



NATIONAL

‘Abortion is self-care’: Texas billboard’s message to black women sparks outrage

BY MATTHEW MARTINEZ

SEPTEMBER 01, 2018 10:51 AM



women themselves. We are for complete autonomy. COMPLETE AUTONOMY. 100%, with no caveats.

If the word abortion feels like a dog whistle, sit back and ask yourself who programmed you to react that way.

Have a blessed day 🙏

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A black women's advocacy group has put up a pro-choice billboard in Dallas that opponents say targets black women for abortions. THE AFIYA CENTER FACEBOOK SCREENSHOT

A billboard in Dallas is asking passersby to #TrustBlackWomen.

Specifically in this case, to trust a black women's advocacy group that is putting its pro-choice stance on display .

The billboard features three smiling black women and the tagline, "Black women take care of their families by taking care of themselves." And in bigger, bolder letters: "Abortion is self-care."

The billboard was paid for by the advocacy group [The Afiya Center](#), which focuses on black women's reproductive rights and health. It went up about a month after another controversial billboard paid for by an anti-abortion group in the black community.

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“[Abortion is not healthcare](#),” said the earlier billboard along U.S. 75, put up by Pastor Stephen Broden and the [Black Pro-Life Coalition](#). “It hurts women and murders their babies.”



Stephen E
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Court nominee is a
Abortion is not hea
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565

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Cathy Marie
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The Black Pro-Life Coalition put the “Abortion is not healthcare” billboard up in Dallas in July. Stephen Broden *FACEBOOK SCREENSHOT*

The Afiya Center’s billboard was intended to advocate for a woman’s “complete autonomy” in the abortion decision, according to a [statement from The Afiya Center](#) on its Facebook page.

“We are unapologetic in our approach and fight hard to change the harmful reproductive health and abortion policies that directly impact the lives of Black women,” [The Afiya Center](#) says on its website.



The Afiya Center
about 2 years ago



Plot Twist: The Afiya Center has ALWAYS supported women having access to the FULL SPECTRUM OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE SERVICES. Period. This billboard is just a physical representation of language we've been using this whole time. We believe the ONLY people who can make decisions about women's bodies are the women themselves. We are for complete autonomy. COMPLETE AUTONOMY. 100%, with no caveats. If the word abortion feels like a dog whistle, sit back and ask yourself who programmed you to react that way.

Have a blessed day

273

122

340

And many agree with that stance.



Ghazaleh Moayed, DO, MPH
@dr_moayed

I saw this billboard from [@TheAfiyaCtr](#) the other day and I screamed in joy: "Abortion is self-care" YES!!! We are having this conversation in Texas y'all!!!!



702 8:39 AM - Aug 29, 2018

[135 people are talking about this](#)



jessica jin
[@jessicajin_](#)

Please show [@TheAfyaCtr](#) some love today. They are getting a massive amount of flak for putting this brave and necessary billboard up in Dallas. Women deserve to have access to the full spectrum of reproductive health services. This is especially dire in Texas. [#TrustBlackWomen](#).



27 1:25 PM - Aug 29, 2018

[17 people are talking about this](#)

But among folks who don't agree, the social media blowback has been swift and far-reaching, with some tweets on the topic being retweeted thousands of times.



Obianuju Ekeocha
[@obianuju](#)

The boldness of abortion-racism.
Black communities are being targeted by the abortion industry with black women 3times more likely to abort their babies than white women.

Yet, here is a billboard campaign to glamorize the killing of black babies.

Dear sisters, wake up & walk away.

[twitter.com/DOEDoobs/statu...](https://twitter.com/DOEDoobs/status/1034444444444444444)

💰💰 **President Hotep Doobs** 💰💰 @DOEDoobs

So, my bro sent me this billboard.

This group is advertising abortions to black women like it's a much needed spa day.

If you don't think this is propaganda, then the shit is working better than I ever imagined.



