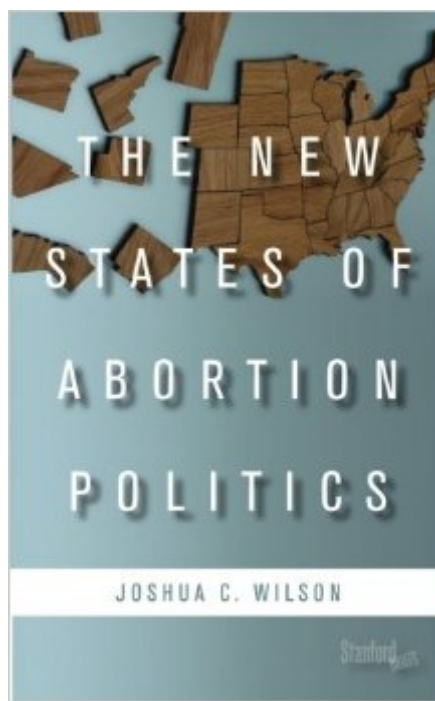


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# The New States Of Abortion Politics



## Synopsis

The 2014 Supreme Court ruling on *McCullen v. Coakley* striking down a Massachusetts law regulating anti-abortion activism marked the reengagement of the Supreme Court in abortion politics. A throwback to the days of clinic-front protests, the decision seemed a means to reinvigorate the old street politics of abortion. The Court's ruling also highlights the success of a decades' long effort by anti-abortion activists to transform the very politics of abortion. The *New States of Abortion Politics*, written by leading scholar Joshua C. Wilson, tells the story of this movement, from streets to legislative halls to courtrooms. With the end of clinic-front activism, lawyers and politicians took on the fight. Anti-abortion activists moved away from a doomed frontal assault on *Roe v. Wade* and adopted an incremental strategy—putting anti-abortion causes on the offensive in friendly state forums and placing reproductive rights advocates on the defense in the courts. The Supreme Court ruling on *Whole Woman's Health v. Hellerstedt* in 2016 makes the stakes for abortion politics higher than ever. This book elucidates how—and why.

## Book Information

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Stanford Briefs (June 8, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 080479202X

ISBN-13: 978-0804792028

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.4 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Best Sellers Rank: #506,211 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #103 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Women's Studies > Abortion & Birth Control #721 in Books > Law > Constitutional Law > General #1463 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Public Affairs & Policy > Social Services & Welfare

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