



Justice Kelly and Judge Protasiewicz on the Issue of Abortion

Wisconsin Right to Life works to promote life from the moment of conception until natural death. Our work takes many forms, including legislative work, endorsing candidates running for office, and offering life-affirming alternatives to abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia. During the race for the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, candidate Judge Janet Protasiewicz has continued to assert either half-truths or outright lies about her opponent and his relationship to our organization. Judge Protasiewicz has also laid out exactly where she stands on abortion. As judges, we expect these candidates to be impartial, not legislate from the bench, and know the difference between truth and lies.

Here are the facts on Judge Protasiewicz:

- Judge Janet Protasiewicz called the Supreme Courts overturning of *Roe v. Wade* a “mistake” that took away “a fundamental right,”¹ and refers to abortion as a “reproductive right.”²
- Judge Janet Protasiewicz has been endorsed by EMILY’s List, which “works to elect Democratic pro-choice women up and down the ballot and across the country with a goal of fighting for our rights and our communities.”³
- Judge Janet Protasiewicz has been endorsed by Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin due to her advocacy for reproductive freedom: “Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin trust Judge Protasiewicz to uphold our values on the Supreme Court.”⁴

Here are the facts on Justice Daniel Kelly:

- Dan Kelly has expressed his commitment to upholding the constitution without interference from his personal beliefs: “You apply the law to the extent that it’s consistent with the constitution and you leave your personal preferences on the sidelines.”⁵
- Despite misconceptions and statements made in ads against him, Justice Daniel Kelly has publically and truthfully stated that he has never been on the payroll of Wisconsin Right to Life.⁶
- Despite his opponent claiming “I can tell you that if my opponent is elected, I can tell you with 100 percent certainty, that 1849 abortion ban will stay on the books,” Justice Daniel Kelly has never made a promise to Wisconsin Right to Life that he will protect the current state statute being challenged in court by Attorney General Josh Kaul. In fact, the question was never asked by the Wisconsin Right to Life Political Action Committee since we know that judicial candidates cannot tell us how they would rule on issues brought before their court. Dan Kelly has also publicly stated this.⁷

Wisconsin Right to Life wants voters to know the facts and not rely on the lies that Judge Protasiewicz continues to spread across Wisconsin. We want the next member of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin to understand truth from lies and rule on laws brought before them based on our state constitution.

¹ <https://www.wpr.org/janet-protasiewicz-wisconsin-supreme-court-justice-primary-election>

² <https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/03/has-wisconsin-supreme-court-candidate-janet-protasiewicz-campaigned-in-support-of-abortion-rights/>

³ <https://emilyslist.org/news/emilys-list-endorses-janet-protasiewicz-for-wisconsin-supreme-court/>

⁴ <https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/ppawi-announces-its-endorsement-of-judge-protasiewicz-for-wisconsin-supreme-court>

⁵ <https://www.nbc15.com/2023/02/14/one-on-one-wisconsin-supreme-court-candidate-dan-kelly/>

⁶ [Face Checking the Supreme Court Race \(justicedanielkelly.com\)](https://www.justicedanielkelly.com)

⁷ [Dan Kelly, Janet Protasiewicz get personal in debate for Wisconsin's hotly-contested Supreme Court seat | Wisconsin Public Radio \(wpr.org\)](https://www.wpr.org/dan-kelly-janet-protasiewicz-get-personal-in-debate-for-wisconsin-hotly-contested-supreme-court-seat)