

Why do we care?

In **Arkansas**, the Republican legislature has banned all abortions. This is cruel in a state with the 3rd highest maternal mortality rate in the country. 71% of the women dying during childbirth are Black. Racism, sexism, and inequitable practices kill Black mothers, and banning abortion without consideration for the health and well-being of the mother will only exacerbate existing inequalities and kill even more women.

In Arkansas, one in four children are below the poverty line. Forcing women to give birth against their will is going to put more children in desperate conditions. Without universal healthcare and pre-K, our country including Arkansas is grossly ill-equipped for the babies anti-choice leaders claim to be saving. Banning abortion doesn't save lives. It kills lives.

What can we do? Write letters! Here's a sample letter:

Dear Republican Senator _____,

I am writing out of concern for the safety and well-being of the girls and women in your state. Now that your state has severely restricted abortion, women will resort to desperate measures risking their lives in the process. History proves that outlawing abortion does not stop unwanted pregnancies. Women will die. I urge you to reconsider your position and pass the Women's Health Act. On behalf of female voters everywhere, it's not too late.

Sincerely,

<https://www.axios.com/2022/06/25/abortion-illegal-7-states-more-bans-coming>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/parenting/2022/05/06/support-in-states-banning-abortion/>