

# Supreme Court Ruling and the Importance of the Vote

## The Supreme Court Decision of 2023

### Present a Challenge to Democracy

**"A Discussion Paper of B-PEP" – Thursday, July 8, 2023**

The US as a nation is changing! As evolution of all things is inevitable, our government is certainly not exempt! Most recently the US supreme Court has made recent major rulings, such as amendments to gay rights and on higher education! These are rulings that will affect our society in many ways that the after affect will touch millions of Americans. We at B-PEP would like to alert the public and discuss our appeal to the public for urgency in the voting process! We are reaching out to the people to urge you to vote! We must get involved in these upcoming local elections, including the November 7, 2023, General Election, and the very important the 2024 Presidential Primaries and the Presidential Election!

The Supreme Court has ruled to abolish Affirmative Action with a majority vote of 6-3, because the court has the explanation that Affirmative Action is unconstitutional under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment for the consideration of race and ethnic background in college admissions. It is said that the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the US Constitution guarantees the equal rights of all citizens under the law, and the Supreme Court recently ruled that Affirmative Action gives an unfair advantage to minorities and promotes inequality which in their opinion violates constitutional law. The majority of the Supreme

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Court ruled that Affirmative Action conflicts with the constitutional statute, but we at B-PEP say let those who agree try being a minority seeking higher education, let those who agree try living in a marginalized community seeking a way out! Let those who agree try living in poverty and understand seeking a way out by earning a decent pay know the only way out is higher education for higher pay! Let those who agree look into the Department of Education Stats for Higher education and see the inequity of degrees received by minorities. Let those who agree see that in the past college admissions were littered with hurdles due to race and ethnicity. This ruling was a blow to all marginalized families dreaming of generational growth and has now established additional hurdles to these families escape from poverty!

The Supreme Court has further ruled on the LGBTQ+ protections by ruling for a web designer against an LGBTQ+ couple on doing business with the couple. The court has ruled that the web designer's 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Rights, being that she can accept or deny anyone she wants! While the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment has a broad reach, there is an inherent right and a direct conflict with the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of Equal treatment of the law! Yet these Justices are strategically tearing down the civil rights act piece by piece. We at B-PEP know that there are dire consequences on the horizon and possibly more rulings that could destroy generations of civil rights advocacy. This is a

Supreme Court Ruling and the Importance of the Vote call to action to “you the people”! This is a call to action for Americans to engage with the election process! You must vote! As each election passes the lack of voter participation is a threat to democracy and a threat to the goals of freedom for which we continue to advocate! Unfortunately, it appears that many people are feeling that their votes do not matter! We at B-PEP advocate that your participation is very necessary to future of democracy! The Supreme Court judges are nominated by the Elected President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Your vote decides who that president will be! When former President Barack Obama nominated Merrick Garland, on March 16, 2016, while Garland was the Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Merrick was never given the opportunity to have a hearing with members of the U.S. Senate. In the opinion of many, the seat held by current Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch, *should* have gone to Merrick Garland, and therefore could be viewed as a ‘stolen’ seat by former President Donald J. Trump and the Republican Party. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg died on September 18, 2020, yet NINE days before the November 2020 election Donald J. Trump nominated- candidate Judge Amy Coney Barrett was sworn in as a member of the U.S. Supreme Court. The same U.S. Senator, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader of the U.S. Senate, who defended Merrick Garland NOT being given a hearing to become a member of the U.S. Supreme Court months before the end of the Obama presidency, defended the appointment of Amy Coney Barrett. The Amy Coney Barrett

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Senator, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader of the U.S. Senate, who defended Merrick Garland NOT being given a hearing to become a member of the U.S. Supreme Court months before the end of the Obama presidency, defended the appointment of Amy Coney Barrett. The Amy Coney Barrett seat on the Supreme Court is also viewed by many as a 'stolen' seat by former President Donald J. Trump and the Republican Party.

On Friday, June 24, 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the long held constitutional right to an abortion, reversing the Roe v. Wade, the court's five-decade old decision. This decision led to the rollback of nearly half of the states immediately, with more restrictions likely to follow. This decision, according to Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan, appointed by President Barack Obama, said that the court decision means that 'young women today will come of age with fewer rights than their mothers and grandmothers.' They stated further that 'from the very moment of fertilization, a woman has no rights to speak of. A state can force her to bring a pregnancy to term even at the steepest personal and familial costs.' For the record it is important to note that the 1992 decision that upheld the central holding of Roe was written by Justices Sandra Day O'Connor, Anthony Kennedy and David Souter, all Republican appointees to the court.

We at B-PEP ask you to take a moment to think about the world around you and the changes happening! We ask that you

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understand that the only to get what you desire from the  
political system is through the electoral process, and by voting  
for politicians who represent your Interests! Now is the time for  
us to stand up! Get involved and vote while we have a chance  
to stop the political erosion of our society, and much of the civil  
rights work which has been accomplished over the decades! An  
America that is for the people can only happen when we  
participate in the Democratic Process! We must vote – and we  
MUST VOTE in EACH and EVERY Election!!!