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The FACE Act was Enacted to Protect Reproductive Health Clinics – Here’s Why Its History Matters Today

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Soon after taking office for a second time, President Donald Trump **pardoned anti-abortion activists** who had blockaded and restricted access to the entrance of a reproductive health clinic in Washington, D.C., in October 2020.

These protesters were convicted of violating the federal Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. Protesting outside clinics is a way for conservative anti-abortion activists to directly **influence access to reproductive health care**.

The **FACE Act prohibits** the use of force or threat toward people trying to obtain or provide reproductive health services. It was created to limit the anti-abortion movement’s tactics outside clinics, requiring that protesters cannot physically stop patients from walking into clinics and receiving care.