

2023

AP[®]



AP[®] Research Academic Paper

Sample Student Responses and Scoring Commentary

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Sample I

- Scoring Guidelines**
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AP® Research Academic Paper 2023 Scoring Guidelines

The Response...				
Score of 1 Report on Existing Knowledge	Score of 2 Report on Existing Knowledge with Simplistic Use of a Research Method	Score of 3 Ineffectual Argument for a New Understanding	Score of 4 Well-Supported, Articulate Argument Conveying a New Understanding	Score of 5 Rich Analysis of a New Understanding Addressing a Gap in the Research Base
Presents an overly broad topic of inquiry.	Presents a topic of inquiry with narrowing scope or focus, that is NOT carried through either in the method or in the overall line of reasoning.	Carries the focus or scope of a topic of inquiry through the method AND overall line of reasoning, even though the focus or scope might still be narrowing.	Focuses a topic of inquiry with clear and narrow parameters, which are addressed through the method and the conclusion.	Focuses a topic of inquiry with clear and narrow parameters, which are addressed through the method and the conclusion.
Situates a topic of inquiry within a single perspective derived from scholarly works OR through a variety of perspectives derived from mostly non-scholarly works.	Situates a topic of inquiry within a single perspective derived from scholarly works OR through a variety of perspectives derived from mostly non-scholarly works.	Situates a topic of inquiry within relevant scholarly works of varying perspectives, although connections to some works may be unclear.	Explicitly connects a topic of inquiry to relevant scholarly works of varying perspectives AND logically explains how the topic of inquiry addresses a gap.	Explicitly connects a topic of inquiry to relevant scholarly works of varying perspectives AND logically explains how the topic of inquiry addresses a gap.
Describes a search and report process.	Describes a nonreplicable research method OR provides an oversimplified description of a method, with questionable alignment to the purpose of the inquiry.	Describes a reasonably replicable research method, with questionable alignment to the purpose of the inquiry.	Logically defends the alignment of a detailed, replicable research method to the purpose of the inquiry.	Logically defends the alignment of a detailed, replicable research method to the purpose of the inquiry.
Summarizes or reports existing knowledge in the field of understanding pertaining to the topic of inquiry.	Summarizes or reports existing knowledge in the field of understanding pertaining to the topic of inquiry.	Conveys a new understanding or conclusion, with an underdeveloped line of reasoning OR insufficient evidence.	Supports a new understanding or conclusion through a logically organized line of reasoning AND sufficient evidence. The limitations and/or implications, if present, of the new understanding or conclusion are oversimplified.	Justifies a new understanding or conclusion through a logical progression of inquiry choices, sufficient evidence, explanation of the limitations of the conclusion, and an explanation of the implications to the community of practice.
Generally communicates the student’s ideas, although errors in grammar, discipline-specific style, and organization distract or confuse the reader.	Generally communicates the student’s ideas, although errors in grammar, discipline-specific style, and organization distract or confuse the reader.	Competently communicates the student’s ideas, although there may be some errors in grammar, discipline-specific style, and organization.	Competently communicates the student’s ideas, although there may be some errors in grammar, discipline-specific style, and organization.	Enhances the communication of the student’s ideas through organization, use of design elements, conventions of grammar, style, mechanics, and word precision, with few to no errors.
Cites AND/OR attributes sources (in bibliography/ works cited and/or in-text), with multiple errors and/or an inconsistent use of a discipline-specific style.	Cites AND/OR attributes sources (in bibliography/ works cited and/or in-text), with multiple errors and/or an inconsistent use of a discipline-specific style.	Cites AND attributes sources, using a discipline-specific style (in both bibliography/works cited AND in-text), with few errors or inconsistencies.	Cites AND attributes sources, with a consistent use of an appropriate discipline-specific style (in both bibliography/works cited AND in-text), with few to no errors.	Cites AND attributes sources, with a consistent use of an appropriate discipline-specific style (in both bibliography/works cited AND in-text), with few to no errors.

Academic Paper

Overview

This performance task was intended to assess students' ability to conduct scholarly and responsible research and articulate an evidence-based argument that clearly communicates the conclusion, solution, or answer to their stated research question. More specifically, this performance task was intended to assess students' ability to:

- Generate a focused research question that is situated within or connected to a larger scholarly context or community;
- Explore relationships between and among multiple works representing multiple perspectives within the scholarly literature related to the topic of inquiry;
- Articulate what approach, method, or process they have chosen to use to address their research question, why they have chosen that approach to answering their question, and how they employed it;
- Develop and present their own argument, conclusion, or new understanding while acknowledging its limitations and discussing implications;
- Support their conclusion through the compilation, use, and synthesis of relevant and significant evidence generated by their research;
- Use organizational and design elements to effectively convey the paper's message;
- Consistently and accurately cite, attribute, and integrate the knowledge and work of others, while distinguishing between the student's voice and that of others;
- Generate a paper in which word choice and syntax enhance communication by adhering to established conventions of grammar, usage, and mechanics.

