

5 pieces worth reading

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A landmark study tracks the lasting effect of having an abortion-or being denied one

In this interview, demographer Dr. Diane Foster discusses her research project The Turnaway Study and offers insights into the mental health and economic effects of obtaining or being denied an abortion. Foster's research team has regularly interviewed approximately 1,000 women during the last five years and has found that 95% of those with whom they have spoken who had undergone an abortion, believed that they had made the right choice.

Burbank, M., & Kwong, E. (2022, May 15). "A landmark study tracks the lasting effect of having an abortion - or being denied one." *NPR*. Retrieved from <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2022/05/15/1098347992/a-landmark-study-tracks-the-lasting-effect-of-having-an-abortion-or-being-denied>

The Jan. 6 committee has learned some lessons from previous televised hearings

The United States House Select Committee on the January 6 Attack has learned valuable lessons from the televised hearings of the past, notably the Watergate and Iran-Contra hearings, concerning how to present its complex body of evidence. This article surveys those lessons and plumbs their implications for the social and political impact of the Committee's efforts.

Elving, R. (2022, June 25). "The Jan. 6 committee has learned some lessons from previous televised hearings." *NPR*. Retrieved from <https://www.npr.org/2022/06/25/1107423114/the-jan-6-committee-has-learned-some-lessons-from-previous-televised-hearings>

Roe's death will change American Democracy

Mary Ziegler discusses the history of the anti-abortion movement's efforts to overturn *Roe v. Wade*. She contends that we are just beginning to understand the ramifications of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn this Constitutional right for the health of our democracy.

Ziegler, M. (2022, June 24). "Roe's death will change American Democracy." *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/06/24/opinion/roe-v-wade-dobbs-democracy.html>

Boris Johnson: Reports about the ‘death of democracy’ in the US are ‘grossly, grossly, exaggerated’

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson argued in an interview with CNN’s Jake Tapper at the recent G7 Summit that he believes the demise of American democracy has been much overblown. He pointed to the leadership of President Biden, especially, in the Russian-Ukraine crisis to contend that the country is still fundamentally strong.

Al-Arshani, S. (2022, June 26). “Boris Johnson: Reports about the 'death of democracy' in the US are 'grossly, grossly exaggerated'.” *Business Insider*. Retrieved from <https://www.businessinsider.com/boris-johnson-says-hes-not-concerned-us-democracy-2022-6>

What Putin and Xi don’t get about ‘messy’ democracy

UCLA Professor Daniel Treisman argues that authoritarian leaders, including Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping do not realize is that democracies have the ability to process disagreements rather than sweep them under the carpet, irrespective of how complicated those conflicts may be. Airing differences and evaluating potential solutions to them is both healthy and necessary in a democracy. In contrast, the fear of division leads autocrats to continue to insist on failed approaches, such as Xi’s COVID-19 lockdown policy.

Treisman, D. (2022, June 27). “Opinion: What Putin and Xi don't get about 'messy' democracy.” *CNN*. Retrieved from <https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/25/opinions/putin-xi-biden-west-g7-nato-democracy-ukraine-treisman/index.html>