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Student Profile: 2020 Grad Douglas Reddick

Field of Law Sought: Criminal law, family law, white-collar crime, environmental law, and international law

Desired Practice Location: Miami, Florida

Student Profile: 2020 Grad Tiffany Osei-Owusu

Field of Law Sought: Employment law or any practice area that will allow her to help formerly incarcerated people

Desired Practice Location: Florida

June Medical Services v. Russo

On June 29, 2020, the Supreme Court of the United States maintained its decisions on abortion rights. It overturned a Louisiana law that was so severe as to make it near-impossible for a woman to obtain an abortion. In their majority opinion, the Court, led by Chief Justice John Roberts, found that the law was unconstitutional. The opinion called for the Court to strike down the law and allow abortions to resume, saying that the law violated the Constitution and was an unreasonable burden on women seeking an abortion.

Professor Mary Ziegler, an expert on the abortion debate, has been the go-to expert on the case. The most recent book, the timely Supreme Court Abortion Case, is an account of the events that followed the appointment of Justice Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court. Ziegler’s international reputation stems from the three books and numerous articles she has written on the legal history of the abortion debate. Her most recent book, The Case for Abortion Rights, is essential reading and is available on Amazon.


The chief justice of the Supreme Court infuriated conservatives with a much-anticipated opinion in June Medical Services v. Russo, a case that was decided along ideological lines. The court struck down a Louisiana law that would have sharply restricted access to abortion services. For one project, Osei-Owusu interviewed formerly incarcerated women and collected information about their time in jail. The summer after her 2L year, Osei-Owusu interned at a criminal justice law firm.

The court’s decision in the June Medical Services v. Russo case may seem to undermine Roe v. Wade, but it is not clear how the decision will impact abortion rights in the future. The court’s decision in the case did not address the constitutionality of abortion laws in other states or the federal constitution, which remains a possible avenue for future Supreme Court challenges. For more information, see Ira Stahl’s article in the New York Times, "The Supreme Court’s Minimalist Approach to Roe v. Wade."