



**NATIONAL SURVEY: Intense Concern Over Consequences of Abortion Bans;  
Sustained Outrage, Half of All Women “Motivated” to Take Action in Support of Abortion Access**

A new poll from Change Research of 1,443 adults nationwide, conducted January 2-6 2023<sup>1</sup> on behalf of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, explores opinions on abortion six months after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade*.

**Strong support for state-level abortion rights**

The survey shows that **70% of all Americans support “establishing and maintaining the right to an abortion in your state,”** including four in five women (78% support), Black respondents (83% support), Asian American/Pacific Islander (AAPI) respondents (80% support), and Latino respondents (68% support). Notably, nearly two-thirds (63%) of Americans living in abortion-hostile states—where abortion is illegal or severely restricted—support the right to an abortion in their own state.

**An overwhelming majority are concerned about the consequences of abortion bans**

Four in five (80%) Americans are concerned abortion bans could mean survivors of domestic violence could be reported by their abusers, people who have miscarriages or stillbirths could be investigated, and women requiring medication to treat common medical conditions could be refused their medicine. Four in five (80%) Americans are also concerned doctors and nurses could be charged with a felony if a prosecutor disagrees that a patient’s life was at risk and that doctors and nurses may be unsure of whether or not they can provide abortion care to a patient when the patient’s life is at risk because they are worried about being charged with a crime. More than two-thirds (68%-71%) say these consequences are very concerning. Not only are these events cause for concern, but a large majority (65%-74%) of Americans believe they are likely to occur (or that they are already happening).

**How concerning/likely is each of the following consequences that could happen in states that ban abortion?**

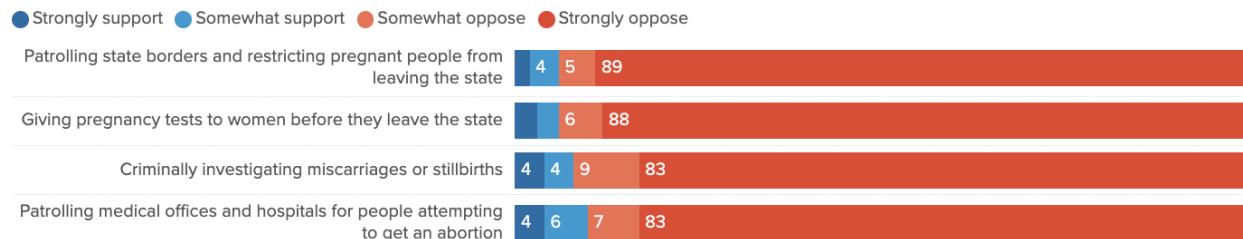
% Concerning	% Likely		% Concerning	% Likely	
81	71	Doctors and nurses could be charged with a felony for providing an abortion when they believed a patient’s life was at risk but a prosecutor disagrees	77	70	Pharmacists could be investigated or charged for dispensing certain medications that could cause an abortion but are prescribed to treat diseases like cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn’s, or lupus.
80	74	Survivors of domestic violence could be reported to authorities by their abusers if they are suspected of getting an abortion	76	74	Individuals could report to the authorities people suspected of helping someone get an abortion
80	68	Someone who had a miscarriage or stillbirth could be investigated by law enforcement	75	75	People who get an abortion could be charged with a felony or go to prison
80	65	Women of reproductive age could be refused medications to treat diseases including cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn’s, and lupus.	75	76	Doctors and nurses could be forced to report people who have an abortion in a state where it is illegal
80	74	Doctors and nurses may be unsure of whether or not they can provide abortion care to a patient when the patient’s life is at risk because they are worried about being charged with a crime.	74	72	People in states where abortion is outlawed could go to prison for crossing state lines to get an abortion
78	73	Individuals could report to the authorities people suspected of getting an abortion	73	79	Doctors and nurses could be charged with a felony or go to prison for providing an abortion
78	64	Law enforcement could offer monetary rewards to individuals who report people suspected of providing or having abortions	73	80	Doctors and nurses who provide an abortion could lose their medical license
77	71	Doctors could have to prove, without a doubt, that a miscarriage wasn’t an abortion or risk being charged with a felony			

<sup>1</sup> Using its Dynamic Online Sampling Engine to obtain a sample reflective of the U.S. adult population, Change Research polled 1,443 people nationwide from January 2-7, 2023. The margin of error is 3.7%. Post-stratification weighting was performed on age, race/ethnicity, sex, education, region, and party identification. Weighting parameters were based on U.S. Census data and Pew Research Center’s party identification benchmarks. (Full details [here](#).)

### Americans strongly oppose law enforcement being used to enforce abortion bans

There is near universal opposition (94%) to patrolling state borders to prevent pregnant people from leaving the state (89% *strongly* oppose) and to giving pregnancy tests to women before they leave the state (88% *strongly* oppose). The overwhelming majority also opposes criminal investigations of miscarriages or stillbirths (92% oppose, 83% *strongly* oppose) and patrolling medical offices and hospitals for people attempting to get an abortion (90% oppose, 83% *strongly* oppose).

### In order to enforce abortion bans, do you support or oppose police or other law enforcement officers? CHANGE RESEARCH™

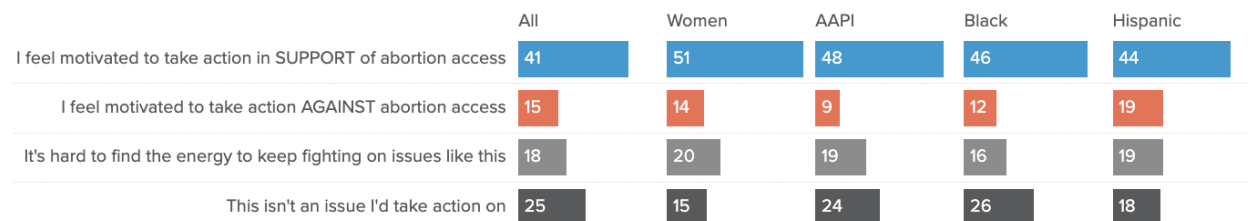


### The fight for abortion rights has steam

Six months after the fall of *Roe*, a third (32%) of Americans still feel “outraged” by the U.S. Supreme Court eliminating the federal right to an abortion, and 63% report feeling one or more negative emotions, including terrified and angry.

Fully two in five respondents (41%) feel motivated to take action in support of abortion access, including half (51%) of all women, and nearly half (46%-48%) of AAPI and Black respondents.

### Which of the following comes closest to your view? CHANGE RESEARCH™



These results suggest that lawmakers can expect vocal resistance to newly proposed laws attempting to ban or further restrict abortion, and sustained outcry in states with abortion bans already in place. The cacophony of opposition to abortion bans will likely include new voices as people fall victim to these laws in ways both expected and unexpected.