By law, DA says he can't enforce new abortion statute, pro-life leader says it's politics

KUTV
by Brian Mullahy
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https://kutv.com/news/local/by-law-da-says-he-cant-enforce-new-abortion-statute-pro-life-leader-says-its-politics

SALT LAKE CITY (KUTV) — Salt Lake County District Attorney Sim Gill said his refusal to enforce Utah's newly passed law to ban many abortions after 18 weeks of pregnancy is a matter of abiding by previous court rulings.

A leader of Pro-Life Utah said everyone knew the new law would be fought in court anyway, and the DA's announcement was about politics.

We had a 22 week ban, which was deemed to be unconstitutional. So an 18 week ban is facially unconstitutional. I don't think it's the responsibility or duty of my office to engage in the violation of the constitutional rights of our citizens.
In a 2News interview, the DA noted he announced his decision not to enforce Utah's new law before a federal court issued an injunction "prohibiting enforcement."

"I believe Sim Gill would have to know the law would be challenged," said Mary Taylor, president of Pro-Life Utah, who said she had abortion years ago, deeply regretted it, and now fights against it. "The courts will determine the constitutionality (of Utah's new law), so to come out and say 'I'm not going to enforce it,' to declare it's not constitutional, I think he overstepped his bounds."

Taylor provided a Planned Parenthood post from the 2018 election, in which Gill "scored 100%" on the abortion provider's candidate survey, and was quoted as saying he was "proud to have the support" of the organization. Planned Parenthood, along with the ACLU, is suing the state to stop Utah's new 18-week abortion ban from ever taking effect.

"It would appear he's got some degree of political alliance with an organization that stands to be greatly impacted by the law,' said Taylor.

Gill said his personal views are irrelevant. But what if the U.S. Supreme Court upholds Utah's law?

“I will screen the case, just like any other valid violation that’s before us,” he said.

“You’ll enforce it?” 2News asked.

“I will enforce it,” he replied.

Bills banning most abortions after a fetal heartbeat is detected, after six or eight weeks, have passed in a handful of states. Utah’s new statute makes exceptions for rape and incest, would not lead to charges against mothers, but could mean second-degree felony charges---with penalties of one to 15 years in prison---against doctors who perform abortions after 18 weeks.

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KUTV 2News
Yesterday at 6:34 AM ·
Is it law... or politics?

KUTV.COM
By law, DA says he can't enforce new abortion statute, pro-life leader says it's politics
Salt Lake County District Attorney Sim Gill said his refusal to enforce Utah's newly passed law to ban many abortions after 18 weeks of pregnancy is a matter of abiding by previous court rulings. A leader of Pro-Life Utah said everyone knew the new law would be fought in court anyway, and the....

- **Su Hess** It's law and I'm glad he's not going to go against it
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  Jan Jones "We had a 22 week ban, which was deemed to be unconstitutional. So an 18 week ban is facially unconstitutional. I don't think it's the responsibility or duty of my office to engage in the violation of the constitutional rights of our citizens."
  Exactly. Thank you for respecting the law
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- **Steve Smith** Sim is always and absolutely about politics.
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  Daniel Young Again he is a state DA not a Federal DA swore an oath to up hold state law so he either does or he steps down as DA
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  John Hill Daniel Young I believe a state DA by law is supposed to enforce Federal law first.
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Daniel Young John Hill only if the state law goes against the federal laws. The Constitution state the right to protect life and life mean a heartbeat does it not ?

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○ **Rachael Castleton** The United States Constitution ALWAYS trumps state law. The Supreme Court has already ruled on this and Roe v. Wade is settled law for the COUNTRY

2

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○ **Stewart Kelly** Daniel Young
I must have missed the part in the constitution that declares a heartbeat = life.

2

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○ **Mitch Hale** Stewart Kelly, I must have missed the part where abortion in any manner was a constitutional right! Weird neither is there!

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○ **Stewart Kelly** Then you haven't been paying attention.
Every woman has a right to liberty (life, liberty, pursuit of happiness, and all that). As such, a woman has a right to choose what goes on inside her body.

