

DIANE SYKES ON ABORTION

Highlights:

- Diane Sykes ruled against the contraception mandate in the Affordable Care Act.
- Diane Sykes praised anti-abortion protesters.
- During a 2003 confirmation hearing, Diane Sykes dodged questions on abortion.

Sykes Ruled Against Access To Contraception

SYKES RULED AGAINST THE CONTRACEPTIVE MANDATE IN THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Sykes' Opinion In *Korte v. Sebelius* Ruled That Employers Should Not Have To Provide Contraceptives In Their Employee Insurance Plans. According to Newsweek, "As a federal judge in 2013, Sykes wrote an opinion in *Korte v. Sebelius*, which ruled in favor of employers in the fight over the Affordable Health Care Act's contraceptive mandate that requires companies to cover some contraceptive costs in their health insurance plans." [Newsweek, [12/13/16](#)]

Sykes Praised Anti-Abortion Protesters

SYKES PRAISED ANTI-ABORTION PROTESTERS AS A TRIAL JUDGE

As A Trial Judge, Sykes Said That Anti-Abortion Protesters Who Blocked Access To An Abortion Clinic Had "Fine Character" And That Their Motivations Were Pure. According to WEAU 13, "Diane Sykes, 58, served as a Milwaukee County circuit judge from 1992 to 1999. She handed down the sentence in 1993 after the protesters bound themselves to a car blocking an abortion clinic doorway. She told them their motivations were pure and they possessed 'fine character' -- but their activities were illegal." [WEAU 13, [5/18/16](#)]

During Her 2003 Nomination Process, Sykes Dodged Questions About Abortion

SYKES DODGED QUESTIONS ABOUT HER VIEWS ON ABORTION DURING HER NOMINATION PROCEEDINGS

Sykes Refused To Answer Her Views On Abortion During Her 2003 Nomination To The Federal Bench. According to Chicago Magazine, "George W. Bush nominated her to the federal bench in 2003 and she was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 2004 by the wide margin of 70 to 27. She had the backing of Wisconsin's two democratic senators, Russ Feingold and Herb Kohl. Illinois's Dick Durbin was a no vote, blasting Sykes for refusing to answer his questions on her views on abortion and Miranda rights. He called her, among other things, biased against defendants." [Chicago Magazine, [1/16/17](#)]