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MILWAUKEE JEWISH COUNCIL POSITION ON ABORTION

For the Jewish community the issue of abortion poses grave moral and ethical questions that must be resolved within the context of Jewish law and tradition. While traditional Judaism has prohibited abortion, Jewish law nevertheless insists on having each case treated individually and given due consideration, as there are always life and death issues involved or the possibility of grave physical or mental injury that might be harmful to life.

Rabbis of the major branches of Judaism in the United States will counsel members of their own congregations in accordance with their views of Jewish law. Such decisions must be made without intrusion by the government into what is essentially a right of individual and religious conscience protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

The Milwaukee Jewish Council therefore opposes the use of law to deny American citizens the right and the responsibility of making decisions about abortion in accordance with their religious beliefs and personal convictions. We also oppose efforts currently underway to amend the constitution of the United States to overcome the decision of the United States Supreme Court in Roe vs. Wade.