



SOCIETY 6 by tritonone

## RUTH BADER GINSBERG

was one of the most prominent female activists of her time.

Maddie Proctor '21 describes her as, "the kind of woman we all want to be." Ginsberg worked to gain respect for the LGBTQ+ community, people of color, and gave women our greatest right thus far; the right to choose. The right to decide how we handle our own bodies has been, and continues to be, a controversial debate that has divided our country and our courts for ages. With the death of this great Supreme Court Justice, an advocate for the minorities of this country, that debate rages on.

"She made great strides in granting women the ability to serve on juries, sign up for a checking account without permissions, and the right to choose what's best for her own body," says Caroline Deeter '23.

Ruth Bader Ginsberg accomplished many things legislatively but accomplished so much more socially. Working to give people the voice, reminding the world that empathy is the key to a successful democracy, and that the separation of Church and State should remain a priority in politics. There are countless examples of how Ruth Bader Ginsberg used deep controversial subjects to make our country more compassionate. *Roe vs. Wade* on the subject of abortion rights, *United States v. Virginia* on the basis of women in the military and so many more cases that dealt with discrimination based on sex. Her conscious need to always do more,

# LOSING AN ICON

by Molly Nichols '23

and to keep rooting for the underdog is what she'll always be remembered for.

"RBG quite literally paved the way for women like me. Her primary virtue was her pursuit of equality and opportunity," Proctor said.

Cases that she defended, such as *Roe v. Wade*, worked to allow women the right to abortion, contraceptives, and cancer screenings. With those rights currently in jeopardy, it is easy for people to question how this will affect the core of all women's rights. These rights include to hold a checking account and to work and earn to the same level as their male counterparts. How our country proceeds will not only affect the women of this country, but the rights of the LGBTQ community, including same sex marriage. It could break the rights offered to people of color, even though our law enforcement systems are already facing scandals involved with the rights of African Americans. By altering one right, there is risk letting the system collapse into unbalanced chaos.

We need to face the facts that women's rights, and the rights of the people, are held within the vote of each and every citizen. It is to make the people feel spoken and heard. To confirm a new Supreme Court Justice so soon after her death, would be at the risk of making those voices feel meaningless and irrelevant.

"If women do end up losing some of their rights specifically those of women in the workplace, I could definitely see this affecting my future negatively," Deeter said.

Taylor Cipra '22 discusses

how she feels this affects our generation,

"We need to learn how to be more informed and open to new ideas because these days you are on either side of the argument...we need to take the time to understand opposing viewpoints to succeed."

As the future of this country, it is important to know when we need to listen, rather than when we need to argue.

"RBG sparked a national shift toward progress, toward equality, toward inclusion, and acceptance. By opening the door for conversations of equality, she redefined our conception of justice," states Proctor.

What we choose to do as a generation with the rights gained by Ruth Bader Ginsberg's uphill battle, is how we will show our strength.

"Her legacy lives on in the humanitarians, lawyers, and empowered young women she leaves behind. Perhaps most importantly, electing women is how we will see progress in America," Proctor said.

Ruth Bader Ginsberg was anything but ordinary, she was truly a champion of equality. By dedicating her life to making sure no women had to endure the discrimination she went through, her traits are not only admirable, but describe a true leader.

Because of all that she did, and all that she was, she can rest peacefully knowing that she created an empire of auspicious and confident young girls, who will continue to carry out her mission.

Ruth Bader Ginsberg  
3/15/33- 9/18/20

**"WOMEN BELONG IN ALL PLACES WHERE DECISIONS ARE BEING MADE."**

**-THE NOTORIOUS RUTH BADER GINSBERG**