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Daniel Young Stewart Kelly so does the man who put it there

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Daniel Young Stewart Kelly heartbeat is a moral thing not a selfish thought or act of a careless person
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○ **Stewart Kelly** Daniel Young
Could you try to communicate in full, complete sentences. It would make understanding you a hell of a lot easier.
That said, it sounds like you are saying that the man gets some say in what a woman does with her body, and that just ain't true....See More
1
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Daniel Young Stewart Kelly so with what you say then We someone can’t feel or see your heartbeat then your not alive so you don’t have rights just like the unborn
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○ **Stewart Kelly** Okay, seriously.
Proofread and punctuation.

And lack of a heartbeat has never been a determinate for death, so why would its presence be a determinate for life?
And you'd still be wrong.
See, even as a cadaver, I have rights. It's called body autonomy.
It's why my organs can't be harvested after my death, without my prior consent.

And if you believe that abortion should be outlawed, then you are sayimg that an embryo has more rights than a woman, and that a woman has fewer rights than a corpse.
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- **Eva Belliston** Hold the line Sim, it is the right thing to do! This is why I vote for you
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- **Gina N Greg Boren** Thou shall not kill???? You are destroying a culture!!
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  Amy Brunvand What culture do you think an unborn fetus has?
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- **Gina N Greg Boren** Amy Brunvand The culture I speak of , Is the present, not the murder of the unborn
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- **Tracie Meckle** She chose abortion, but she doesn't want others to be able to choose for themselves?
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- **Peggy Peterson** Law
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- **Tammy L Hart** Politics.

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  Jason Fogarty Politics

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- **Jessaca Marie Nebeker** The DA is following the law set up the United States Supreme Court, and I'm grateful for that. I haven't been happy about 75% of the things Sim Gill has done since he took office, but his stance on the abortion law is the right one.

  14

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  3 Replies

- **Shelley Marie** Freedom of religion is your right to exercise your religion not to force others to act accordingly to your beliefs. Pro choice IS NOT pro abortion it's other people minding their own business.

  5

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- **Roy Webb** It’s politics, all right, but from the forced birth zealots. They want to politicize, and weaponize, what should be solely between parents and their doctor. They don’t care about the fetus, they care about the money they can raise and the distractions from republican crimes.

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Amy Brunvand So far the law still says that women are people with rights to make decisions for their own bodies and medical care. Forced-birth anti-abortion politics are trying to take away those rights. It doesn't take much logical thought to realize that anti-a…See More

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Daniel Young Amy Brunvand for their body but a baby has its own body so the So Called WoMans right is in violation of the baby's right

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Amy Brunvand Daniel Young Dehumanizing women like that is exactly what anti-abortion politics so immoral.

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Daniel Young Amy Brunvand the right you speak of ends when you choose to have sex with a man and allow him to climax in you. When you make one choice you automatically make two you choose to do what you did the second is automatically made for you you have to except the consequences good or bad for that said choose

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- **George Hodgson Zinn** So being an elected official takes away your rights of conscience?
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- **Darrell Doc Burton** Hey look it's George the troll! You really need a girlfriend... Or at least a friend!
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- **Stewart Kelly** George Hodgson Zinn
  So a woman with an embryo in her gut takes away her right to liberty?
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  Daniel Young Stewart Kelly so by the definition of liberty not one single American has the right to liberty cause we pro life side want you to see the error of your ways but you no rights for a unborn want to call it not women rights so we as Americans don't have the right of liberty so try it again with facts this time
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  Daniel Young Stewart Kelly so by the definition of liberty not one single American has the right to liberty cause we pro life side want you to see the error of your ways but you no rights for a unborn want to call it not women rights so we as Americans don't have the right of liberty so try it again with facts this time
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  Darren Rigby if he can not enforce it by law, then he should be enforcing the marijuana laws right?
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  5 Replies

- **Bubba Hayes** gill is a pathetic excuse for a da! What can you expect from sl county!
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