

National Organization of Gay and Lesbian Scientists and Technical Professionals dba Out to Innovate PO Box 91803, Pasadena CA 91109 outtoinnovate.org

Out to Innovate Opposes the Overturning of Roe v. Wade

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With the recent Supreme Court opinion overturning the Roe v. Wade decision, Out to Innovate laments and condemns this leap backward for bodily autonomy, privacy, civil rights, and reproductive health. This opinion — and the potential legal consequences raised in the dissenting opinion — represents a perilous trend of undermining hard-won political progress toward equal rights for women, non-binary people, and trans people in the United States.

While we take this somber moment to mourn the risks this decision creates for hundreds of millions of people living in America, we are also spurred to action to protect those most vulnerable to this Supreme Court decision. The progress toward expanded civil rights over the last century required fighting and sacrifice, and we will carry on that tradition. There will be opportunities to support policies at both the state and federal levels that support Out to Innovate's mission. Most prominently, passing the Equality Act and certifying the Equal Rights Amendment are both examples of opportunities to enshrine equality in the Constitution.

As a STEM organization, Out to Innovate affirms the science, medicine, and data backing the safety, necessity, and benefits of access to abortion. We support the healthcare providers who may risk legal attacks for providing essential services, and we acknowledge the threat this opinion poses to medical procedures like in vitro fertilization. Finally, as an organization that advocates for LGBTQ+ people in STEM, we affirm that civil rights and legal protections are a bedrock of full participation and contribution in STEM professions and throughout society.

We encourage individuals to also consider what resources you have and can apply to supporting civil rights and full participation. Consider all of the following:

- Donations to organizations that provide equitable reproductive healthcare access
- Share information and resources within your networks to provide high-quality information to those in need
- Carefully vet resources and organizations before sharing and donating
- Remain engaged in political decision making by voting, organizing, and engaging politicians at every level: federal, state, and local
- Encourage your employer to provide robust healthcare coverage that supports reproductive healthcare and accounts for the additional burdens that some employees may now face

Signed, Out to Innovate Board