

Today, Senator Dianne Feinstein emphasized the need for Brett Kavanaugh to clearly affirm that he will uphold the constitutional right to abortion. In her [opening remarks](#) she underscored the stakes and reminded committee members that Kavanaugh has already demonstrated his position on *Roe v. Wade*:

Senator Dianne Feinstein: “Last year, [Kavanaugh] drafted a dissent in *Garza v. Hargan* — in making your argument, you ignored, and I believe mischaracterized, a Supreme Court precedent. He reasoned that Jane Doe should not be able to exercise her right to choose because she did not have family and friends to make her decision. The argument rewrites Supreme Court precedent... This reason, we believe, I believe, demonstrates that you are willing to disregard precedent.” She went on to share her first hand experience of a world when abortion is illegal:



[Sen Dianne Feinstein](#) ✓
@SenFeinstein

I remember what it was like before Roe. I know how dangerous it was. When I was at Stanford, we passed a plate to collect money so a friend could get an abortion in Tijuana. Another woman became pregnant unintentionally. She killed herself. We can't go back. [#WhatsAtStake](#)

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Take it from people who've lived through it and know what is at stake if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned.

In 1961, Wendy Robinson found out she was pregnant at 17 years old. She told [the Boston Herald](#) that her parents found the name of a doctor, whose office she left after he put his hand on her knee, Robinson said. Her younger sister's guitar teacher eventually referred her to another doctor, who performed the procedure but told her abortion was the wages of sin and threatened to turn her away if she made a sound, she said.

“My story's not as horrific as many other women's,” Robinson said. “But nobody should have to depend on luck to get a safe abortion.”

Donna McNeil shared her pre-Roe abortion story in her local Maine paper, the [Portland Press Herald](#).

"I told him I wanted an abortion, realizing I'd just asked my father to become a criminal. This straight-arrow protector and defender of freedom, who never even paid a credit card bill late, was going to commit an illegal act to bail out his daughter.

"I know my privilege afforded me a relatively good experience compared to the horror show of back-alley possibilities, and I am eternally grateful to those strangers who risked their freedom, their reputations and their professions to help me stay on track in my young life."