

December 2021

Dear Friends and Supporters,

If next year is anything like this past year, we certainly will not be at lack for anything to do. This month's Educational Update attempts to briefly bring into perspective the challenges we face in a disintegrating culture. We do not address the uncontrolled riots, looting and defunding of the police. We do not address the condemnation of due process and commendation of double jeopardy by liberals and celebrities when they disagree with the findings of juries. These are serious issues. We do address the issues for which SLI was formed *viz.*, religious freedom, sanctity of life, parental rights, and related constitutional issues.

Whether increased Covid deaths, the debacle in Afghanistan, inflation or you name it, Biden takes no blame. It is always someone else's fault. Maybe that is what he really thinks, since he often appears not to be aware of what is happening. This is also convenient for his handlers, since they are nameless and faceless to most of us. The consequence is that we are all harmed and the mainline media glosses over it. Very convenient for those who want to re-make America. To do that, religious freedom must go.

By the time you receive this newsletter, SCOTUS will have heard oral arguments in the case of *Dobbs v Jackson Woman's Health Organization*. We expect an opinion to be handed down in June 2022. As you know, that law prohibits abortions as low as fifteen weeks, which is below the viability standard required by *Roe v Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. We will provide a summary of arguments made to the court and questions from the justices in an Educational Update very soon. While it is not possible to predict what courts will do, we may be able to offer some insights.

In the meantime, the Texas case of *Whole Woman's Health v Austin Reeve Jackson* was heard by SCOTUS on a procedural challenge. It lowers the time for abortion to about six weeks, again below the viability standard. The issues before the court were procedural. We do not expect a decision overturning *Roe* and *Casey*. Again, we cannot predict. As of the time of this newsletter, a decision has not been released.

Thank you for your continuing support of our effort throughout the year. It is very important to us. We look forward to our partnership in the coming new year.

We wish you a Blessed Christmas and Happy New Year.

Yours very truly,

A. Eric Johnston

*The Southeast Law Institute, Inc.™ is a 501(c)(3) organization providing legal counsel on constitutional and public policy issues.*