2,315 10:48 PM - Aug 28, 2018

[1,225 people are talking about this](#)



Lila Rose

@LilaGraceRose

This is a billboard in Dallas, TX, trying to convince Black women to exterminate themselves.

The abortion lobby's war against Blacks is real.

Blacks make up 13% of the population, but endure 35% of abortions.

In NYC, a Black baby is more likely to be aborted than to be born.



1,101 11:09 AM - Aug 30, 2018

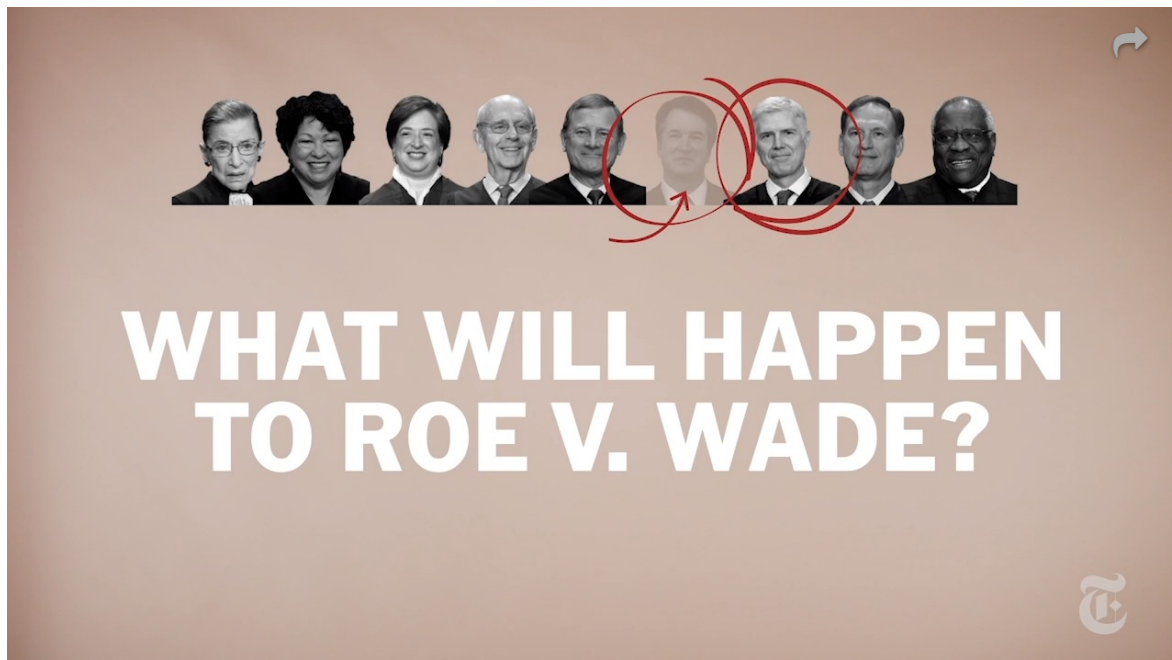
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In the past few years, according to Vox, anti-abortion movements [in the black community](#) have gained larger followings, driven by an “abortion as black genocide” argument.

That argument is centered on statistics that say women of color are [five times more likely](#) to terminate a pregnancy than white women, as reported by The Atlantic.

The Afiya Center’s Facebook post, dated Tuesday, came in response to some of the negative feedback the group received after the billboard went up.

The group asked in [the comments section of their post](#), “Do y’all realize the only women who seem to be very against black women accessing the full spectrum of reproductive healthcare services are.....black women? Who taught y’all that the only way to live was your way? Who taught y’all that the only way to engage with other women was to tear them down? When you engage with another woman is this how you act?”)



