

# THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

## Both sides rally over abortion

*'Roe vs. Wade' anniversary marked*

**Brian Melley**

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SAN FRANCISCO - Activists on both sides of the abortion issue marched in demonstrations across the country Saturday to mark the 32nd anniversary of the historic U.S. Supreme Court decision that made abortion legal.

The anniversary came amid speculation that retirements on the Supreme Court could alter its makeup and its long-standing defense of the *Roe vs. Wade* decision during President Bush's second term.

In San Francisco, thousands of abortion opponents marched on the city's waterfront, chanting slogans like "Women deserve better," while abortion rights supporters tried to drown them out with their own rallying cries.

Condoms were tossed at the anti-abortion marchers, and people waved coat hangers in a reference to the days of back-alley abortions.

Some abortion opponents hoisted crosses over their heads or held pictures of Jesus. They said they were prepared for a confrontation.

Elsewhere, abortion opponents marched on state capitols in Idaho, Colorado, South Carolina and Texas.

Abortion opponents carried American flags and signs reading "Parental Rights" and "Choose Life" in Austin, where Republican Gov. Rick Perry pledged support for a bill requiring a minor to get her parents' consent for an abortion.

"Abortion needs to be brought in line with nearly every other medical procedure performed on minors, and that includes parental consent," said Joe Pojman, director of Texas Alliance for Life.

Sarah Wheat, spokeswoman for NARAL Pro-Choice Texas, said her group opposes a parental-consent law because it would not have a huge impact on the abortion rate.

"For us, it looks like a lot of time and energy that is not going to have that big of an impact, positive or negative," she said.