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What are the Effects of Roe v. Wade Being Overturned?

Word Count: 2526

Abstract: The goal of this research question and my studies are to spread awareness on the debate of Roe v. Wade being overturned. Whether this national decision was a positive or negative choice and the future implications we will and are beginning to see. Was this decision made with the thought to actually benefit women? Statistics say “women strongly disapprove of the court's decision(47%) strongly approve(21%) and men 52% disapprove (37%) strongly while 47% approve 28% strongly” - Pew Research Center.

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What are the Effects of Roe v. Wade Being Overturned?

Introduction

On June 24, 2022 Roe V. Wade was overturned leaving it to the individual states to decide whether to ban abortion or limit access to an abortion. Abortion- The intentional termination of a pregnancy before birth. Before the overturning, Roe V. Wade was a national landmark decision made on January 22, 1973 which protected a woman's right to choose to get an abortion. Since then, there have always been strong opinions on the abortion act and whether or not this decision should have been made and if it was made to actually benefit women. Today people who have fought years to protect this law are now having to watch us go back 50 years back to a time where women did not have the right to an abortion at all times. The purpose of this research is to introduce the question of what are the effects of Roe v. Wade being overturned?

The U.S Supreme Court is the highest court of the federal judiciary and is used to make decisions on every case that relates to laws of the United States. The justices that are decided

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are nominated by the president and then would be confirmed by the senate. In this case Roe v. Wade was chosen to be overturned by five justices Samuel J. Alito Jr., Clarence Thomas, Brett M. Kavanaugh, Amy Coney Barrett and Neil Gorsuch. Many women feel as though that since half of the justices that voted to overturn Roe v. Wade were male that was unconstitutional considering that they don't have a uterus. In the voting for Roe v. Wade to be overturned 241 men voted yes and 25 women said yes and 171 men voted no and 60 women said no. These statistics were used by Latimes.com. A common pattern is shown with an overwhelming majority of men wanting the overturning and where many women were fighting to not be overturned. The big debate that men should not have been allowed to vote for overturning will always be hard to decide when women's health is so important and people are turning a blind eye to the loss of abortions and women's basic health. Even popular celebrities are worried about this overturning Billie Eilish's new song "TV" quotes "The internet's gone wild watching movie stars on trial while their overturning Roe v. Wade." Eilish expresses how everyone is focused on Johnny Depp's and Amber Heard's trial while there are bigger issues than the internet gossip and women just lost 50 years of hard work for their rights.

Women not having access to an abortion can show negative and positive effects. The negative effects outweigh the positive. Women not having this access raises a lot of questions for concern. Unfortunately high rises of numbers for sexual assault and rape cases are getting overwhelming. Having to bear a child unwillingly to full term is traumatic. In America roughly 3 million women experience rape related pregnancies during their lifetime (Tennessean.com). Women lacking access to these abortions now are risking women's health and safety. Potentially this overturn will be the reason for the uprise of case numbers. Not only will older women be effected but little girls will be too unfortunately sexual assault has no age and little

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girls tend to be a target. Rape Incest and Abuse network “One in 9 girls and 1 in 20 boys under the age of 18 experience sexual abuse or assault.” Although it is counter argued that only one to two percent of abortions are sexual assault cases we have to take into account that only consists of reported cases also according to Rape Incest Network only 310 out of 1,000 sexual assault cases are reported. Survivors of sexual assault feel violated and not listened too have felt forced to re-live the moment when Roe v. Wade was overturned. This is even a scarier time for women of color considering many people of color already lack access to health care as well as face discrimination and structural barriers. According to Center and Disease Control and Prevention “In 2021, the maternal mortality rate for non-Hispanic Black (subsequently, Black) women was 69.9 deaths per 100,000 live births, 2.6 times the rate for non-Hispanic White (subsequently, White) women (26.6).” With mortality rates involving pregnancy for people of color the sexual assault uprisings are very serious for every women in the world especially women of color. Endsexualviolence.org “ A nationally representative survey indicates that while almost 18% of white women and 7% of Asian/Pacific Islander women will be raped in their lifetimes, almost 19% of black women, 24% of mixed race women, and 34% of American Indian and Alaska Native women will be raped during their lifetimes”. With these numbers being so significant its worrying that so many women face sexual assault in their life. Unfortunately there are cases of rape that women end up pregnant and their life is forever haunted by that memory. What if that happens to a woman and their state does not provide abortions. Women may have to go to a whole other state just to be able to not carry a child they didn't consent to having.

