

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Galen Zavala Sherby
Mizzou YDSA Chair
(502) 418 0889
mizzouydsa@gmail.com

RALLY October 6. in Defense of Bodily-Autonomy

Mizzou Young Democratic Socialists of America, in coalition with the Coalition of Graduate Workers (CGW), Mid-Missouri DSA, Mid-Missouri Peaceworks, Mizzou College Democrats, OASIS, Queer Liberation Front (QLF), Queer Trans People of Color (QTPOC), Sexual Education and Advocacy at Mizzou (SEAM), and Stronger Together Against Relationship and Sexual Violence (STARS), will hold a rally Thursday as part of a national campaign by the Graduate Student Action Network and Young Democratic Socialists of America.

With the Dobbs decision overturning a constitutional right to an abortion, and a string of legislation across the country restricting gender-affirming care, it's clear that Americans' bodily autonomy, or right to make decisions regarding their own person, is under attack. POC, trans, non-binary, disabled, and young Americans will be most impacted from these transgressions.

Our coalition will hold a rally in Speakers' Circle on Oct. 6 from 11am - 1pm in defense of bodily autonomy. We demand that the University of Missouri do more to support their students who will lose access to live-saving healthcare access.

First, by providing contraceptives to all MU students free of charge. Including physical contraceptives like condoms, as well as over-the-counter contraceptives like the Plan B pill.

Second, by ending the censorship of the social justice centers on campus. Currently, the organizations set up to advocate for the rights of minority students aren't even able to do the bare minimum of publicly calling attention to legislation that will affect their students.

Third, by making a statement acknowledging the new dangers posed to Mizzou students by legislation within our state that restricts students' control over their own bodies. While the Dobbs decision has been precedent for months, the university has yet to make any public statement or advise students on how to protect themselves.

