

"Today, abortion opponents were handed a victory in their continual push to overturn a woman's right to choose. In a 5-4 ruling the conservative Roberts Supreme Court said that the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act that was passed by Congress and signed into public law by President Bush in 2003 does not violate a woman's right to an abortion.

Seven years ago, a highly similar case, *Stenberg v. Carhart*, was argued before a much different Supreme Court. This case weighed the merits of an almost identical ban passed in Nebraska. In this case, the Supreme Court ruled the abortion ban unconstitutional chiefly because it failed to provide protections for women's health. Furthermore, in this earlier decision, the Court exposed 'partial-birth abortion' bans for what they are: an attempt to stop a range of safe abortion procedures performed in the second trimester of pregnancy which includes some performed as early as 12-15 weeks of pregnancy.

Fast forward to present day and the case is the same, only the make-up of the Court has changed. Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who served a critical role in protecting women's rights' in the *Stenberg v. Carhart* case, has departed the bench and Justices Roberts and Alito have been added by the Administration.

I am very concerned with the consequences that will come from the decision that was released today. This law bans certain safe and effective abortions performed as early as 12-15 weeks and makes NO exception for the health of the woman or for any case of severe fetal abnormalities.

I am pro-choice. Please be assured that I will continue to support any legislative avenues that may be available to support a woman's right to choose, as well as legislation that could reverse the decision that was made today."