

## **Badass Feminist Leaders And Activists Across The Country Rise Up For Roe! Through National Tour**

**08.27.18**



### **For Immediate Release:**

August 27, 2018

**Contact:** [RiseUp@precisionstrategies.com](mailto:RiseUp@precisionstrategies.com)

### **Badass Feminist Leaders and Activists Across The Country Rise Up For Roe! Through National Tour**

*Handmaids, Celebrities, Senators, feminist thought leaders and thousands of women Rise Up For Roe through 10-City, 14-Day national tour to call out Brett Kavanaugh's threat to abortion rights*

**Washington, DC** – On August 11, women leaders and activists, with the support of Demand Justice Initiative, Planned Parenthood Action Fund and NARAL Pro-Choice America, kicked off the Rise Up For Roe Tour. The tour brought together women from cities across America to raise the

alarm about Donald Trump's nominee to the Supreme Court, Brett Kavanaugh, and rally the cry across the country to rise up and protect Roe v. Wade as Trump's Supreme Court nominee poses the greatest threat to abortion rights in America since Roe was decided.

The tour proved to be a high-energy, unvarnished discussion about the stakes for women in the Supreme Court. Tour hosts and badass feminists like Lauren Duca, Symone Sanders, Brittany Packnett, Jessica Morales Rocketto and Jess McIntosh made one thing very clear: If Brett Kavanaugh is confirmed to the Supreme Court, abortion care as we know it will end in America and it is up to women to stop that from happening.

- 2,000+ women and their allies from across America came together to raise their voice against Kavanaugh and his threat to Roe v. Wade and access to safe and legal abortion.
- 10 women from 10 different cities shared their personal stories about their abortions. The stories ranged from accessing illegal abortion before Roe v Wade was decided to making decisions about their health care without stigma or judgement.
- 5 medical professionals who provide safe, legal abortion spoke about the importance of keeping abortion legal and that all pregnant people are able to receive the care they need with compassion. They elevated why it's critical that providers and people who have abortions are supported and respected and do not fear or experience judgment, stigma, discrimination, violence, or criminalization.
- 18 women activists, including 2 Senators, 1 actress, 1 journalist, 1 former governor, spoke out about the real threat to their lives and the lives of women around the country Kavanaugh's nomination poses.

Women across the country are angry and they have had enough. They have seen their rights and the rights of those they love attacked time and again by the Trump administration and the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh is the latest assault. So, women leaders and activists worked with Demand Justice Initiative, Planned Parenthood Action Fund, and NARAL Pro-Choice America launched the Rise Up For Roe national tour to rally women and allies, and detail exactly what is at stake with the nomination of Kavanaugh. The 10-city, 14-day tour kicked off in New York City on August 11 and wrapped up Friday in Des Moines, Iowa to call on Sen. Grassley to listen help support women and oppose Kavanaugh on the Supreme Court.

Following the tour, all three organizations joined with other progressive groups across the country for Unite For Justice, a national day of action on August 26 to demand that Senators stand up and stop the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh. The more than 200 events in all 50 states made this day the largest single day of protest against a Supreme Court nominee in history. Together, Rise Up For Roe and Unite For Justice brought tens of thousands of women and their allies from every part of the country together to protect their rights and the rights of all people that would be harmed by Kavanaugh on the Supreme Court.

In their own words and in the media, the badass women leaders and activists of Rise Up For Roe fought to protect women's rights across the country and called for a Supreme Court Justice that would protect everyone's rights.

- ***The "Rise Up For Roe" Tour Brings The Battle Over Trump's SCOTUS Pick To Your City***, from [Bustle](#) on July 30: "Abortion rights advocates fear Kavanaugh would help dismantle Roe v. Wade if he's confirmed to the bench by the U.S. Senate. If Roe were overturned, 22 states risk losing access to abortion completely, according to the Center for Reproductive Rights... Organizers of the Rise Up For Roe tour hope to gin up enough public pressure from women voters to block his confirmation before then."
- **Chelsea Clinton**, Clinton Foundation Vice Chair, in New York City on August 11: "Whether you fundamentally care about reproductive rights and access right, because these are not the same thing, if you care about social justice or economic justice, agency – you have to care about this."
- **Dr. Glenmarie Matthews**, abortion care provider and member of Physicians for Reproductive Health, in New York City on August 11: "As an immigrant woman of color, I became an abortion provider because I believe that women have the right to make decisions with dignity and with respect—and that woman of all races have the right to equal health care."
- **Sen. Elizabeth Warren** in Boston on August 13: "[Overturning Roe v. Wade] will mean wealthy women will still get abortions. ... And it will be hardworking women who will get crushed under a change in the law."
- **Wendy Robinson**, a Boston resident who received an abortion when she was 17 before Roe v. Wade was decided, in Boston on August 13: "My story's not as horrific as many other women's. But nobody should have to depend on luck to get a safe abortion."
- **Jess McIntosh**, Shareblue Media Executive Editor, in Washington, DC on August 15: "The first lie is that we don't know what Kavanaugh will do on Roe v Wade. The second lie is that we can't stop him; we can stop him. Remember we've had some victories, we stopped the repeal of the Obamacare. We did that. And we did that without having either chamber of Congress or the White House, the exact scenario that we're in now. And we did it by flooding the Senate phone lines."
- ***Gillibrand urges opposition to Kavanaugh: Fight for abortion rights 'is now or never'***, from [The Hill](#) on August 15: "Wednesday's rally marked the fourth stop on the abortion rights event's 10-city tour, which aims to stop Kavanaugh's confirmation to the high court. Brian Fallon, a former campaign press secretary for 2016 Democratic presidential nominee Hillary Clinton, said the events are intended to "explain the stakes" of Kavanaugh's nomination and to "get people believing that this is a winnable fight, despite what they're hearing out of Washington."
- **Ilyse Hogue**, Executive Director of NARAL Pro-Choice America, in Washington, DC on August 15: "There is a whole suite of laws that serve zero purpose except to shame and humiliate women for trying to take agency over our own lives... It's all designed around shame... What

