

ENG - SPA Translation of: *Landmark Decision of the U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, No. 19-1392 - Opinion of the Court and Annexes.*

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Navas

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Dedication

To my mother, who was by my side at every step of the way. To my grandmother and grandfather, who believed in me and supported me to achieve my dreams and plans.

Silvia M. Arenas

To my grandmother, Ana, for her unconditional love, patience and support. To my mother Nini, who was always by my side, never doubted my abilities and was my emotional support across this journey. To my aunt, Claudia, on behalf of all family members who supported me in many possible ways to achieve this feat.

Ricardo E. Díaz

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It is through the collective determination of our entire group, driven by Heidy and Diego's exceptional leadership, that we could bring this extensive project to fruition successfully. We are truly grateful for their influence and the remarkable experience.

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Abstract

Title: ENG - SPA Translation of: *Landmark Decision of the U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, No. 19-1392 - Opinion of the Court and Annexes.**

Authors: Silvia Marcela Arenas Sarmiento, Ricardo Esteban Díaz Díaz & Guillermo Andrés Figueroa Navas.**

Key words: Abortion, Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Law, Legal Translation, Reproductive Health Care, Maternal Mortality, Supreme Court.

This document details the research and translation of the 2022 U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which overturned *Roe v. Wade* (1973) and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992), allowing states to regulate abortion. This undergraduate thesis focuses on the English - Spanish translation of the *Dobbs* ruling and its annexes, identifying translation challenges and strategies used throughout the process. The study examines U.S. jurisdictional discourse, analyzes the rationale behind abortion legislation, compares U.S. and Colombian legal terminology on sexual/reproductive rights, and creates a bilingual glossary. Conducted within a Functionalist approach, the research used documentary methods, including data matrices, field diaries, consulting sessions, and textual analysis. Results highlight translation challenges, coping strategies, and techniques implemented. This project enhances cross-cultural understanding of a significant U.S. ruling and offers insights into legal translation processes related to women's health and reproductive rights.

* Undergraduate Thesis.

** Faculty of Humanities. School of Languages. Director: Heidy Alegría Gutiérrez León. PhD in Translation Studies.

Resumen

Título: ING - ESP Traducción de: *Decisión Histórica de la Corte Suprema de los EE. UU. Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, No. 19-1392 – Opinión de la Corte y Anexos.**

Autores: Silvia Marcela Arenas Sarmiento, Ricardo Esteban Díaz Díaz & Guillermo Andrés Figueroa Navas.**

Palabras clave: Aborto, Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos, Derecho, Traducción Legal, Atención de la Salud Reproductiva, Mortalidad Maternal, Corte Suprema.

Este documento detalla la investigación y traducción de la decisión de la Corte Suprema de EE. UU. en *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, que anuló *Roe v. Wade* (1973) y *Planned Parenthood v. Casey* (1992). Este trabajo de grado se enfoca en la traducción inglés-español de la sentencia *Dobbs* y sus anexos, identificando desafíos y estrategias de traducción. El estudio examina el discurso jurisdiccional de EE. UU., los fundamentos de la legislación sobre el aborto, compara la terminología legal de EE. UU. y Colombia sobre derechos sexuales y reproductivos, y crea un glosario bilingüe. Con un enfoque funcionalista, se utilizaron métodos documentales como matrices de datos, diarios de campo, sesiones de consultoría y análisis textual. Los resultados destacan desafíos de traducción, estrategias de afrontamiento y técnicas implementadas. Este proyecto mejora la comprensión intercultural de un fallo significativo de EE. UU. y ofrece información sobre procesos de traducción legal relacionados con la salud y derechos reproductivos de las mujeres.

* Trabajo de grado.

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Doctora en Estudios de Traducción.

1. Statement of the Problem

This document presents the research and translation processes of this *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a Landmark Decision of the U.S Supreme Court ruled in 2022. The Opinion of the Court states that the Constitution does not establish a right to abortion, restoring the authority of U.S. states to regulate any aspect of abortion. The judicial precedents *Roe v Wade* (1973) and *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v Casey* (1992) conferred the constitutional right of abortion before fetus viability, based on the privacy rights of women (ROE v. WADE, 410 U.S. 113; *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey*), have been now overturned by the latest Court's decision in 2022.

