

# BLACK MAMAS MATTER ALLIANCE



## BLACK MAMAS MATTER ALLIANCE COLLECTIVE STATEMENT ON THE OVERTURN OF ROE V WADE

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### For Immediate Release

June 24, 2022 - Atlanta, GA - The Black Mamas Matter Alliance (BMMA) is devastated by the Supreme Court of the United States's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. The decision to overturn *Roe v. Wade* is beyond callous – it is rooted in white supremacy and heteropatriarchy and is in complete opposition to our mission and values rooted in the reproductive justice, birth justice, and human rights frameworks.

We know that anti-abortion forces are not motivated by a desire to protect life; in fact, many of the states with the most restrictive abortion bans have the worst maternal and child health outcomes<sup>1</sup> and the least supportive social welfare and family support programs,<sup>2</sup> particularly for Black women and birthing people. This is not a coincidence. Abortion bans are part of a larger attempt to control and harm Black women's and people's bodies, reproductive decisions, and futures. Abortion care is an integral part of holistic maternal health and helps to ensure that individuals have the right to bodily autonomy and enter parenthood on their own terms.

*Roe v. Wade* has never meant full access to abortion for our communities. Even with constitutional protections, serious barriers such as the Hyde Amendment, Targeted Regulation of Abortion Providers (TRAP) laws, insufficient financial, transportation, childcare, housing support, and stigma, have seriously diminished the abortion care access and care landscape in the United States. For Black women and pregnant people seeking abortions, these barriers are compounded by the interlocking racial, gender, economic, and other oppressions we face while trying to access health care and exercise bodily autonomy.

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In the face of these longstanding barriers, abortion providers, activists, and patients have developed creative and compassionate strategies. Abortion funds are connecting those seeking abortion care with financial and practical support. Abortion providers and independent clinics are continuing to provide safe, compassionate, non-judgmental care and counseling within their communities. Patients are self-managing their abortions, telling their stories, and supporting others as abortion doulas and caregivers, themselves.

Abortion is a core tenet of reproductive justice and a fundamental human right. The Supreme Court of the United States will not stop us from providing and accessing the holistic care that we need, demand, and deserve.

BMMA calls on our supporters to uplift and pour into the Black-led community-based organizations and independent clinics providing abortion care, such as Feminist Women's Health Center and CHOICES: Memphis Center for Reproductive Health, and the full range of maternal, sexual, and reproductive health services. A full listing of partners within the alliance can be found at <https://blackmamasmatter.org/our-partners/>.

Black Mamas Matter Alliance  
[www.blackmamasmatter.org](http://www.blackmamasmatter.org)

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1. Rosenbaum S. A Public Health Paradox: States with Strictest Abortion Laws Have Weakest Maternal and Child Health Outcomes [Internet]. The Commonwealth Fund. 2022 [cited 2022 Jun 15]. Available from: <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/blog/2022/public-health-paradox-states-abortion-laws-maternal-child-health-outcomes>

2. Evaluating Priorities [Internet]. Evaluating Priorities. [cited 2022 Jun 15]. Available from: <https://evaluatingpriorities.org/>

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