

THE SUPREME COURT MATTERS TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES EVERYDAY- KAVANAUGH CONCERNING DECISIONS ON SELF DETERMINATION

Who is Judge Brett Kavanaugh?

Judge Brett Kavanaugh is a Judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. This means he is a federal judge who reviews decisions made by other courts and then decides if they made the right decision. His record raises big concerns for people with disabilities. Judge Kavanaugh has been nominated by President Trump to serve on the Supreme Court.



Serious Disability Concerns in Judge Kavanaugh's Record

Self-Determination

People with disabilities are often denied the right to make their own choices. One case in particular shows that Judge Kavanaugh has not respected the rights of people with disabilities.

DC made 2 women with intellectual disabilities have abortions, even though the women didn't want to. DC also made another woman with an intellectual disability have eye surgery. These were *not* surgeries that they needed to save their lives. In general, DC usually didn't ask people with disabilities what they wanted before letting doctors operate on them.

Judge Kavanaugh said that was okay. He said that DC did not need to ask people before letting doctors operate on them. He said that people with intellectual disabilities do not have the right to have any say about their bodies and their health care. He said it was okay for a state to operate on people with intellectual disabilities, even if the person said no. Judge Kavanaugh said it doesn't matter what people with intellectual disabilities want.

Because of Judge Kavanaugh's decision, it took a long time for these women to get justice.

If Judge Kavanaugh joins the Supreme Court, he could make decisions about these laws and many others. How Judge Kavanaugh thinks about these laws will have a huge impact on the lives of people with disabilities. His decisions could change how people with disabilities are able to live, learn, and work in the community.

What Can I Do?

Your Senators decide if Judge Kavanaugh is the right person for the Supreme Court. Visit, write or call to tell them what you think is important in a Justice. Tell them if you are worried about Judge Kavanaugh's record. You can learn more about Judge Kavanaugh's record and read statements from disability groups at the Kavanaugh resource pages from the [Bazelon Center](#) and [Center for Public Representation](#). For more tips and tools, please use [ASAN's toolkit](#) about how to call, write or visit your member of Congress.