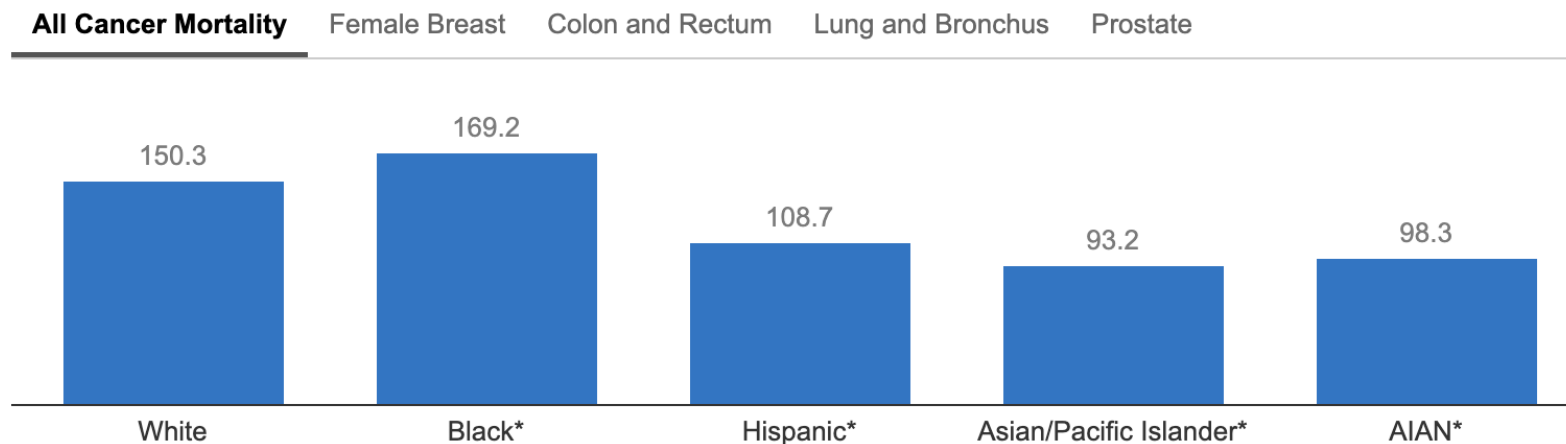
ABORTION LAW AFTER *DOBBS*

Racial disparities in the U.S.

- As compared to white people, Black people in the U.S.
 - have lower rates of having health insurance
 - have worse health outcomes across a range of diseases
 - are more likely to die in childbirth or soon after
 - are more likely to be medically infertile
 - have higher rates of childhood asthma
 - are incarcerated at a higher rate
 - live in neighborhoods with higher levels of environmental hazards
 - are significantly more likely to die in their first year of life
 - are more likely to be low-income and live in neighborhoods that are overpoliced; and
 - are killed by police at a disproportionate rate.

Figure 4

Age-Adjusted Rate of Cancer Deaths per 100,000 by Race/Ethnicity, 2018



NOTE: * Indicates statistically significant difference from White people at the $p < 0.05$ level. AIAN refers to American Indian and Alaska Native. Data for Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander could not be separated from Asian. Persons of Hispanic origin may be of any race; other groups may include individuals reporting Hispanic ethnicity. Data for groups other than White and Black should be interpreted with caution; see source technical notes for more information. Includes individuals of all ages.

SOURCE: U.S. Cancer Statistics Working Group. U.S. Cancer Statistics Data Visualizations Tool, based on 2020 submission data (1999-2018); U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and National Cancer Institute; www.cdc.gov/cancer/dataviz, released in June 2021. • PNG

U.S. Abortion Patients

INCOME

75% poor or low income

RELIGION

62% religiously affiliated

FAMILY SIZE

59% already have a child

AGE

60% are in their 20s (only 12% are teens, of which 4% are minors)