This historical decision in the legislation of the United States has produced disagreement and debate across the country, because of the negative consequences this may imply for women. Undoubtedly, this brings serious consequences for the lives of women, mainly because banning safe abortion access and procedures urges women to look for clandestine abortion clinics or unsafe methods, resulting in a much higher rate of chances to die by an infection with an estimated 68,000 women dying each year (Shaw et al., 2010). Women under these circumstances can be forced to move to other states with less restrictive regulations. However, women with low resources do not have this option. Unsafe abortion is unethical as it infringes several sexual and reproductive rights, such as: Privacy, Freedom of thought, Life, Healthcare, Health Protection, Information, and Education (Adinma, 2011).

Pregnancies may not be wanted for a number of reasons, which could be medical, psychological, and socio economic. In many cases, women who seek an abortion are highly influenced by the socio-economic factor, as they may not have the necessary resources to raise their child. Statistics demonstrate that the negative health impacts and deaths resulting from unsafe

abortions mostly occur in developing countries (Adinma, 2011), mainly influenced by the legal restrictions on abortion and the generally poor development of healthcare systems. According to Shaw (2010), to analyze abortion legislation without considering the pregnant woman's context is one of the main causes of Maternal mortality. Furthermore, abortion disproportionately affects individuals, Black women in America are the most affected, with higher probabilities of mortality because of unsafe abortion procedures than any other racial group in the United States (Boatwright, 2022). Legal abortion access is important for narrowing the disparities between socioeconomic groups and racially oppressed races. Moreover, granting legal abortion access is an important step to gender equality, it gives opportunities for women to pursue their life goals, to get higher education, something that is incredibly difficult when a pregnancy happens unexpectedly and at young ages (Center for Reproductive Rights, 2021). In this order of ideas, women should have a determining choice in their own reproductive sexual rights, because it is an issue that affects women's integrity and future life.

Thus, the ruling of *Dobbs v. Jackson women's health organization* poses a threat to women's right to choose over their own pregnancies and autonomy of their bodies. One of the most prominent causes of this ruling is strongly linked to the latest right-wing stream taking over in the U.S government with the influence of figures such as Donald Trump. Historically, both Democrats and Republicans had expressed discontent with abortion, but since 1979 the Republican party has cast the highest votes against abortion, promoting a conservative pro-life discourse, and multiple of them began running for office (Whittum, 2022). Some of the predicted consequences of the ruling are as follows: increased mortality and morbidity rates, higher obstacles for women to access abortion in the correct time, denying the access to abortion at any stage, endangering the mental and physical well-being of pregnant people, and increasing social inequities (Kulczycki, 2022). It

is foreseen that a total ban on abortion can lead to a 21% increase in maternal mortality and a projected 33% increase for Black individuals (Stevenson, 2021, as cited in Kulczycki, 2022). Then, it is crucial to explore the political discourses that lead to historical rulings and potentially affect vulnerable groups.

Along these lines, this research/translation project aims to identify the challenges and coping strategies that the translation of such documents may entail. Firstly, we describe the background information of the ruling and the main research question leading to this project, as well as the relevance of carrying out this project for us as undergraduate students belonging to the School of Languages working hand in hand with the School of Law and Political Science from Universidad Industrial de Santander.

The legal document subject to translation comprises five components. It encompassed the *Syllabus*, which provides an overview of the case; the *Opinion of the Court*, which articulates the Court's judgment and rationale; *Appendix A* and *Appendix B* to the *Opinion of the Court*, providing supplementary data and substantiation. Furthermore, it incorporates *Concurring Opinions* (THOMAS, J., KAVANAUGH, J., and ROBERTS, C. J.) and *Dissenting Opinions* (BREYER, SOTOMAYOR, and KAGAN, JJ.)¹, wherein Justices expressed their consonance or divergence from the Court's determination. An *Appendix* to the *Opinions of Dissenting Justices* is also incorporated. The scope of our group's endeavor was constrained to the translation of the *Opinion of the Court* section, along with its accompanying *Appendices A and B*, and represented the most extensive segment of the document. The remaining sections, namely the *Syllabus*, *Concurring and*

¹ J. meaning Justice; C. J. meaning Chief Justice; JJ. meaning Junior Justice/Associate Justice.

Dissenting Opinions, and the *Appendix to the Opinions of Dissenting Justices*, are undertaken by separate teams.

1.1. Research Question

What challenges and coping strategies can be identified in the ENG – SPA translation process of the Landmark Decision of the U.S Supreme Court *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*?

