

A STATEMENT FROM 50/50 WOMEN ON BOARDS ON THE SUPREME COURT OVERTURING ROE v. WADE

June 24, 2022

The 50/50 Women on Boards campaign was founded on our fundamental belief that women and men are equal and are equally protected under the law. This core value is the backbone of our campaign to advance women to corporate boardrooms and directs our work to ensure that women hold half of all corporate board seats.

While our work is focused on boards of directors, we believe that all leadership positions, whether in business, government, civil or educational pursuits, be held to a similar standard.

The overturn of Roe v. Wade threatens the progress women have made over generations. It also painfully points to the fact that while the Equal Rights Amendment passed in Congress and in the Senate in the 1970s, it has never been fully ratified.

During the Trump administration, states began to rescind their ratification of the amendment. The Biden administration has called on the national archivist to certify and publish the ERA as constitutional law. That thinking is being contested. It's a legal quagmire.

The reversal of Roe v. Wade will undo much of the progress that women have made in leadership ranks in the last decade. Millions of women will face financial and geographical barriers in securing reproductive health services, overwhelmingly impacting women of color.

Their education and job prospects may be diminished; their access to leadership roles reduced.

If the government holds that the state can supersede a woman's right to manage her reproductive, physical, and emotional health and wellbeing, then women are not protected under the law. If they are not protected under the law, they are not equal. American women should not and will not stand for it.

Our society benefits when women stand together with men as leaders. At 50/50 Women on Boards, we will continue to do our work, advocating for all women on the path to leadership and board service. You can help. Be vocal. Be heard. VOTE. Be a role model for younger women and help them on their journey.

Malli Gero, Founder & Vice Chair 50/50 Women on Boards