

Trans Masculine Alliance Houston

Vol. 2, Issue 9

September 2022

transmasculinehouston.com

transmasculinehouston@gmail.com

[Facebook](#)

[Discord](#)

[Meetup](#)

Leadership Team

George Zemanek

Nexus Arrant

Myles Steelman

Want to get involved?

We always need folks to help present or co-lead at meetings, as well as tell us what topics they'd like us to focus on. If you'd like to help out or want to share an idea, please contact one of the members of the leadership team.



What we've been up to...

August was a great month, with many meetings and events going on. Community activists from Avow Texas met with the group to discuss abortion access in a post Roe v. Wade world. Notes are attached at the end of this newsletter. Myles gathered the group together at Lake Houston to learn about the park and to wade in the lake. It was a nice ending to the summer. On a more somber note, a memorial was held on August 30th for Marisela Castro, a transgender woman from Houston who was murdered. Myles represented TMAH at the event.

September Calendar

September 1st General Meeting: Discrimination in the Workplace

Brian Klosterboer, a civil rights attorney from the American Civil Liberties Union, will be answering questions about workplace discrimination that transgender people routinely face. Notes will be made available in the October newsletter.

September 15th TMAH Game Night (6:30-8:30 pm in Room 111 of the Montrose Center) Bring board games, snacks, and non-alcoholic drinks. Bring a friend/partner/sibling too!

**The September Social
will be announced soon!**

This Month's Spotlight: Cam Stodghill



<https://cams-hands.square.site/>

I am a licensed and insured, trans massage therapist serving the greater Houston area. I'm predominantly offering mobile services for the time being until I can afford a rental space. My specialty is deep tissue work, but I can also provide a more relaxing Swedish session. For a consultation or to book an appointment, you can contact my business page on IG, or shoot me an email at camshandslmt@gmail.com

Notes from the August meeting on abortion access

What overturned Roe v Wade?

Dobbs v. JWHO <https://www.scotusblog.com/case-files/cases/dobbs-v-jackson-womens-health-organization/>

What is Avow? Is it a political or medical group/organization?

Avow is an advocacy group.

Why do you use the word "abortion" instead of "reproductive rights"?

We are discussing abortion specifically, not just reproductive care. Be specific

What are the different kinds of abortion procedures?

- o Within first 12 weeks, done with medication
- o Medication abortion is safe. Self managing is safe. Misoprostol Mifepristone You may also hear them referred to as Mife and Miso
- o Surgical or procedural is D and C or D and E

- o Telehealth for abortion is not legal in Texas. Telehealth is banned for medication abortion.

Why do people get abortions?

- o There are many reasons. Mainly, do not distinguish between good and bad abortion. Incest is not a good abortion. All abortion is legitimate. All is valid.

Are there statistics available on the number of transgender people who get abortions?

<https://www.guttmacher.org/article/2020/01/transgender-abortion-patients-and-provision-transgender-specific-care-non-hospital>

What exactly has been the timeline of the erosion of abortion access? For example I know there was the fetal heartbeat bill but what were Texas laws prior to that?

- o In early 2000s is when majority of abortion restrictions started because Tea party was so powerful
- o 1999 “parental notification law”, doctor must inform at least one parent
- o 2003 “women’s right to know” so doctors must give a woman a bunch of inaccurate information
- o Then abortion has to be in surgical centers. This is stupid because abortion does not need to happen at surgical center.
- o Have to get a sonogram and hear fetal heartbeat
- o Doctor has to have admitting privilege to hospital
- o D and E was banned (late term) despite this being the safest procedure
- o June 2022 roe v wade overturned., so now state laws dictate the laws./ before roe v wade was passed Texas had a total ban. Now that it is overturned, that law is in effect.
- o You technically cannot be criminalized for abortion under Texas law. The provider or person who aids and abets can be criminalized.
- o <https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/lizelle-herrerass-texas-abortion-arrest-warning-rcna24639>
- o The person who gives you the pill is the one who is criminalized. Only the person who facilitated it.
- o <https://msmagazine.com/2022/04/16/texas-woman-lizelle-herrera-arrest-murder-roe-v-wade-abortion/>

What exactly is the law now in Texas? Are all abortions illegal? It’s hard to keep up with all of this.

- o Medical providers cannot distinguish between miscarriage and self-managed abortion. If a person has an incomplete abortion and goes to the hospital, the doctor has no real way to know what caused the miscarriage or abortion.
- o 30 days after the dobbs versus abortion was entirely banned. But SBA had already limited access since September 2021. The person

seeking abortion is not criminalized. The person who facilitates it is criminalized. Yes, all abortion is illegal.

- o PlanCPills.com

If I need an abortion, assuming cost and travel is not an issue, what should I do first? What if cost and travel are an issue? What are my options?

- o Before 12 weeks, they can self manage. INeedAnA.org, PlanCPills.com, MAHotline.org
- o After 12 weeks, needabortion.org
- o If costs are an issue, abortion funds can help
- o There is a form of Plan B on Amazon, for around \$10. Plan B prevents the embryo from implanting. Plan B is emergency contraception.

Where can I find out more about DIY abortions? I realize this is dangerous but this is a serious question.

Holistic abortion uses herbs

How can I help people access abortion care?

- o Share the information we learned tonight.
- o Clear up misinformation so people do not self-police.
- o Destigmatize the word abortion.

I can't get pregnant. Why should I care about abortion access?

- o It is about control and who can control what I do with my body. We don't lead single issue lives. All our lives and movements are interconnected. Abortion access does not exist in isolation.

Here's the list of fake clinics, known as Crisis Pregnancy Centers

<https://reproaction.org/fakeclinicdatabase/>

Final thoughts:

Be inclusive. Women are not being erased. We are just including more people in this conversation. In Texas, say "pregnant Texans" and use "Texans" instead of a gender neutral term. Texans are more open to this phrase "Texans."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2022/06/26/mary-miller-white-life-trump-rally/>