2. Justification

First of all, the relevance of this project relies on the need to understand the reasons behind this controversial decision. Regulations in access to abortion is a highly sensitive topic that counts as a human rights matter (Sifris & Belton, 2017), after *Dobbs v Jackson women's health organization* more than 75 professional medical organizations, including the American Medical Association, manifested a common statement affirming that abortion is essential reproductive health care (Stephenson-Famy, 2023). This project is of major relevance because the translation of this historic ruling from English into Spanish may be useful as a tool for the analysis of the political panorama surrounding abortion in the United States. Likewise, this translation may shed light on the rationale behind this decision and the analysis of potential similar decisions in other countries or judicial systems in the world, for legal results in the United States have historically had a powerful influence in other legislations. In addition, this project aims to conduct analysis of the translation challenges, processes, and decision-making of this endeavor.

3. Objectives

3.1. General Objective

Translate from English to Spanish the Opinion of the Court and annexes of the Landmark Decision of the U.S Supreme Court *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* while identifying and registering the challenges and coping strategies in the translation process.

3.2. Specific Objectives

The following three specific objectives were established for this project. First, to examine the jurisdictional discourse and principles of the legal system in the United States. Second, to analyze the rationale surrounding abortion legislation in the U.S and locally. And third, to compare legal discourses and terminology regarding sexual and reproductive rights in the U.S and Colombia.

4. Literature Review

4.1. Abortion Rulings

4.1.1. Rulings in the United States

The rulings of the Supreme Court of the United States have significantly influenced changes in laws and policies regarding abortion in many other countries. The landmark case of *Roe v. Wade*, in 1973, established that the right to privacy under the 14th Amendment protects a woman's choice to have an abortion (ROE v. WADE, 410 U.S. 113, 1973). Concurrently, the case of *Doe v. Bolton*, also in 1973, declared Georgia's abortion law unconstitutional, shaping subsequent abortion rights and regulations (Doe v. Bolton, 410 U.S. 179, 1973).

In 1992, another pivotal case challenged Pennsylvania's Abortion Control Act, asserting that its provisions were unconstitutional and violated the precedent set by *Roe v. Wade*. This reaffirmed a woman's previously granted right to abortion (Planned Parenthood of Southeastern

Pennsylvania v. Casey, 1992). These cases offer essential background for understanding the context of *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. Nevertheless, it is important to acknowledge concerns, such as allegations that the woman represented in *Roe v. Wade* was misled by her lawyers during the case (Gamboa, 2022).

4.1.2. Rulings in Colombia

It is of utmost importance to consider the context of the legal context of Colombia and its rulings formats, as for this project people from Colombia are the expected readership. Furthermore, it is of vital importance to take into consideration different rulings that have shaped the Colombian legal system. One of the most important rulings was the one from case *C-355*, in which abortion was decriminalized in three exceptional cases: when the woman's life or health is in jeopardy, when the pregnancy is a consequence of rape or incest, and when the fetus has malformations incompatible with life (Corte Constitucional de Colombia, 2006). It is also of outstanding importance to remark that this ruling was heavily influenced by rulings from the supreme court of the U.S. as many of them were referenced in this case report.

More recently, in 2022, the right to abortion was expanded, allowing women, girls, non-binary people, and transgender men to terminate their pregnancies according to their own reasons and without the threat of jail time, during the first 24 weeks of gestation (Corte Constitucional de Colombia, 2022). Nonetheless, a pregnant woman is eligible to obtain an abortion under the exceptional cases proposed in 2006 even after the 24 weeks of gestation, without criminal penalty.

Although the ruling is of utmost importance and brought many changes and advances in the protection of the life and health of women, its implementation has been affected by many factors. One of the factors which represent a barrier against the due and correct process of abortion is the lack of information from health service providers and organizations. In the case of the *T-697*

ruling from 2016, a fourteen-year-old girl was allegedly raped by a family member with whom she lived. The ICBF (Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar)² took charge of the situation and tried to persuade the girl of her decision to end her pregnancy. On top of that, the ICBF delayed the process carried out by her relatives, refusing the authorities to interview the girl who defended her decision. As a result of this situation the girl had to give birth to her child.

Another aspect that hinders the enforcement of the law is the moral authority that many people believe they have. For instance, in the *T-284* ruling from 2020, a sixteen-year-old girl was denied the right to IVE (Interrupción Voluntaria del Embarazo for its Spanish acronym) and the argument used to finalize the process was that "having acted freely at that time [during sexual intercourse] (she) must bear the respective consequences" (*T-284*, 2020). The hidden message behind that ruling is that women's right to decide upon their sexual and reproductive life still needs to be built in the country. The Colombian legal system's underpinnings are from patriarchal and traditional roots that need to be challenged and deconstructed so as to comply with the autonomy of women and their right to freely make their own decisions.

