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Roe v. Wade Case Study Assignment

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CASE STUDIES IN HEALTH LAW

Roe v. Wade Case Analysis & Reflection

Due April 20, 2019 by 11:59pm

Purpose: In this assignment you will

- Read and analyze the majority and dissent reasoning in *Roe v. Wade*
- Apply the legal reasoning and holding of *Roe v. Wade* to a hypothetical future case, *Jane v. Florida*
- Reflect on the role of judges in interpreting Constitutional law
- Reflect on the challenges faced by judges
- Reflect on your own knowledge of *Roe v. Wade* and sources of your knowledge, or reflect on accuracy of media portrayals of *Roe v. Wade*

Skills: Through this assignment you will gain practice in

- Traditional case briefing
- Applying precedent to new situations
- Critical thinking about our legal system
- Metacognitive analysis of your own beliefs about the case

Knowledge: The assignment will help you become familiar with

- The majority and dissent reasoning in *Roe v. Wade*
- Traditional case briefing processes

General Instructions: This assignment is to be completed in Webcourses on your own. The assignment has many steps, so make sure to give yourself enough time to complete each step. Do not wait until the last minute.

Specific Instructions:

1. Pre-reading reflection: There are two different pre-reading reflection options, depending on whether or not you are already familiar with *Roe v. Wade* (meaning you know about it and have an opinion about it, even if you have never read the case text before). If you are familiar with *Roe v. Wade*, do pre-reading assignment A. If you are not familiar with *Roe v. Wade*, do pre-reading assignment B.
 - a. Pre-reading assignment A (if you are already familiar with *Roe v. Wade*):
 - i. What do you know about the case already? (2-3 sentences)
 - ii. How do you feel about the case already? (2-3 sentences)
 - iii. What people/groups in your life or personal experiences have influenced your perception of the case? (e.g. family, friends, politicians) (2-3 sentences)
 - b. Pre-reading assignment B (if you are not familiar with *Roe v. Wade*):

- i. Go to Google “News” and type in “Roe v. Wade.” (note: make sure you are in the “news” tab)
 - ii. Pick any news article with the phrase “Roe v. Wade” in the title. Copy the link for the news article and post here.
 - iii. Read the news article.
 - iv. After reading this news article, what do you know about the case? (2-3 sentences)
 - v. After reading this news article, how do you feel about the case? (2-3 sentences)
2. Read the *Roe v. Wade* majority and dissent opinion (you will find it in “files” on Web courses)
3. Case briefing: Create a Case Brief of the *Roe v. Wade* majority opinion. Use the same Case Brief process you have used for other assignments. If you need a refresher, see Case Brief Instructions in “files” on Webcourses.
4. Application: Read the hypothetical case *Jane v. Florida* (available in “files” on Webcourses). Apply the holding and reasoning from *Roe v. Wade* to the hypothetical case. How should the hypothetical case come out? Why? (2-3 sentences)
5. Post-reading reflection: Answer the following reflection questions, with approximately one paragraph for each answer:
 - a. How has your initial understanding of the case changed, if at all, since reading the case majority and dissent opinion? If your understanding of the case has not changed, how has the text of the case re-enforced your original understanding of the case? (1-2 paragraphs)
 - b. How have your feelings about the case changed, if at all, since reading the case majority and dissent opinion? If they have not changed, how has the text of the case confirmed them? (1-2 paragraphs)
 - c. Having applied *Roe v. Wade* to our hypothetical case, do you consider the judicial task of applying case precedent to new situations challenging? Why or why not? How might personal experiences or emotions affect this task? (1-2 paragraphs)

Criteria for success

TASK	Developing	Good	Accomplished
Pre-reading reflection (1-30 points)	Each question has been answered but with only minimal effort	Each question has been answered with adequate effort	Each question has been answered thoughtfully and critically
Case brief (1-30 points)	Case Briefing Instructions have not been followed; Case	Case Briefing Instructions have been followed; Case	Case Briefing Instructions have not been followed; Case

	Brief sections are not completed accurately	Brief sections are mostly accurate with only minor errors	Brief sections are accurate
Application to hypothetical (1-10 points)	Inaccurate application	Accurate application with minimal explanation	Accurate application with clear explanation
Post-reading reflection (1-30 points)	Each question has been answered but with minimal effort	Each question has been answered with adequate effort	Each question has been answered thoughtfully and critically
Grammar/Style (1-5 points)	Major problems in grammar, spelling or style	Minor problems in grammar, spelling or style	No issues in grammar, spelling or style