

Graphic Organizer Answer Key

Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization (2022)

“Background” and “Outcome” Questions

1. What was the Gestational Age Act?

The Gestational Age Act established requirements for doctors performing abortions, specifically that they could not be performed after the 15th week of pregnancy.

2. How did the District Court and Court of Appeals rule? Why did they rule that way?

Both courts ruled the Gestational Age Act was unconstitutional, citing Supreme Court precedent established by the Supreme Court that abortions could not be banned prior to the 24-week mark.

3. In a _____ vote, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of _____. In a _____ vote, the Supreme Court overruled _____.

In a 6-3 vote, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Dobbs. In a 5-4 vote, the Supreme Court overruled Roe v. Wade.

Speech	Justice Alito's Majority Opinion	Justice Breyer, Justice Sotomayor, and Justice Kagan's Dissenting Opinion
Summary of Argument	<i>The Constitution does not state that Americans have a right to abortion, and since there is not a long history of legal abortion in the United States, it is not considered a fundamental liberty that would be encompassed by the Due Process Clause.</i>	<i>Roe v. Wade established that Americans have a fundamental right to abortion within certain parameters.</i>
Do you agree? Why or why not? (Use evidence from the opinions to support your answers)	<i>Answers may vary.</i>	<i>Answers may vary.</i>

Comprehension Questions

1. What do you think the Supreme Court's role should be concerning constitutional debates? Why?

Answers may vary. Students should base their answers in constitutional principles.

2. Should the Supreme Court consider the Constitution or public opinion more when making rulings on polarizing subjects like abortion? Why?

Answers may vary. Students should base their answers in constitutional principles.

3. Analyze both opinions and determine which section best supports each side. How does it do so?

Answers may vary. Students should base their answers in constitutional principles.