History can sometimes go backwards and forwards and that can be evidenced in this process. We have already mentioned that in 2020 a sixteen-year-old girl was denied her right to abortion. However, in 2018, through the *SU-096* ruling, the 36th Municipal Criminal Court decreed a provisional measure in favor of Mrs. Emma (false name used to protect the plaintiff's real identity) which ordered the EPS (Health Insurance Company) to perform the required pregnancy termination procedure within 5 days. The EPS was forced to comply after a long process of persuasion.

² Colombian Institution in charge of the protection of children's rights and safety.

4.1.2.1. **Obstacles to Regulation.** In Colombia, many advances have been made in terms of regulations regarding the termination of pregnancy. According to Amado et al., women and health professionals are better informed about the new pro-abortion rulings and some health providers have reduced barriers to accessing these services (2010). However, much remains to be done in order to fully guarantee this right, taking into account that Colombia is a very diverse country in which these laws may be affected in marginalized communities or in places where people do not have the necessary resources in terms of infrastructure or personnel.

Another risk is the continued unsafe practice of abortion in illegal centers. According to Moloney, between 320,000 and 450,000 clandestine abortions were carried out every year (2009, p. 534), and this figure may have increased ten years later. One of the reasons why this happens is because laws do not cover all the cases in which a woman decides to have an abortion, although more and more situations have been taken into account. Medical personnel and the Catholic Church also played an important role as a doctor could completely refrain from practicing such a procedure and the religious culture often tended to persuade women and even punish them to the limits of excommunication.

It is crucial to keep in mind that criminalizing abortion does not mean that it will not continue to be done, since "in South America alone, approximately 30 of every 1,000 women (between 15 and 45 years old) have one abortion per year" (Zúñiga, 2011, p. 165) Regulation in favor of women's lives would, however, go a long way towards safeguarding women's rights, their physical integrity and their mental health.

4.2. History of Abortion Legislation

4.2.1. History of Abortion Legislation Globally

The history of abortion legislation developed in a quite interesting way. According to Pizzarossa (2018), in the 1950s there was a growing demographic concern of population growth, and in 1954, the UN assembled a Conference to merely discuss the issue. In 1965, the UN ordered another Conference about the same issue in Belgrade, and by this time the literature on population growth was alarming; the prevailing discourse was that control of population was needed because the population was growing at high rates, and it would generate problems such as starvation. Nowadays, thanks to the scientific development around this issue we can assert that this is a myth, a type of conservative/right-wing propaganda, since it has been proved that there is enough space for everyone.

In current times, a series of Governments across the globe have gone towards the liberal side of abortion regulations with the aim of enhancing accessibility and safeguarding human rights (Skuster et al., 2022). International Human Rights have evolved to support the liberalization and decriminalization of abortion, the standards are to respect at least these three situations: when the life of the mother is in danger, when there was a sexual crime (incest, rape), and when there is severe fetal abnormality (Erdamn, 2020). The literature reveals that, despite the criminalization and restrictions of Abortion procedures, there is no sign of them decreasing, it encourages people to look for unsafe abortion methods, out of official healthcare settings, which increases the mortality rate of pregnant people immensely (Skuster et al., 2022; Whittum, 2022).

At the present juncture, France became the first country to include the right of abortion in their constitution (Al Jazeera, March 8, 2024). In a historic joint session at the Palace of Versailles, the French Parliament voted in favor of guaranteeing abortion as a constitutional right on

International Women's Day. The President of France, Emmanuel Macron, sealed the amendment and pushed for the rest of Europe to follow the decision, emphasizing the relevance of protecting women's reproductive rights.

4.2.2. History of Abortion Legislation in the United States

The history of Abortion Legislation in the United States has gone through multiple changes. Abortion practices have existed for a very long time, there has been documentation of this prior to pre-colonial times. In the United States, tribal societies used to practice abortions and it was legal, using herbal based methods (Whittum, 2022). By the 1800's, the Common Law Court of Great Britain criminalized Abortion in the United States, enacting laws that limited abortion only when there was a fetal movement, also recognized as "Quickening". In the late 1800's, abortion became legal only when the mother's life was in danger. Whittum (2022) asserts that by the 1930's, due to the multiple restrictions, about 1/5 of women's death in the United States were because of an abortion. Also, the author points out how abortion laws are a reflection of a government's Common Law Court at that time.

