

## Fact Sheet on Gorsuch Nomination

## We are asking you to approach your senators and discuss why Neil Gorsuch is not the right choice for a Supreme Court Justice. His record reveals:

<u>Worker and consumer rights</u>: Judge Gorsuch embraces an extreme agenda that favors corporations and special interests over everyday people, and joined a ruling (the original *Hobby Lobby* case) embracing the view that corporations are people. Gorsuch issued the sole dissenting opinion in a case imposing a fine on a company for failure to properly train an employee, resulting in his death by electrocution. Gorsuch dissented from a decision to approve a Labor Department determination that a large trucking company had wrongfully fired a truck driver who had refused to drive under hazardous conditions. Gorsuch has also argued that it should be harder for regular people to band together in order to hold Wall Street and huge corporations accountable for fraud and other wrongdoing.

<u>Women's Issues:</u> Judge Gorsuch has a troubling record on issues of women's equality and reproductive rights. Judge Gorsuch's writings suggest that he does not view the right to decide whether to have an abortion as constitutionally guaranteed. President Trump promised that he would only appoint justices who would "automatically" overturn Roe v. Wade, and nothing in Gorsuch's record shows that he wouldn't do exactly that. Also, in his rulings and writings, he indicates he would have permitted defunding Planned Parenthood, as well as let corporations deny contraceptive coverage. In Strickland V. United Parcel, Inc. alleging sex discrimination in the firing of a female employee Judge Gorsuch took a minority positon that the case should be dismissed.

LGBTQ, Disabled and Immigrant Persons' Rights: Neil Gorsuch has consistently ruled against rights and protections for people with disabilities, including private sector employees and public school students. He has openly expressed his disapproval of LGBTQ Americans' pursuit of equal rights via the federal courts. His ruling in Hobby Lobby, that corporations are people and can claim religious rights, has been used to discriminate against LGBTQ Americans. He takes a dim view of immigrants' legal claims in agency proceedings and against law enforcement authorities, ruling against immigrants in these cases.

<u>The environment</u>: Judge Gorsuch's legal philosophy on environmental regulation places him firmly on the side of polluters versus agencies charged with protecting clean air and water. In addition, he has repeatedly turned away challenges by environmental groups seeking to protect natural resources and public land.

<u>Criminal Justice</u>: Judge Gorsuch's views on criminal justice are harsh. Judge Gorsuch has often sided with police on excessive force claims, dismissed the harm caused by a botched execution, and repeatedly declined to hold government authorities accountable for improper searches of people and property.

<u>First Amendment</u>: Judge Gorsuch's view of monetary political contributions as a form of free speech deserving the utmost constitutional protection would dramatically increase the influence of money in politics.

For all these reasons Judge Gorsuch is not the right choice for the Supreme Court