really clicked for me is the shame I was meant to feel around my abortion, I also felt around my miscarriages. And all of a sudden I realized, that's this friggin patriarchal structure making me feel like I was put on this Earth to do one single thing. And if I choose not to I'm suspect, and if I can't I'm a failure. And those laws have to go, that mentality has to go. It's all gotta go."

- **Wendy Davis**, former Texas State Senator, in [Elle](#) ahead of the Austin event on August 16: "The political forces supporting Kavanaugh's appointment aren't just trying to end abortion. They're trying to stop women from controlling our own lives, families, and futures. They are dead-set on making sure that women will remain unequal in the eyes of the law, society, and the economy. Their success will devastate any hope that we have of living to our fullest potential. So, yes, the stakes are high and our voices are needed as much, if not more, than they've ever been."
- **While You Weren't Looking: 5 stories from the Trump administration that aren't about Omarosa**, from [Mic](#) on August 17: "The [CNN] poll found fewer than 3 in 10 women support the confirmation of Kavanaugh, whose symbolic association with overturning the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade decision has become the defining feature of his nomination to the Supreme Court. The Roe ruling is overwhelmingly popular, with even a slim majority of Republicans supporting it. Now, ahead of the midterm elections, women have been mounting an impassioned defense of their reproductive rights, even launching a 10-city Rise Up For Roe tour aimed at raising awareness about their embattled abortion rights."
- **Alyssa Milano**, actress and activist, in Los Angeles on August 18: "I think the fact that we're even talking about this is f—king absurd... We've seen what happens when people come together to support each other. We all have our own platforms ... and we have to be able to educate and empower people to make the right choices."
- **Cecile Richards**, former president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America, in Los Angeles on August 18: "What we do know is that when decisions are made like overturning Roe that Judge Kavanaugh would be a part of, it doesn't affect wealthy women ... the folks that are going to be affected are those that have the least access to healthcare, civil liberties, everything. That's why this is about equality and justice."
- **Alyssa Milano protests Kavanaugh in 'Handmaid's Tale' costume**, in [The Hill](#) on August 19: "Actress and activist Alyssa Milano on Sunday shared a photo of her dressed up like one of the characters in "The Handmaid's Tale" to protest President Trump's Supreme Court nominee, Brett Kavanaugh. Milano posted the picture of herself in the signature red cloak and white hat associated with handmaids, the oppressed women from Margaret Atwood's 1987 novel and hit Hulu television show."



[@Alyssa\\_Milano](#)

- **Dawn Laguens**, Executive Vice President and Chief Brand Officer of Planned Parenthood, in Denver on August 22: “For 101 years, the big idea of Planned Parenthood has been ‘Your body is your own, and if it’s not, you’re not free and you’re not equal.’ That’s what’s behind it. They don’t want us to be free, and they don’t want us to be equal. And shame and stigma is just one of the jail cells they’re willing to put us in.”
- **Lauren Duca**, Journalist, in Des Moines on August 24: “Reproductive rights are essential to democracy. There is no room for compromise on that. There are too many conversations that purport to be progressive that think they can dismiss a woman’s right to choose as a social issue that maybe will or will not be incorporated into the platform and that’s nonsense... without reproductive rights that are real in terms of access and not just legal, we cannot even begin to talk about a truly equitable society.”

###



Next Post

## Seven More Progressive Groups Join "Whip The Vote" To Push Democratic Senators To Unite Against...



© 2019 Demand Justice

**Paid for by Demand Justice**

Made by **Wide Eye**