By 1965, the historic ruling of *Roe v Wade* took place, Norma McCorvey, who went by the pseudonym of Jane Roe, was pregnant with her third child and sought an abortion, but she lived in the state of Texas where abortion was completely illegal unless it risked the mother's life. So, in 1970 her attorneys Sarah Weddington and Linda Coffee filed a lawsuit against the local attorney Henry Wade, arguing that Texas abortion laws were unconstitutional because it was a violation of privacy rights. In 1973, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of Roe since the right to abortion was included in the right to privacy, making abortion legal in Texas and other states. As years went past, advances in medicine and technology introduced new techniques that facilitated abortion in safer ways, tools such as "the manual vacuum aspirator".

In 2022, the Supreme Court of the U.S overturned *Roe v Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, criminalizing abortion once again. In 2018, the state of Mississippi passed a law banning abortion after 15 weeks, except when there was a “medical emergency” and “severe fetal abnormality” (Parness, 2022), the request was rejected by federal courts stating that it was unconstitutional to ban abortion before the fetus viability, which was between 23-24 weeks. However, Mississippi appealed to revisit the law again in order to bring down *Roe v Wade*, in 2021 the Court agreed to consider the case and the majority opinion was willing to eliminate the ruling. Afterwards, many states enacted higher restrictions for abortion and those that were Republican-led began criminalizing abortion completely, resulting in higher morbidity and mortality rates of women in America. More recently, Florida stated their new law of abortion, which only allows abortion until six weeks after pregnancy and clarified the exceptions in case of rape, incest and human trafficking, up to 15 weeks of pregnancy (Quinn, 2024).

4.2.3. History of Abortion Legislation in Colombia

In Colombia, the history of abortion legislation has been influenced by factors such as religious beliefs, cultural factors and the State. In the pre-colonial era, abortion procedures happened and were legal. However, in 1890 The Colombian Penal Code criminalized abortion, but did not penalize it in certain cases due to "scientific demands," especially when it was performed by a doctor to save the woman's life (Montoya, 2016).

In the case of the different regulations that have been made in the country in favor or against abortion it is important to start with the *C-133* ruling from 1994 which states that "the Court equates the unborn with the human person and grants him absolute protection as an expression of the value of life. Considers that human life is intrinsically valuable and that it is morally and legally unacceptable to end a life already begun".

This ruling from the Constitutional Court of Colombia sets a precedent in which the life and health of the woman will not be taken into account at the time of pregnancy so that she will not have the authorization to terminate it legally in any case. From here on it is a tug of war to give the woman the authority to decide on her body, if required.

4.3. Viewpoints of Abortion and their Effect on Politics

People from a variety of fields have taken different positions and perspectives when it comes to a topic such as abortion. For instance, some doctors can have a very conservative opinion about abortion, considering that in any case human life begins at conception and abortion is something to be rejected ethically (Gaete, 2021). In fact, just very recently in the year 1991 the catholic church deemed abortion as a homicide (Montoya, 2016).

Nonetheless, the subject of abortion has been integral to the female experience ever since she is able to create and birth another life. In eras predating modern times, medical advances, lack of safe procedures frequently led women to pursue unsafe, underground options, often endangering health and many times resulting in mortality. In the modern era, technological and medical developments have enabled abortion to be conducted safely in sanitary medical environments, becoming one of the safest medical procedures (Kulczycki, 2022). However, discourse surrounding abortion access remains complex, contentious and multifaceted nowadays, where women still have to look for unsafe abortion under the judicial system of their country, state or province.

In discourse surrounding abortion, it is imperative to acknowledge the centrality of the woman. The circumstances surrounding women globally exhibit considerable variability, and women find themselves in vulnerable positions. Such vulnerability may arise from threats to their lives, a lack of resources necessary for child-rearing, or the unfortunate occurrence of pregnancy

resulting from abusive and non-consensual encounters. Although pregnancy is expected to be a joyful life event, the realities are divergent and complex. The decision to terminate a pregnancy, although ethically complex, is one that many women across global contexts feel necessitated to contemplate. Thus, Socioeconomic realities of women experiencing unexpected or unwanted pregnancies represent core considerations. Also, it is found in the literature that women from minority groups are the ones who have the most abortions, black women in the United States represent the highest rate of abortion from all the race groups, almost five times more than white women (Lenzen, 2022). A long-term study analyzing over 9 million births in hospitals discovered that Black women had a 53% higher likelihood of dying during childbirth in the hospital compared to women of other races (Boatwright, 2022).

While societal portrayals often idealize pregnancy as the pinnacle of a woman's existence and a paramount life event, the actuality is considerably more intricate. Many women find themselves compelled to jeopardize their well-being over a societal expectation placed upon them. Nevertheless, it is crucial to refrain from trivializing this problematic situation. Women, like all individuals, possess inherent human rights, particularly in the domain of reproductive and sexual health.

