

## Lead Talking Points for Priscilla Owen

- Justice Owen has been attacked with orchestrated deceptions, distortions and demagoguery, yet she has the American Bar Association's unanimous rating of "well qualified."
- I endorse the words of Senator Biden when he said some years ago that: "***[Judicial confirmation] is not about pro-life or pro-choice, conservative or liberal, it is not about Democrat or Republican. It is about intellectual and professional competence to serve as a member of the third co-equal branch of the Government.***"
- The main reason Justice Owen is being opposed, is not that personal views are being falsely ascribed to her -- they are -- but rather because she is a **woman** in public life who is believed to have personal views that some maintain are unacceptable for a woman in public life.
- Such penalization is a matter of the greatest concern to me because it represents a new **glass ceiling** for women jurists just as they approach the tables of our high courts after long-struggling careers. Such treatment will have a **chilling effect** on women jurists that will keep them from weighing in on exactly the sorts of cases that most invite their participation and their perspectives as women.
- On abortion, the truth is that, rather than being an activist foe of **Roe**, Justice Owen repeatedly follows **Roe** and its progeny as authority.
- **Moreover, her opponents portray her as a pro-life activist, when all she has ever done is rule on a parental involvement law, popular with over 80% of the American people.** The bottom line is that they are blinded to anyone who will not abide by abortion on demand even for little girls, without parents ever knowing.
- Opposition against Justice Owen is the most demagogic when it speaks of campaign contributions and campaign finance reform. In fact, Owen is a leading advocate on election reform and judicial reform. And people who suggest that she is out of the mainstream are **more likely to think that mainstream thought is more likely found in Paris, France than Paris, Texas.**