



News Release

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Attorney Who Argued *Roe v. Wade* to Deliver Keynote Address at Women's Reproductive Rights Conference at Thomas Jefferson School of Law

Reproductive Justice Still Hot Topic as 40th Anniversary of Landmark Case Approaches

SAN DIEGO – Reproductive rights is the focus of Thomas Jefferson School of Law's 12th Annual Women and the Law Conference on Friday, February 24, 2012. The highlight of the conference will be the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, which will be delivered by Dr. Sarah Weddington, the Texas attorney who made history when she successfully argued the landmark *Roe v. Wade* case before the United States Supreme Court.

The public is invited to attend this timely conference, titled "Reproductive Justice: Examining Choice and Autonomy in the New Millennium," to hear Dr. Weddington as the 40th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade* approaches next January. In that still controversial case, the Court ruled that a right of privacy under the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution extends to a woman's decision to have an abortion, thus making abortion a fundamental right.

The conference will examine the implications of the landmark case and subsequent decisions on choice and their impact on all areas of reproductive justice. Other renowned scholars from across the country will discuss a panoply of reproductive justice topics including: restrictions on the right to abortion by both the federal government and by various states since *Roe v. Wade*; realignment of women's health care under the Affordable Care Act; state oversight and abuses of poor, pregnant women; the international surrogacy market; contracts in third party reproduction; discrimination against breastfeeding mothers; parentage rules on children born to same-sex couples; gene patents; and fetal DNA testing.

Thomas Jefferson School of Law and the Women and the Law Project presented the first Women and the Law Conference in 2001, and in 2003 established the conference's Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture Series, with the support of Associate Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

This full-day conference will take place at the new, state-of-the-art campus of Thomas Jefferson School of Law, located at 1155 Island Avenue in the East Village area of downtown San Diego near Petco Park.

Those attending the conference will be provided a continental breakfast and lunch, and the conference will be followed by a reception at which attendees may meet the speakers. California attorneys can earn 5.5 hours of MCLE credit for attending this conference.

To register and for more information, please visit <http://www.tjst.edu/conferences/wlc>

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