

Pro-life and pro-choice advocates rally at Capitol

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Amber Downing, KVUE 10:24 p.m. CST January 24, 2015

AUSTIN -- The Texas State Capitol grounds were a battlefield for two groups with opposing views on abortion Saturday. It comes at the 42nd anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in Roe v. Wade case to allow abortions.

Thousands of feet marching toward the state capitol, toward a goal of eliminating abortions in Texas.

"So many people are murdering babies that can't defend themselves," said pro-life advocate Jan Dixon. "Somebody's got to stand up."

At the same time, on the north side of the capitol, a pro-choice rally with about 800 supporters.

"It's critical to be here today to protect a woman's right to have autonomy over their own bodies, to have safe, legal and accessible health care," said pro-choice advocate Abe Louise Young.

Each year passionate people on both sides of this debate gather at the Texas State Capitol. Some celebrating, some mourning the anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in the Roe versus Wade case to make abortions legal.

This year, First Lady of Texas, Cecilia Abbott spoke to the crowd about her family's strong stance against abortion and their goals to make it illegal.

"With the grace of God and your continuing commitment, we will defend life in Texas," Abbott said.



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Pro-life supporters pack downtown streets

Abe Louis Young, a pro-choice advocate who wears hangers attached to her pants as a symbol, worries banning abortion completely would be a step backward.

"They died in large numbers by attempting to end their pregnancies themselves," said Young.

Pro-lifers say that's just not the case, that women still die during abortions in clinics.

"How many women and girls die in abortion clinics, and die as a result of legal abortions?" said Nadine Cowey, a pro-life advocate.

With emotions high on all sides, it's a debate that will rage on in Texas.

Legislators will consider several bills this session relating to abortion. For example, one asks to eliminate the one-day waiting period before getting the procedure. Another looks to change information given to women seeking an abortion.

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