



A TRAGIC ANNIVERSARY

ROE V. WADE: THE FACTS

✘When 1973 began, abortion was not allowed in most of the United States. A majority of Americans decided that abortion, which ends the life of a child, should be against the law. Thirty-three (33) states, including Ohio, had specifically rejected efforts to remove legal protections for unborn children. Thirteen (13) other states severely limited protections for unborn children and four (4) removed all legal protection before viability (when the child can survive outside the womb, at approximately 24 weeks of pregnancy).

✘On January 22, 1973, (44 years ago) the United States Supreme Court, in its *Roe v. Wade* decision, declared that the American people were wrong and that pregnant women must be allowed to obtain an abortion for any reason up to viability (about 24 weeks). States may outlaw abortion after viability, but *Roe* does not require this. *Roe* says it's legal for a state to permit abortion up to the moment of birth.

✘Since *Roe*, more than 58 million abortions have occurred in the United States.

✘When *Roe* is overruled by the United States Supreme Court, each state will have the opportunity to decide whether or not abortion should be illegal. Eleven states (representing 20% of the U.S. population) have abortion prohibitions that could go into effect after *Roe*, but the state would have the power to decide what the law should be. The goal will always be to protect every child in the United States from abortion.

The Human Family Research Center



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