4.3.1. Catholic Constitutionalism

In the same year in which The Constitutional Court Ruling *C-355* was issued in 2006, a movement against it began to rise. This important law ruling in our country, which decriminalizes the practice of abortion in three important cases (sexual abuse, risk of women's health and complications of the foetus) has become the focus of a countermobilization promoted by a "Catholic constitutionalism" (Beltrán y Puga & Monsalve, 2022) despite being an advance in the guarantee of the fundamental rights which every woman possess.

This Catholic constitutionalism is understood as the influence of the Catholic religion and its beliefs on constitutional law. Since then, different representatives have argued against the progress of judgment *C-355*. Many of these arguments have no legal basis, only religious, as by being catholic they have to follow and be governed by what their people in the Vatican establish.

The Catholic religion has always spoken out against abortion using arguments such as that life is sacred since its conception. Anything that goes against that is a sin. (Hoyos Castañeda, 2009). Many of the appeals filed, which used *nullity* as the main strategy used against abortion, were made by individuals whose origin is linked to the Catholic Church, that is, there was never participation of people belonging to other religions (Beltrán y Puga & Monsalve, 2022).

To the strategy of using *nullity* in legal proceedings are added the use of elaborate arguments which appeal to the psychological damage that a woman who practices abortion can suffer and even the incompetence of the institutions providing health services. Not to mention that the main authority figures in the country in the different branches promulgate Catholicism and have been always doing what they can to fight against abortion.

4.4. Human Rights and Abortion

There is an endless moral and legal debate regarding the practice of abortion that tries to take into account two incompatible views. The first considers the point of view of women, who can access abortion by guaranteeing their basic human rights and the second takes into account the possible rights of the fetus to which legally protected interests can be attributed.

Human rights are attributes that should be enjoyed by all without distinction and can only be limited when they affect another. In that order of ideas, a collective interest cannot override an individual interest. According to Alejandra Zúñiga, many women die every day from problems

related to pregnancy or complications at the time of delivery (2011). Even without taking into consideration the right to abortion as such, the figures she shows (1,500 deaths of women per day in Chile) give us an idea of everything that is ignored in order to defend an unborn.

One of the most used arguments against abortion is the pain caused to the fetus, which attributes to that "organism" self-interest when it does not. According to Dworkin, as cited by Domingo, a fetus cannot feel pain until the end of pregnancy because its brain is not fully developed to feel it (1995). The latest medical research published in various scientific journals indicates that fetuses are only able to feel pain at 29 or 30 weeks, between 6 and 7 months of pregnancy, since the brain structures where an unpleasant stimulus is recognized are the last that are formed during gestation (Zúñiga, 2011).

This argument invalidates many of the others that anti-abortion groups argue. These groups consider the fetus almost as a moral entity, which leads us to question whether this is possible. For that, John Rawls, based on Kant's theory, tells us that moral people are those who possess a sense of justice and a certain conception of good (1971). Capabilities and characteristics that a newborn human being does not possess.

In hopes to end the debate, we must consider the role of women above anything else. According to Thompson (1971), the mother has the legitimate right to abort considering that we cannot demerit or detract from her role as a woman leading her to favor the life of another individual over hers.

4.5. Translation Processes

Translating legal documents, especially rulings, requires meticulous attention to the field, translation techniques, and anticipation of potential problems. Achieving accurate translations

involves considering the functions, structures, and linguistic properties of legal texts (Berūkštienė, 2016). Additionally, adopting linguistic approaches relevant to the target audience is crucial (Hafida, 2020). To navigate the challenges of translating legal phrases, interpreters must engage in lexical interpretation and contextual recreation to ensure precise semantic and contextual understanding (Giurizzato, 2016). Legal discourse, with its specialized terminology and complex structures like binomials, demands an understanding of underlying values systems for effective translation (Andrades, 2016).

5. Theoretical Framework

5.1. Background

In the pursuit of fostering a cross-cultural understanding of the ruling *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization* and ensuring access to it, this study seeks to bridge linguistic gaps by undertaking the translation of the pivotal legal ruling from English to Spanish as well as the analysis of the translation strategies and techniques used in such endeavor. As legal systems continue to interact on a global scale, the need for accurate and culturally sensitive translations of legal documents becomes increasingly pronounced. For instance, the Department of Justice and Constitutional Development (DoJ&CD) of South Africa inviting more applications for positions for “legislative language practitioners” is an example of this (Cornelius, 2011). This study aims not only to facilitate comprehension but also to contribute to the development of the theoretical foundation for legal translation, exploring the nuanced challenges of rendering complex legal concepts from one language to another.

