

## Republicans Put Out a Contract on Women's Rights

*Letter to the Editor, Brunswick Beacon, 09.05.21*

A woman's right to control her own body is guaranteed by the [14<sup>th</sup> Amendment's right to privacy](#). The Supreme Court said so in 1973, declaring Texas' previous abortion ban unconstitutional. But Texas Republicans have come up with a [scheme](#) for obliterating not just a woman's right to choose, but other rights, too. They've issued a warrant on women's Constitutional rights, and offered a bounty for implementing it.

[The new Texas law](#) bans most abortions after six weeks — without exceptions for rape or incest — but bars state employees from enforcing it. Instead, it “deputizes” private citizens to spy on, then sue anyone who performs an abortion, pays for one, helps a woman get one, or drives her to a clinic. As reward, Texas offers a bounty of \$10,000/head, plus legal fees, paid by defendants.

Incredibly, [five Republican-appointed members](#) of the Supreme Court went along with this horrifying charade, pretending that because Texas won't enforce the law, they can't intervene. It's the equivalent of hiring a hitman and getting away with it because you didn't pull the trigger.

So, victims of rape or incest, and every other woman who chooses to have an abortion, are now under the heel of forced-birth mercenaries in Texas — Constitutional rights be damned.

Beware North Carolinians: other states with Republican governors and/or Republican-led legislatures [are eager to use the Texas template](#). They're clamoring to codify vigilantism, strip women of their personhood, and tie their doctors' hands. Our own Congressman Rouzer has co-sponsored [HR 541](#), which would defund Planned Parenthood.

The Republicans' current Most Wanted Poster targets women. But, given Texas' vigilante scheme, and the GOP-appointed Supreme Court majority's willingness to [“bury their heads in the sand,”](#) whose rights will be in their crosshairs next?

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