

October 20, 2022



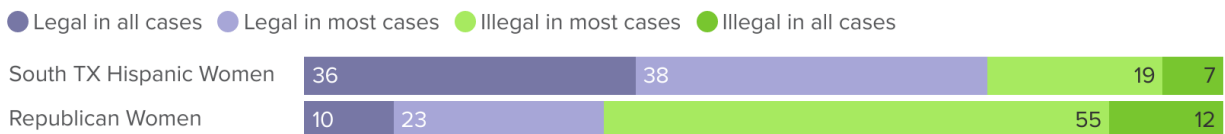
To: Planned Parenthood Texas
From: Nancy Zdunkewicz, Change Research
Re: Abbott & Texas GOP's Anti-Choice Agenda Unpopular with Republican Women and South Texas Hispanic Women

On behalf of Planned Parenthood Texas, Change Research conducted surveys from September 13 to 21, 2022 of Republican and lean Republican women statewide and Hispanic women from South Texas in order to understand how these groups feel about abortion and how the state is handling the issue.¹

An overwhelming majority of South Texas Hispanic women believe abortion should be legal.

The myth South Texas Hispanic women are conservative on abortion because of higher rates of Catholicism must be retired. Fifty-six percent of the South Texas Hispanic women surveyed reported they are Catholic, but three-in-four (74%) support abortion rights in all or most cases. In fact, South Texas Hispanic women who are Catholic are *more* likely than all South Texas Hispanic women to support abortion rights as 80% say abortion should be legal in all or most cases.

Abortion should be:



Abortion is also fracturing the GOP, as one-in-three Republican women support the right to an abortion in all or most cases. Only 12% align with the agenda of Republican lawmakers to make abortion illegal in all cases without exception. The divide in opinions on abortion rights among Republican women is produced by a divide between Evangelical and secular Republicans: 26% of Republican women who oppose abortion are Evangelical (versus 13% of those who support abortion) while 25% of Republican women who support abortion rights are not religious.

¹ On behalf of Planned Parenthood Texas, Change Research surveyed 606 Republican and lean Republican women statewide who are likely to vote in 2022 and 305 Hispanic women from South Texas who are likely to vote in 2022 from September 13-21, 2022. Respondents were recruited into an online survey instrument via Dynamic Online Sampling (targeted online advertisements) and via SMS. The Hispanic women in South Texas were recruited in English and in Spanish, and all respondents were given the option to take the survey in Spanish or English once they entered the survey instrument. The modeled margin of error for the GOP women is 4.5% and post-stratification was done on age, ethnicity, region, and education. The modeled margin of error for the South Texas Hispanic Women is 6.1% and post-stratification was done on age, region, education, and 2020 vote choice.

Abortion rights are a voting issue for many of these women: 63% of South Texas Hispanic women and 14% of Republican women say they will support candidates who support abortion rights in November. Critically, 96% of these South Texas Hispanic women and 77% of these GOP women are *more* motivated to vote as a result of Dobbs.

The GOP women who support abortion rights are noticeably different from their abortion opponent counterparts. They are less partisan (40% strong GOP v. 70% for abortion opponents), less likely to be seniors (34% versus 44%), and more likely to be non-religious (25% v. 7%). Though they are less likely to be Evangelical (13% versus 26%), they are not less likely to be Catholic. The South Texas Hispanic Women who believe abortion should be illegal are also more likely to be Republicans (58% v 7%), more likely to be over 50 (71% v. 51%), less likely to be non-religious (9% v. 20%), and more likely to be Evangelical (20% v. 3%) compared to their pro-abortion rights counterparts. Interestingly, Catholics make up a greater share of South Texas Hispanic women who think abortion should be legal, while Evangelicals are unified in opposition to abortion.

In the wake of Dobbs, protecting abortion rights is now a top issue of importance for South Texas Hispanic women, along with safety from gun violence. Presently, 9% of GOP women rate protecting abortion rights as a top issue of importance. That number is higher for the roughly one-in-three GOP women who believe that abortion should be legal (22%).

Which THREE of the following issues are the most important issues facing Texas?

	South TX Hispanic Women	TX GOP Women	TX GOP Women + Abortion Legal
Protecting abortion rights	48	9	22
Safety from gun violence	55	4	9
Immigration & border security	30	79	70
Fixing the electric grid	27	24	27
The cost of groceries and gas	32	40	39
Health care costs	27	12	20
Crime & public safety	16	33	9
K-12 education funding	17	8	9
The cost of housing and rent	20	14	17
Property taxes	14	26	25
Protecting the Second Amendment	10	34	25
Parental rights in schools	3	17	8

Majorities of GOP women and South Texas Hispanic women disapprove of each anti-abortion measure passed and proposed by Texas GOP politicians tested in this survey. They are particularly opposed to life sentences for doctors that perform an abortion to save a woman’s life or in a case of rape or incest, as well as efforts to outlaw some forms of contraception.

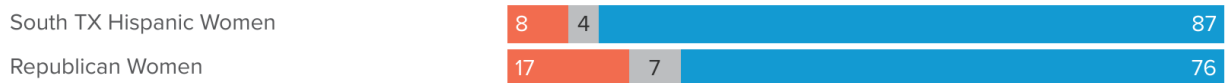
Based on what you know, do you support or oppose each of the following?

● Support ● Not sure ● Oppose

A life sentence for a doctor who performs an abortion to save the life of the mother.



A life sentence for a doctor who performs an abortion, even in case of rape or incest.



Outlawing certain methods of birth control like emergency contraception, including Plan B, and inter-uterine devices, also called IUDs



Banning all abortions, no matter how early in pregnancy and no matter the reason, including instances of rape, incest, or when the life of the patient is at risk.



Making it illegal for Texas women to cross state lines to receive an abortion.



SB8, the new Texas abortion law banning abortion at 6 weeks into a pregnancy, typically just two weeks after a missed period – without exception for rape or incest, and allowing any person to sue a Texan who assists a woman in getting an abortion after that period.



Criminalizing abortion.



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