The overturning will also be another reason for economic suffering and lack of medicaid. Most of the states that have banned abortions already suffer economically. ”Only four legally required to cover an extended supply of contraceptives (prevents pregnancy), twenty two poverty rates for

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women are above the national average, nineteen have not expanded medicaid coverage to twelve months postpartum mothers and none guaranteed paid family and medical leave” (American Progress.org). How are women expected to have a child and then take care of that child with lack of medicaid coverage? Lack of abortion care and having to carry a child unwillingly can show high rises of unpaid debt, eviction, irregular pay and simply cant afford to take care of the child. We can also ask the question: what about the baby's dad providing for the baby? Unfortunately many children are raised fatherless due to many circumstances, many including the dad not wanting to have the child. Under law no matter the circumstance the dad has to pay child support to support the child. According to Cbsnews “More than 30 percent of child support payments aren't made, and less than half are paid in full.” These facts allow people to see that mothers can only do so much with what the fathers provide if they provide any. These men gladly leave the girl behind when they have to provide money for a child they helped put into the world. It's worrying to see the facts because children are not cheap to raise at all. Especially now with inflation prices. Mint.intuit.com states “The USDA estimates that parents can expect to pay between \$15,438 and \$17,375 a year raising a child in 2022, which can vary based on region and household.” Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, The District of Columbia, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Caroline, Utah and Texas all fail to cover medication abortion. Some women may feel as though since they cant get an abortion because they cant afford it they may have to do the job themselves. Putting their body through physical pain and suffering because they believe it's their only option. Women already feel under attack with the overturning and now lacking the money to have a baby that women may be forced to have because of lack of access to abortion will be mentally draining and dangerous. We can expect to see high levels of depression and suicidal thoughts, stress, anxiety and lower life satisfaction.

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Physical dangers and mental dangers to not having access to an abortion can be huge. Women are at high risk for danger when pregnant. There is underlying anxiety and stress every woman can feel now that their security of access to an abortion is gone. There are limits to the access to an abortion you are told you cant get one until you're in chronic condition or high risk. Not allowing an abortion until your body is already jeopardized is concerning. Because of that we can expect to see uprisings in depression and anxiety. "Researchers in 2016 reported that compared with women who were able to have an abortion, those forced to complete their pregnancies were more likely to suffer depression or anxiety disorders five years later and had poorer physical health (Women's Midlife Health Journal)" Women also can suffer physical issues such as clots in legs or lungs, sepsis, blood pressure disorder, infection and worst case death. Banning abortions just reduces the numbers or access to safe abortions. Women will resort to self managing abortions which is ending a pregnancy without a qualified doctor. " a national survey of 7,022 U.S. women conducted in 2017 found that 1.4% reported ever attempting to end a pregnancy on their own. The majority of these individuals reported using drugs or substances other than misoprostol, and only 28% successfully ended the pregnancy" (Guttmacher.org). Women feel so scared and helpless that they will mangle their own bodies and put their future health in risk. Having access to an abortion is calming to the mind when a woman is told she may not be able to carry the child to full term without ending up with a miscarriage or stillbirth. Also in Women's Midlife Health Journal "In another study, two of the 161 women who were denied an abortion died of causes linked to pregnancy or childbirth." Women are not safe anymore and it's terrifying to see this going on. We must also take into account women suffering mentally after going through with an abortion saying they suffer with severe guilt. Ending another life is never an easy decision and will never be.

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Going through with an abortion is never a simple choice. There are societal pressures and judgemental views women may face with getting an abortion. Even if the woman didn't have a choice they still are frowned upon. Many emotions rise after an abortion even emotions such as guilt or regret. Siragainesville.com was able to express the guilt with a study " Among their emotional symptoms, women in the study cited depression, feelings of loss, shame and even negative feelings when they were around other babies." Abortions are a very serious choice and some women that either needed an abortion or just chose to get one can feel these symptoms not expecting they would care as much as they end doing. Most women dream of becoming a mother one day to be able to birth a life is amazing and losing that opportunity can aspire to loneliness. To stop this from happening take into account is this something you will regret? What are my other options? Make sure to talk to the baby's dad as well. Is this something maybe the dad can help with?

