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Readings:

Ferrándiz & Robben, The Ethnography of Exhumations

McFarland, Culture, Individual Differences, and Support for Human Rights: A General Review

Roe v. Wade Case Analysis

Objective

Laws don't just regulate society—they shape identity, culture, and human rights. The Roe v. Wade decision continues to spark debate about **bodily autonomy, legal authority, and cultural values**. This assignment invites you to **think critically and creatively** about its implications while keeping your writing brief and focused.

Assignment Instructions

Step 1: Choose One Reading & Summarize (150-200 words)

Select **either**:

Ferrándiz & Robben's "The Ethnography of Exhumations" (focus on historical memory and human rights)

McFarland's "Culture, Individual Differences, and Support for Human Rights" (focus on cultural and psychological factors in human rights)

Write a **short summary** explaining **one key insight** from the reading and how it helps us understand **the human rights dimensions of Roe v. Wade**.

Guiding Questions:

- What does the reading say about human rights in relation to history, law, or culture?
- How does it help us think about Roe v. Wade beyond just a legal case?

Step 2: Creative Reflection – Choose One (200-250 words)

Now, express your understanding **creatively** by selecting **one** of the following:

Option A: Personal Letter

Write a short letter from the perspective of:

- Yourself
- A historical figure
- A fictional character
- A community affected by Roe v. Wade

What to include:

- How does this ruling shape their views on **rights, culture, or justice**?
- Does it challenge or reinforce their values?

Option B: Podcast Episode Idea

Instead of writing an essay, design a **brief concept for a podcast episode** discussing Roe v. Wade.

What to include:

- **A title**
- **2-3 short episode segments** (e.g., “The Human Rights Debate,” “Roe v. Wade’s Cultural Legacy”)
- **A guest speaker (real or fictional) & why they’re relevant**

Step 3: One Final Reflection Question

End your assignment with **one open-ended question** that invites discussion about:

- How law and culture shape each other
- Whether human rights are truly universal
- The future of reproductive rights

Example: If human rights depend on cultural and legal interpretation, can any law ever be truly "universal"?

Format & Submission

Guidelines:

Step 1: Write a **150-200 word summary** linking Roe v. Wade to a reading.

Step 2: Choose **Option A (Letter) or Option B (Podcast Idea)** (200-250 words).

Step 3: End with **one thought-provoking question**.

Grading Criteria

Engagement with Readings – Thoughtful use of Ferrándiz or Robben, McFarland, AND Roe v. Wade.

Creativity & Originality – Unique approach in letter or podcast outline.

Critical Reflection – Depth of insight in summary and final question.

Clarity & Organization – Well-structured and engaging writing.

Final Thought

Laws don’t just exist in courtrooms—they live in culture, identity, and memory. Roe v. Wade is more than a legal decision; it is a lens through which we see shifting ideas of justice and rights. Let’s explore its impact together.



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