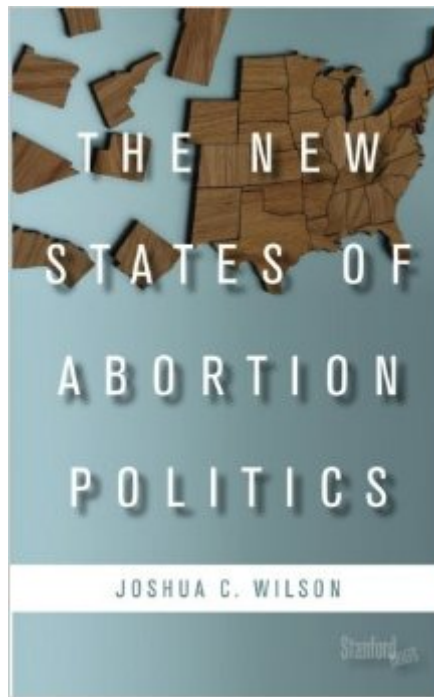


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# The New States Of Abortion Politics



## 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.

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