RACE

39% White

28% Black

25% Hispanic

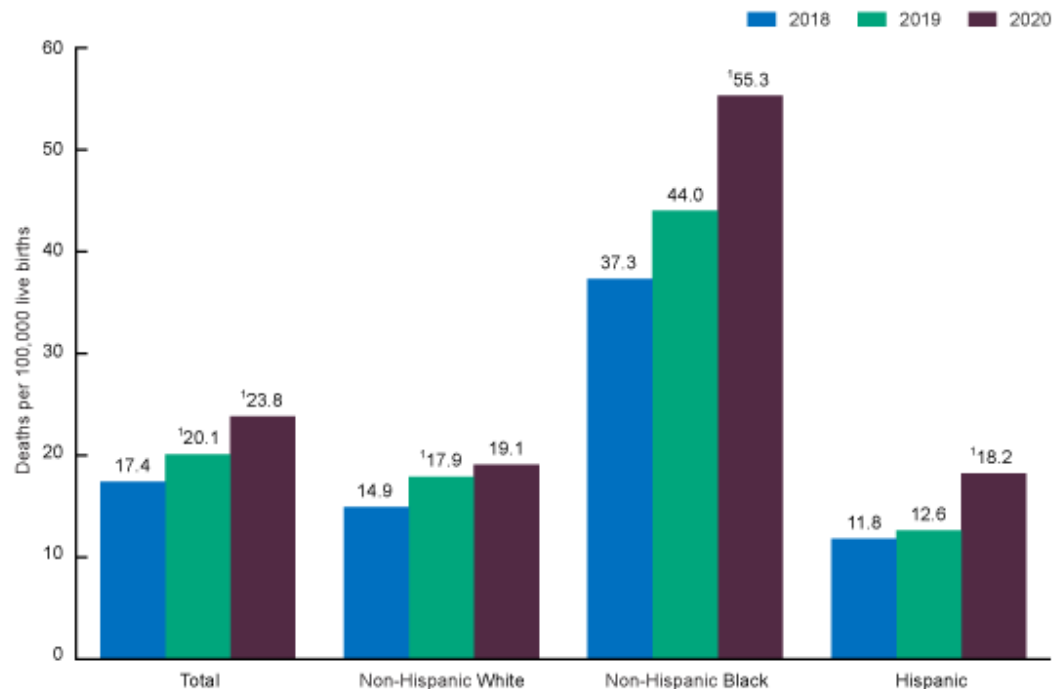
6% Asian/Pacific
Islander

3% Other

Giving Birth in the United States

- The United States has the highest maternal mortality of any developed nation.
- Our rate of maternal mortality rose from 2019 to 2020.
 - In 2020, 861 women died of maternal causes in the United States.
 - In 2019 754 women died of maternal causes in the United States.

Figure 1. Maternal mortality rates, by race and Hispanic origin: United States, 2018–2020



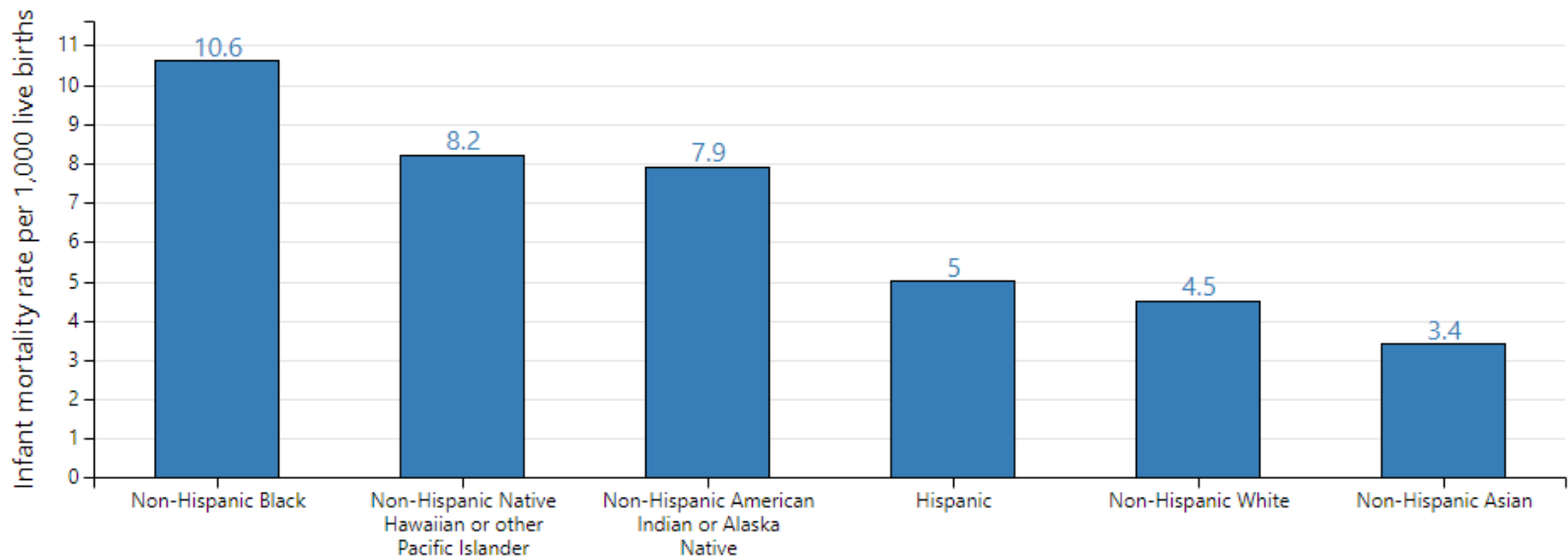
¹Statistically significant increase in rate from previous year ($p < 0.05$).

