

Reproaction

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P.O. Box 7435
Arlington, VA 22207

August 30, 2018

The Office of Senator Joseph Manchin, III
306 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Manchin,

Many different parties have urged your vote on Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court in one direction or the other using severe language and invoking dire consequences for the outcome of his appointment to the highest court of the land.

Are you aware, however, that the group calling itself the 'Pro-Life Court Coalition' – which has held rallies and press conferences attempting to influence your vote – welcomes Operation Rescue in its leadership? This is a national group whose president, Troy Newman, has called for executing abortion providers and called women who have abortions "contract killer(s)," and whose senior vice president, Cheryl Sullenger, served two years in prison for attempting to bomb an abortion clinic and later helped abortion provider Dr. George Tiller's murderer track court hearings for Dr. Tiller before his murderer entered his church and shot him in the face.

It is for this reason that we are asking you to explicitly disavow the pro-Kavanaugh rally held outside your office in Charleston on July 10, and a press conference targeting your vote in Wheeling on August 29. These events were led in part by Operation Rescue, which is an open member of the 'Pro-Life Court Coalition' that has been convened by the Susan B. Anthony List.

As an abortion access and reproductive justice organization with more than 34,000 supporters, we are writing to express our extreme concern that you might entertain the wishes of bona fide terrorists in your decision-making, and see their organizing efforts as mere expressions of grassroots support for overturning *Roe v. Wade* from people in West Virginia rather than part of a national plan of ending abortion through all means, including bombing, murder, and violence. We are calling on you to immediately denounce the efforts and organizing of any groups conspiring with terrorists to confirm Kavanaugh, and we urge you to vote with the will of the majority of Americans who believe he does not belong on the court.

Make no mistake: A vote for Kavanaugh is a vote with anti-abortion terrorists, and a vote against women and Americans more broadly. This decision should be painfully easy for you to make.

Sincerely,

Erin Matson and Pamela Merritt
Co-Founders and Co-Directors, Reproaction