5.2. Legal Translation

For translating a legal document, it is crucial to be aware of the difficulties that might appear during such a process as well as there is a need for understanding on which aspects differ

legal translation from other types of translation. Legal translation refers to the rendering of legal texts from a source language (SL) into a target language (TL). It can be categorized in several ways, such as by subject matter, status of the SL texts, functions of legal texts, and purposes of the TL texts (Cao, 2007, p. 191). There are several sources of difficulty in legal translation, such as systemic differences in law, with legal systems having different terminology, conceptual structures, classification rules, etc. These differences reflect their history and culture; linguistic contrasts, as legal languages do not necessarily share equivalent terminology and have different styles; and cultural differences, as law expresses different conceptions of justice and peace, so legal translators must bridge cultural barriers (Cao, 2007, p. 192-193). On the whole, legal translation is seen as difficult and complex due to differences in legal systems, language, and culture across jurisdictions.

5.3. Documentary Translation

According to Nord (1991) documentary translation “serves as a document of a source culture communication between the author and the source text” (p. 72). Nord implies that through the act of translating a document, the translator is preserving and conveying not only the linguistic content but also the cultural aspects and the original communication intent of the author. Additionally, Documentary translations often function as texts that unveil the initial form of communication between the creator and the receiver of a source text (Nord, 1997). In that sense, “literal” ways of translation must also be conceived as documentary translation (Dos Santos, 2016). As the focus of this investigation involves translating a legal document, it is only appropriate to try to change as little as possible from the original text, bringing a literal translation of *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* ruling.

5.4. Technical Translation

Technical translation is a specialized form of translation that involves the conversion of technical documents or content from one language to another. The aim of technical translation is to convey complex technical information as accurately and clearly as possible in the target language, keeping the use and meaning of technical terminology (Pik-Nathan, 2023). In this sense, technical translation is pivotal for the translation of documents with heavy use of technical terminology, as it is a legal document such as a ruling.

6. Methodological Design

6.1. Type of Investigation

This project follows a qualitative approach, since we conduct in-depth text analysis to gain insights on legislative discourse, the rationale behind abortion legislation, and to identify the main challenges while translating the source text, as well as identify the main techniques used in this translation process. In addition, we use the method called Documentary Research because one of our main purposes is to analyze a series of past judicial archives regarding the *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling. According to Bordet (2014), Documentary Research can have two objectives in specialized translation studies: the first, is to collect and connect information for the understanding of the specific field; the second is to select a corpus of documents that represent the diversity of the discursive production with respect to the activity, in both the source and target language (p. 4).

6.2. Resources and Techniques

Firstly, we conduct a thorough approximation to the context of the source text, to the documentation and do consulting sessions with our project Director and professor Diego Hernández from the School of Law and Political Science. Secondly, a bilingual documentation

will be carried out, for general and specific information about the theme of the source text, using parallel texts. Thirdly, throughout the translation process, we elaborated a glossary with terminological extraction for the technical terms. Fourthly, we had a field diary to document all the challenges and coping strategies of the translation from English to Spanish of the Opinion of the Court plus annexes.

To carry out this translation project, we developed a parallel text matrix to collect contextual and terminological information, both general and specific, related to the topic of the source text. We also created a glossary containing the extraction and translation of technical terms appearing in the texts. These tools, along with a field diary where we will register the challenges and strategies for addressing the English-to-Spanish translation of the *Court's Opinion* and *Annexes*, are attached in this report with the aim of serving as methodological support in the translation process.

6.2.1. Translation Techniques

In this investigation, we carried out an analysis of how much and which translation techniques were used in the process of translating the *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling from English to Spanish. These translation techniques may include but are not limited to the following (Molina & Hurtado Albir, 2002, p. 509-511; Pokasamrit, 2013, p. 215):

- *Adaptation*, which refers to the substitution of a cultural element from the source culture with one from the target culture.
- *Linguistic amplification*, which involves adding linguistic elements.
- *Loan translation*, which entails the literal translation of a foreign word or phrase.

- *Compensation*, which occurs when a source text (ST) element, whether informational or stylistic, is introduced elsewhere in the target text (TT) due to constraints in mirroring the same placement as in the ST.
- *Amplification*, which involves introducing details not explicitly expressed in the ST.
- *Linguistic compression*, in which linguistic elements in the TT are synthesized.

6.2.2. Color Coding

Color coding is the systematic use of color to classify and differentiate elements and it requires thoughtful selection of colors based on perceptual principles (Wong, 2010). It is our intent to use color coding to keep track of the use of the aforementioned translation techniques that will be used in the translation process of *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling.