NOTE: Race groups are single race.

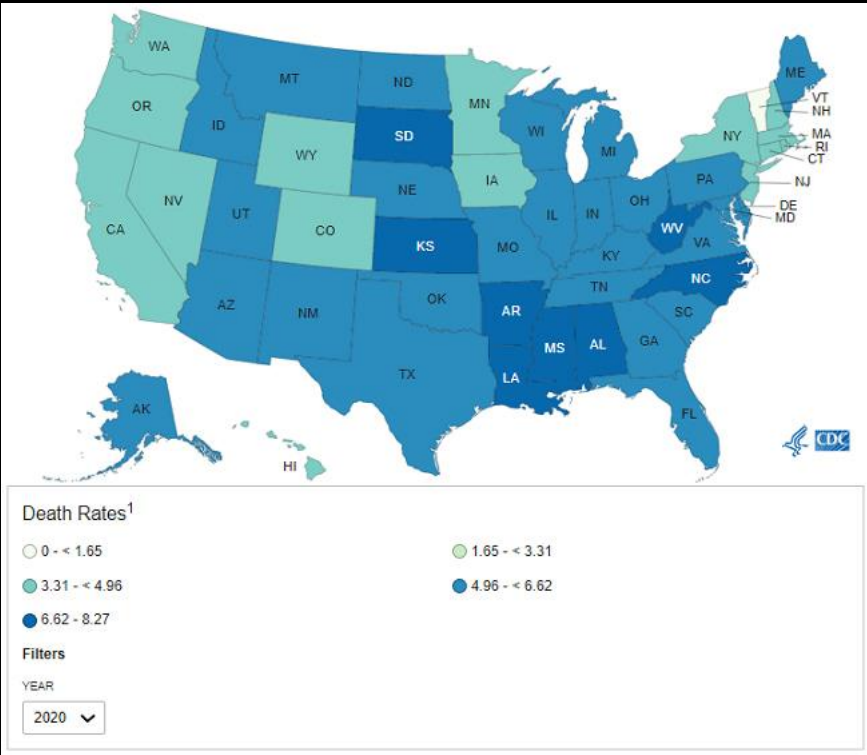
SOURCE: National Center for Health Statistics, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality.

Infant Mortality in the U.S.

