

Daily Meditation 06-27-23

Dobbs Decision and Religious Overreach

Good morning.

We continue today our meditation on the anniversary of the Dobbs decision that took away rights to have an abortion after 49 years of being settled law. And yesterday we discussed some of those implications and the effects of that decision in the past year.

And I close the meditation asking: In whose world is this right to life when we're talking about the increase of maternal mortality among women, and so many other damages to family and society and individual women due to this decision?

But in today's meditation, we're talking about justice. And clearly in a country where 62% of people across the board want there to be an outlet like Roe v. Wade. But the Supreme Court weighs in -- and that's almost two thirds of America -- and says, No, there is no right to this outlet called abortion. I asked the question appropriately: in whose world is this justice?

What compelled these justices to create such a rupture in American jurisprudence after several generations of women were living with Roe v. Wade?

What's sad is it's clearly a religiously driven ideology. It's religious zeal that has sparked the politics, the minority politics, that tells some people that they have the right to control the bodies of others. Nothing in Roe v. Wade that says you have to have an abortion. No one who's against it for conscience reasons, religious reasons, or anything else has to have an abortion.

But does that give you the right to tell others that they have no right to have an abortion? On what basis? And valid debate, cultural debate is certainly in order. But not to maneuver behind the scenes to get judges who will operate and have some kind of religious ideology to declare abortion null and void.

And that is what is happening. It's absolutely clear. Leonardo Leo, a member of Opus Dei, a religious organization that I know well, I've written about it in my book on *The Pope's War* and other places, and they are fascist. They are all about control, therefore; that's what Fascism is.

And when it's endorsed by the Supreme Court, it's institutionalized violence. That is exactly how Susan Sontag defines fascism.

Remember that justice is symbolized as a lady with scales. It's about balance, isn't it? It's about balance. And she's blinded. She has a blinder over her eyes because she's not supposed to be a respecter of persons or ideologies, or different religions that think they have the right to tell other people of other religions or no religion what they can do with their bodies.

But this is the world we're living in, that plus the ever growing stories coming out about Supreme Court justices hobnobbing with billionaires who are right-wing Republicans and thinking is just fine to take trips that are worth over \$200,000 from the very people who have their ideologies to push in the Supreme Court, and have done so. One of these people had 10 different cases before the Supreme Court.

So it's appalling what is going on. It certainly is not justice. There is a respecter of persons going on, so long as they are billionaire persons and Republican persons and white persons and male persons. There's not a respecter of persons, when one is poor or a woman or stressed financially so that they cannot bring a child into the world.

Thank you. We'll see you tomorrow.