A "HUGE BLOW TO WOMEN’S HUMAN RIGHTS" WARNS BACHELET

Friday’s decision by the US Supreme Court which overturns the 50-year-old Roe v Wade judgement guaranteeing access to abortion across the United States, was described by the UN human rights chief as “a huge blow to women’s human rights and gender equality.”

24 June  | UN News  | According to the agencies’ 2022 State of World Population report, nearly half of all pregnancies worldwide are unintended, and over 60 per cent of these may end in abortion. Access to safe, legal and effective abortion is firmly rooted in international human right law and is at the core of women and girls’ autonomy, and ability to make their own choices about their bodies and lives, free of discrimination, violence and coercion.

The widely anticipated Supreme Court decision, by six votes to three, was made in the specific case of Dobbs v Jackson Women’s Health, and Michelle Bachelet said in a statement that it represents a “major setback” for sexual and reproductive health across the US. The historic decision returns all questions of legality and access to abortion, to the individual states.

UNFPA said that it feared that more unsafe abortions will occur around the world if access becomes more restricted. WHO echoed the message on their official Twitter account, reminding that removing barriers to abortion “protects women’s lives, health and human rights”.

Read more.
At SHEM we link citizens, public health and healthcare advocates, scientists, academics, and related institutions from all regions, cultures, and ideologies pursuing the universal right to health. We aim to promote sustainable health equity as an ethical principle that guides all national and international economic, social, and environmental policies.

**ENDEAVOURS**

**25 AUG | SHEM Annual Assembly**

In the month of July, SHEM will complete 2 years of intense and meaningful activities in the fight for sustainable health equity.

On 25 August 2022, our members will gather virtually to present the movement’s main achievements, debate important topics, and propose new initiatives for the coming year.

More details on the event and how you can participate to be shared soon. **Stay tuned!**

**POINT OF VIEW**

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