Infant Mortality Rates by Race and Ethnicity, 2019



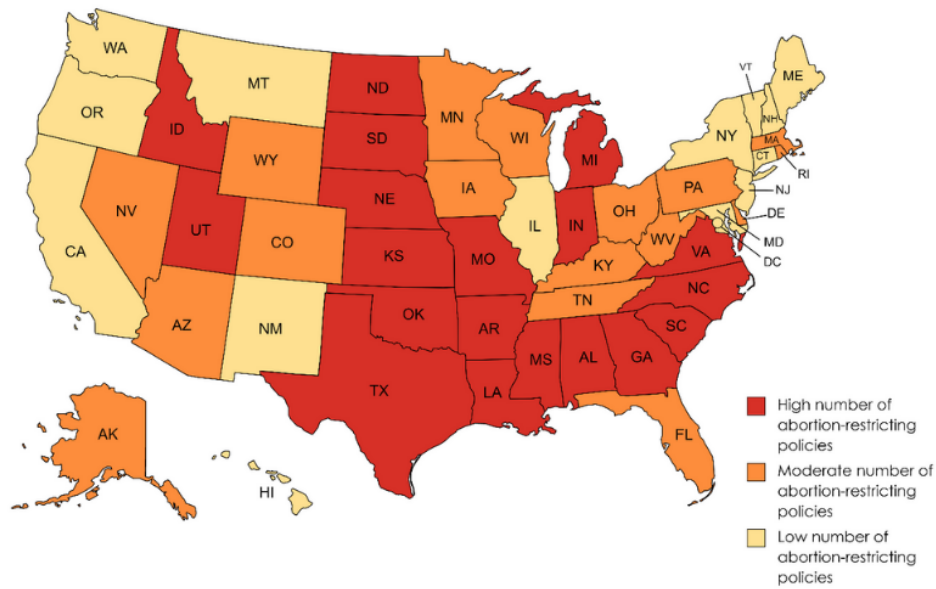
Infant Mortality in the U.S.





Study finds higher maternal mortality rates in states with more abortion restrictions

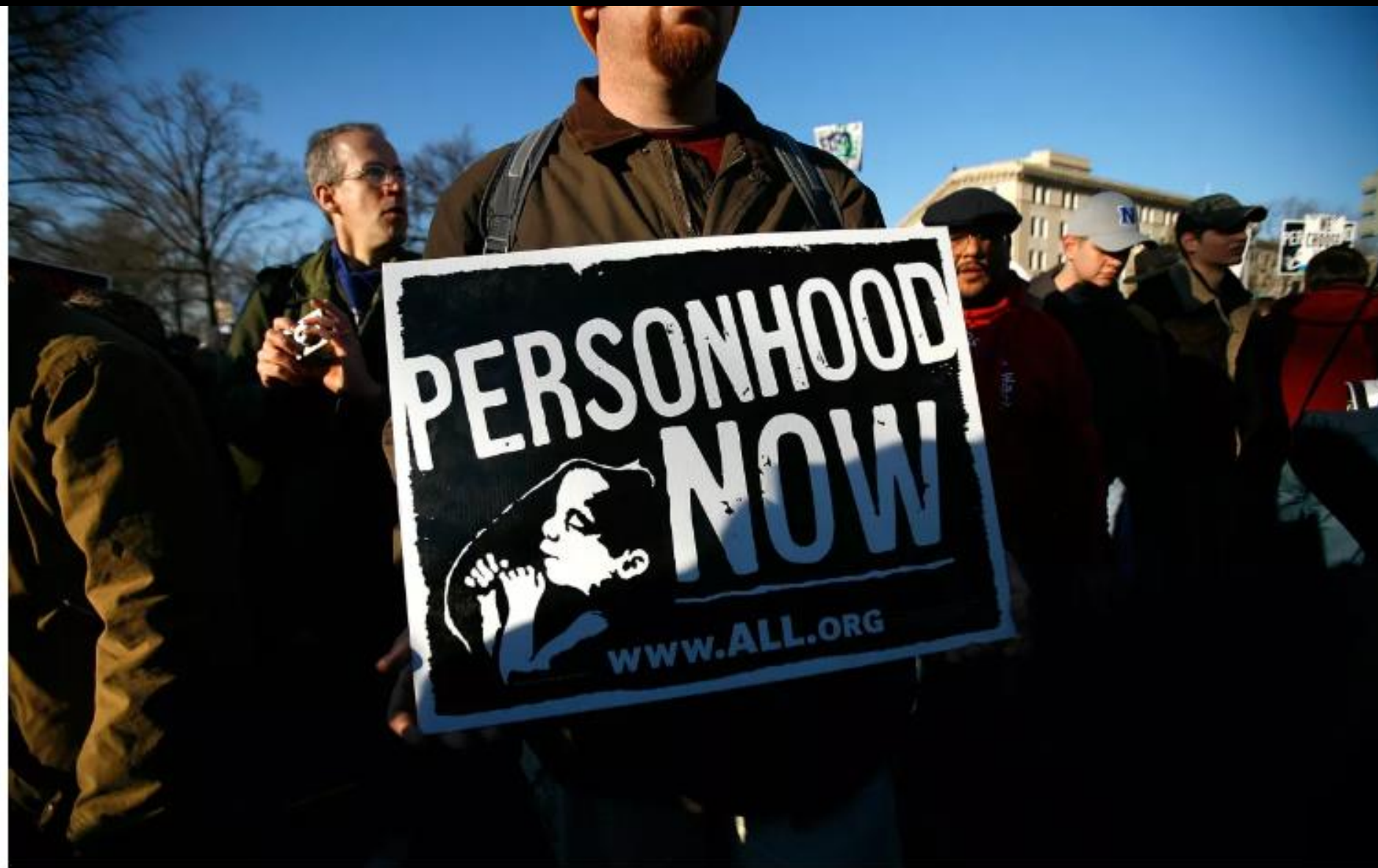
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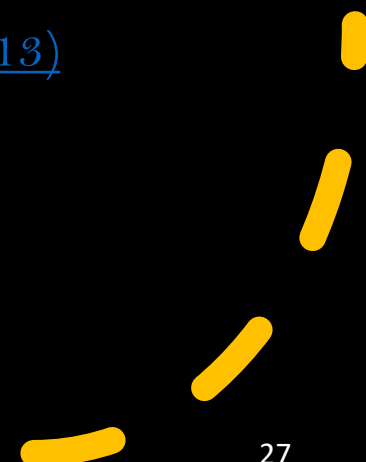


