

# ROE V WADE (1973) (EXAMPLE)

- **Background:**

- Norma McCorvey, a Texas woman pregnant with her third child, was seeking an abortion for an unwanted pregnancy. She had previously given up her two children for adoption
- In Texas, abortion was only legal if the procedure would save the life of the woman. As a result, many women sought dangerous 'back-alley' abortions, which could result in death

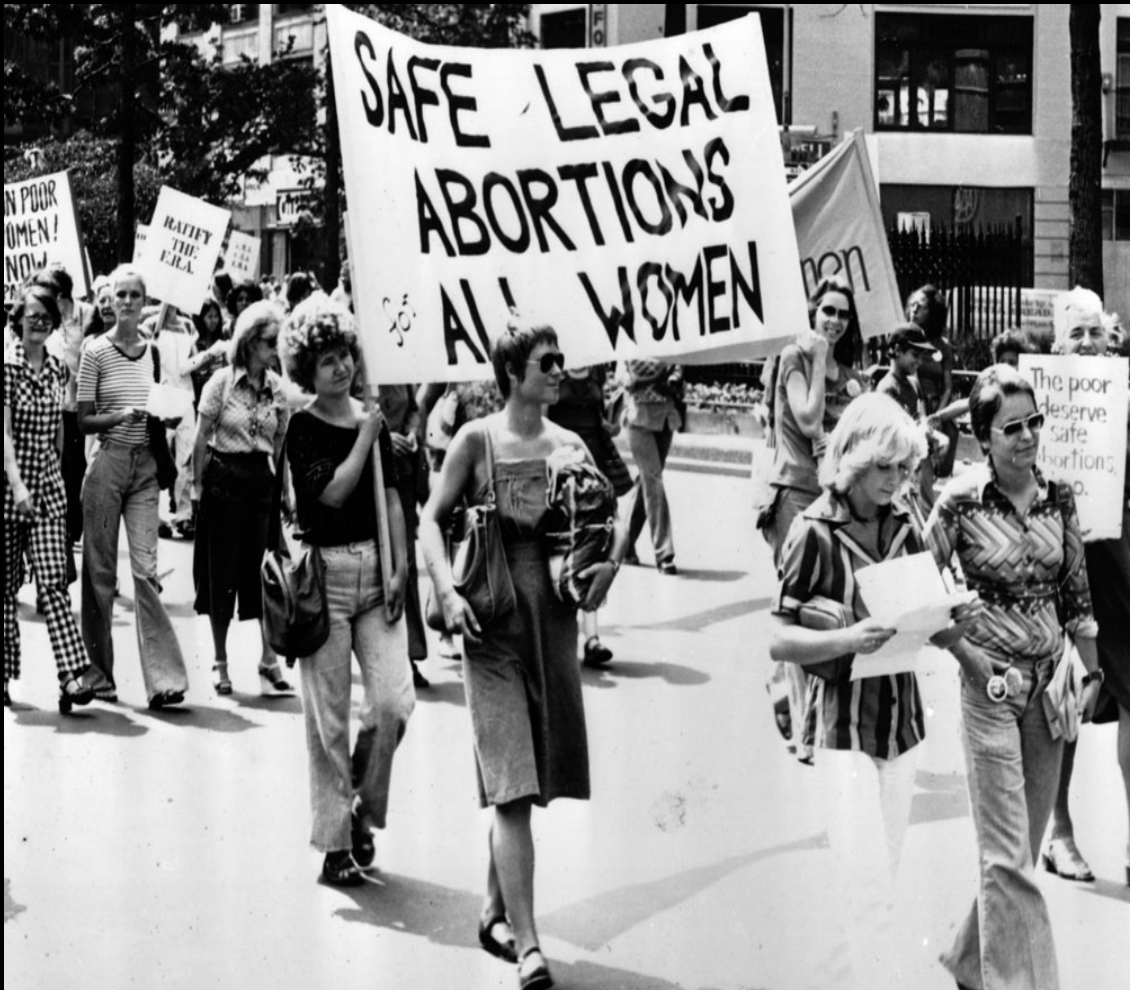


# ROE V WADE

Lawyers sued Henry Wade, the District Attorney of Dallas County where Norma lived, on behalf of Norma, to have the right to legally obtain an abortion in the state. Norma became known as Jane Roe in the papers. The case eventually went to the Supreme Court



# ROE V WADE



## Ruling:

- The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Roe, stating that a woman's right to an abortion was protected under the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment
  - Women have the right to privacy

# **ROE V WADE: WHY IT MATTERS**

- Allowed women to safely seek abortions from licensed doctors
- Allowed women the right to choose what they do with their own body
- Pro-Choice advocates fear that the case will be overturned