

## The *Johnson v. Wyoming II* Case

**Case Name:** *Johnson v. Wyoming II*

**Case Status:** Oral argument to be heard at the Wyoming Supreme Court on Dec. 12, 2023.

**Significance:** Whether the state of Wyoming can protect unborn children from elective abortions.



**Background:** In March of 2023, The Life is a Human Right Act was signed into law, protecting unborn human life from its earliest stages, with exceptions for cases of rape or incest, when the mother's life is at risk, or when the child is diagnosed with certain lethal fetal abnormalities. Additional provisions in the law protect procedures that preserve the health of an unborn child, provide treatment for ectopic pregnancies, and permit cancer or disease treatment for a pregnant mother if necessary. Another new law also protects the health and safety of women and girls against the dangers of chemical abortion drugs, with the same exceptions. However, pro-abortion activists filed a lawsuit to strike down the new laws. Alliance Defending Freedom represents two Wyoming legislators and Right to Life of Wyoming in a motion to intervene to defend the pro-life law.

### Key Points

- The U.S. Supreme Court affirmed that states have a compelling interest in protecting unborn children from abortion.
- Women deserve real healthcare, not dangerous and unnecessary procedures and drugs. Pro-life laws ensure that women aren't put at the heightened risk of death, illness, and [psychological trauma](#) caused by elective abortion.
- Pro-life laws affirm women's dignity and prioritize their physical and emotional health and well-being.

### Key Facts

- Life begins at conception. At just six weeks, an [unborn baby's heart](#) begins to beat. At eight weeks, they have fingers and toes. And at 10 weeks, their unique fingerprints begin to form. States are recognizing their humanity and protecting life at its earliest stages.
- According to the two chemical abortion drug manufacturers, [between 2-7%](#) of those taking chemical abortion drugs will have unsuccessful chemical abortions and/or uncontrollable bleeding, requiring surgical intervention. That means, over the next year, tens of thousands of women will need surgical intervention after taking these drugs.
- The FDA's current label for chemical abortion drugs also states that [between 2.9-4.6%](#) of women will end up in an emergency room.
- [Most women who had](#) abortions say that they would have chosen life if they had more support. Many women reported that their abortions were "[unwanted or coerced](#)," or that they felt "[high levels of pressure](#)" to abort.
- Many times, women taking the drugs are told to "[flush but don't look](#)." Otherwise, they may see the reality of the situation: that the life of a whole, human being—with arms, legs, fingers, toes, and a heartbeat—has ended. This is not healthcare.

**The Bottom Line:** Wyoming should be able to affirm that life is a human right, protecting unborn children and the health and safety of women and girls.