Why are black mothers and babies in the United States dying at more than double the rate of white mothers and babies? The answer has everything to do with the lived experience of being a black woman in America. By Linda Villarosa







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- Alabama Code:
 - “(e) The advance directive for health care of a declarant who is known by the attending physician to be pregnant shall have no effect during the course of the declarant's pregnancy.”
 - [AL Code § 22-8A-4 \(2013\)](#)
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Brain-dead woman off life support

Marlise Munoz

A judge has ruled Texas' abortion ban is too restrictive for women with pregnancy complications



YOU DESERVE TO CHOOSE
NOT TO PARENT
REGARDLESS OF
THE CIRCUMSTANCES
OF YOUR PREGNANCY
AND HOW MUCH
MONEY YOU MAKE.
AFFORDABLE ABORTION
ACCESS IS REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE.



REPEAL HYDE ART PROJECT

YOU DESERVE TO TAKE TIME OFF
TO CARE FOR A SICK CHILD
WITHOUT RISKING
YOUR EMPLOYMENT
OR SECURITY.



PAID FAMILY
LEAVE IS
REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE.

YOU DESERVE TO BE TREATED WITH
DIGNITY KINDNESS
AND RESPECT
NO MATTER AT WHAT AGE
YOU CHOOSE TO PARENT.
JUSTICE FOR
YOUNG PARENTS IS
REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE.



REPEAL HYDE ART PROJECT

YOU DESERVE
TO CREATE
YOUR FAMILY
ON YOUR
OWN TERMS.



DISABILITY
JUSTICE IS
REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE.

REPEAL HYDE ART PROJECT

YOU DESERVE
TO PARENT YOUR CHILD
WITHOUT FEAR
THAT HE OR SHE WILL BE
HURT OR KILLED.
FREEDOM FROM
VIOLENCE IS
REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE.



REPEAL HYDE ART PROJECT

YOU DESERVE
TO BE HEALTHY
AND SAFE
REGARDLESS OF
IMMIGRATION
STATUS.



IMMIGRANT
JUSTICE
IS
REPRODUCTIVE
JUSTICE.

REPEAL HYDE ART PROJECT

YOU DESERVE TO LIVE AND PLAY
IN A SAFE AND
HEALTHY SPACE,
REGARDLESS OF
HOW MUCH
MONEY YOU
MAKE.
ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE IS
REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE.



REPEAL HYDE ART PROJECT