Although the negative effects of the overturning are huge and very prominent. Positive effects with Roe v. Wade overturning is also evident. Because abortions were so easy to access before the overturning, there were 11.2 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15-44 years from 2011-2020 according to the Centers for disease control and prevention. Abortions can cause a woman's body physical harm factors such as infection, infertility, damage to uterus and increased risk of premature birth. Palm Beach women's clinic "women who had more than one previous aspiration abortion (i.e. a surgical abortion) were at a much higher risk of preterm birth (earlier than 28 weeks) in a later pregnancy than women who had no previous abortions." Children who can't defend themselves are getting killed when they even have a heartbeat. This was becoming a huge issue because it wasn't just cells that were turning into a baby it was an actual child with

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a live heartbeat. Luckily this problem was becoming too prominent there is fetal heartbeat law in which a doctor is legally required to check for a heartbeat before performing an abortion.

Criminal penalties will be given if a doctor fails to check for a heartbeat.

Contraceptives are always an option. Some women unfortunately used the federal right to an abortion as a form of a contraceptive (prevents pregnancy). When there are other protective methods offered everywhere most convenient stores selling multiple choices this raises a red flag to the US and Supreme Court and other people. Adults should be responsible and mature enough to understand actions have consequences and knowing these consequences yet following through with the action other people started getting angry with the irresponsible choices being made. This caused people to start seeing abortion as no longer a back up plan or worst case scenario but saw it as an advantage point and abused the access to it. Birth control is offered for free or low cost to anyone. Other options that can benefit everyone is adoption. Some women who cannot bear children wait months to years on a list to even qualify to adopt. Wanting a chance at motherhood and watching other women get abortions easily make others feel undermined. "While it is difficult to find an exact, accurate number to answer this question, Some sources estimate that there are about 2 million couples currently waiting to adopt in the United States (AmericanAdoptions.com). Being able to provide a child to another woman who dreams to be a mother is an amazing opportunity, one that may be better than going through the guilt and remorse of killing a baby. Some adoptees face neglect 50% emotional abuse 44% physical abuse and 21% sexual abuse. Remembering that not all adoptees face this neglect and most end up really safe and provided for. "85 percent of children who are adopted are in excellent or very good health (AmericanAdoptions.com)." Adoptions are a much more positive experience for everyone and are a much healthier option mentally and physically.

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Allowing abortions opens a window to see life as disposable. Children are no longer taken as special and as a gift anymore the second we allow to get rid of such a gift. "abortion represents a failure to recognize the sanctity of human life and promotes a culture in which human life in its most vulnerable moment is perceived as disposable. Such a proposal targets poor women as needing an expedient solution to a complex problem (Abortionprocon.com)." The world needs life and life is precious yet we are allowing life to no longer be seen as precious and others are willingly ending a life that is helpless to protect itself.

The studies shown have allowed the research question what are the effects of Roe v. Wade being overturned to be answered. With the findings it allows anyone new to this recent overturning to see the positive and negative effects. Including the future implications we are going to see and already seeing that are putting women's health in danger. Now we have seen these effects: are women really benefiting from it, is the overturning doing what it's meant too or is it just causing more problems?

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Academic Paper

Note: Student samples are quoted verbatim and may contain spelling and grammatical errors.

Sample: I

Score: 1

This paper earned a score of 1. The overly broad topic of inquiry seeks to investigate the effects of *Roe v. Wade* being overturned. As the paper concludes with the research question presented on page 9, “Now we have seen these effects: are women really benefiting from it, is the overturning doing what it’s meant too or is it just causing more problems?”, it is a mere report on existing knowledge.

This paper did not earn a score of 0 paper because the topic presented in this paper represents a legitimate area of inquiry for AP Research, the effects of overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

This paper did not earn a score of 2 for several reasons. First, although the topic, the effects of overturning the *Roe v. Wade* decision, is relevant for the AP Research Academic Paper, it is overly broad, as the paper fails to narrow the topic of inquiry beyond the research objective presented on page 2: “The purpose of this research is to introduce the question of what are the effects of *Roe v. Wade* being overturned?” This objective is later restated as the research question on page 9. Second, although the paper reviews topics such as abortion rights and access on pages 2–7 and related topics of contraception and adoption on page 8, this discussion is based entirely on nonscholarly sources. Third, the paper fails to identify—let alone describe—a reasonably replicable research method and instead restates what others have already found on this topic. The search-and-report process used throughout this paper can be further illustrated at the end of page 9: “With the findings it allows anyone new to this recent overturning to see the positive and negative effects,” suggesting that the answer to the paper’s research question is already known.