Will a Supreme Court with two Trump-appointed justices overrule the right to an abortion? It’s possible, but not the most likely outcome. Adam Liptak, The Times’s Supreme Court reporter, explains. BY NEW YORK TIMES

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This reporter had no idea that Facebook Live filters were on him during his report



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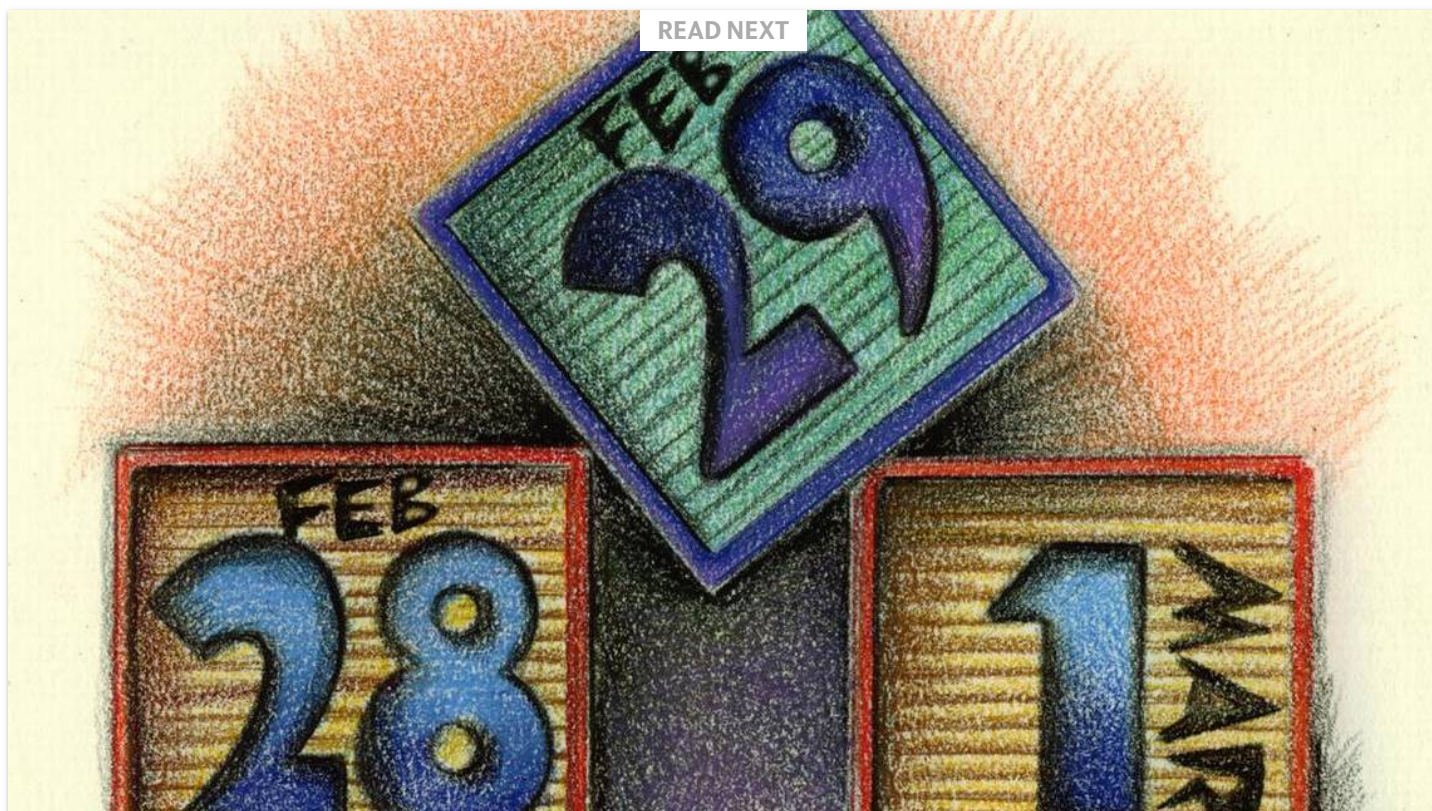
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NATIONAL

Free food for Leap Day? Here's where to get the best — and tastiest — deals

BY DAWSON WHITE

FEBRUARY 28, 2020 08:02 AM



Leap Day is fast approaching and several restaurants and companies are offering free deals to mark the occasion that only comes around once every four years. Here's what you need to know.

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