

**Producing Discourses and Furthering Social Change
in the Realms of Respect for the Dignity of Human
Life, Right to Abortion and Women Rights
—An Analysis on *Gonzales v. Carhart***

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Abstract

This article provides analysis of the US Supreme Court decision of *Gonzales v. Carhart* and unpacks issues pertinent to the production and deployment of certain concepts and discourses in different camps on the abortion rights issue in the US. The author employs perspectives inspired by feminist jurisprudence and gender studies, and explores the ideologies reflected in the discourses and knowledge production, and the possible interpretations and changes that could be made in the wake of this decision. Concepts such as fetus, woman/mother, respect for the dignity of human life, and the related world views and the potential implications for the pursuit of women's rights are also examined in the article.

Key Words: reproductive autonomy, criminal abortion, the right to terminate pregnancy, partial-birth abortion, women rights