



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MNADV DENOUNCES THE SUPREME COURT DECISION IN DOBBS V. JACKSON

LANHAM, MD – The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) denounces the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* that eradicates the constitutional right to an abortion. Ensuring access to safe, affordable, and legal abortions for all people is a priority of the MNADV. Reproductive justice is an essential component of gender equality and for survivors of domestic violence abortion access is essential for their safety. Today's decision in *Dobbs* undermines reproductive freedom and dismantles almost 50 years of Supreme Court precedent established in *Roe v. Wade* that recognized the fundamental right of privacy and the right to have an abortion.

"Access to abortions can be a matter of life or death for survivors of domestic violence. Pregnant survivors are at a higher risk of being killed by their abuser," stated Jennifer Pollitt Hill, Executive Director of MNADV. "When a survivor is denied an abortion, they remain tethered to their abusive partner," explained Pollitt Hill. "Access to reproductive freedom is imperative for all people and this decision will have a devastating impact on anyone seeking an abortion and will disproportionately impact already marginalized survivors."

"We will continue to advocate on both the state and federal levels to protect a person's right to reproductive freedom and access to safe, affordable, and legal abortions," said Melanie Shapiro, Public Policy Director with MNADV.

MNADV urges Congress to pass federal legislation that protects access to abortions for all people. We look forward to again supporting legislation in Maryland that would enshrine abortion access in Maryland's state constitution. We will not and cannot sit by idly while the right to bodily autonomy is undermined and the lives and safety of survivors of domestic violence are put in jeopardy.