6.2.3. Diaries

Diaries are a useful primary data collection tool for gathering longitudinal or time-series data from participants by having them self-report information at regular intervals or during certain events (Taherdoost, 2021, p. 31). Our intention is that each of us use diaries to keep track of the different difficulties that may appear during the translation process of *Dobbs v Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling from English to Spanish, to observe the difficulties that can appear on such endeavors.

7. Results and Discussion

The main purpose of this research is to translate the *Opinion of the Court* in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, while identifying the main challenges in the process. Along these lines, this section aims to present and assess the challenges across the translation process and the coping strategies used to deal with those challenges.

The legal document subject to translation comprises five components. It encompassed the *Syllabus*, which provides an overview of the case; the *Opinion of the Court*, which articulates the Court's judgment and rationale; *Appendix A* and *Appendix B* to the *Opinion of the Court*, providing supplementary data and substantiation. Furthermore, it incorporates *Concurring Opinions* (THOMAS, J., KAVANAUGH, J., and ROBERTS, C. J.) and *Dissenting Opinions* (BREYER, SOTOMAYOR, and KAGAN, JJ.), wherein Justices expressed their consonance or divergence from the Court's determination. An *Appendix to the Opinions of Dissenting Justices* is also incorporated. The scope of our group's endeavor was constrained to the translation of the *Opinion of the Court* section, along with its accompanying *Appendices A and B*, and represented the most extensive segment of the document. The remaining sections, namely the *Syllabus*, *Concurring and Dissenting Opinions*, and the *Appendix to the Opinions of Dissenting Justices*, are undertaken by separate teams.

7.1. Translation Procedure

As part of the research methodology, the group convened regular weekly meetings to review and refine the translations made by each member in real-time. During these sessions, we collectively read through the translated content, provided constructive feedback, and made necessary corrections to ensure the accuracy and cohesion of the final text.

In order to optimize the translation process, we divided the source material into three distinct segments, which were then allocated to the different members of the research team. This collaborative dynamic allowed us to leverage the diverse linguistic expertise within the group, thereby enhancing the quality and consistency of the translations.

The Supreme Court ruling in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* is a legal document extending over 213 pages, which methodically addresses the constitutionality of

abortion rights. The macrotextual analysis reveals a well-structured opinion that begins with a syllabus summarizing the legal context, procedural history, and the final holding. The ruling meticulously outlines the key statutes, the decisions of the lower courts, and the Supreme Court's rationale for overturning *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. This structure is crucial for guiding the reader through the complex legal reasoning. On a microtextual level, the ruling employs precise legal terminology and a formal tone to ensure clarity and authority. Terms such as *stare decisis*, *gestational age*, and *rational-basis review*³ are used to articulate the legal principles and arguments. The language is formal and unambiguous, reflecting the gravity of the decision and its implications for state authority over abortion regulation. This detailed linguistic and structural analysis underscores the thoroughness and judicial rigor of the Supreme Court's opinion.

In conducting this analysis, we utilized a variety of specialized resources to ensure accuracy and depth. Information from specialized legal dictionaries and multilingual legal databases, such as Law.com, Merriam-Webster and Reverso, provided precise definitions and context for key terms used in the ruling. Additionally, we referenced parallel and non-parallel texts to compare and contrast the legal reasoning and language employed in similar rulings from the U.S. and Colombia, which helped to highlight unique aspects of the *Dobbs* decision. These

³ Rational-basis review implies that a state's restriction on abortion would be upheld if the state can demonstrate that the law is rationally related to legitimate interests, such as protecting prenatal life or women's health, without requiring the more stringent scrutiny applied in previous landmark cases like *Roe and Casey*.

resources collectively enriched the analysis by providing a comprehensive understanding of the legal terminology, principles, and precedents that underpin the Supreme Court's decision.

7.2. Terminological Extraction and Glossary

We undertook a comprehensive approach to design a glossary of technical legal terms relevant to this study. We began by constructing an extensive information matrix, through which we systematically cataloged and analyzed pertinent terminology from a corpus of more than 45 source texts, both parallel and non-parallel in nature. This rigorous data collection and synthesis process allowed us to identify the essential legal terms, acronyms and expressions that were central to the research topic. As described by Kramar et al. (2021), "The process of identifying and extracting relevant terminology from a specialized corpus is a crucial step in developing comprehensive glossaries or terminological databases" (p. 23).

Building upon this foundational information matrix, we then proceeded to expand and refine the glossary of legal terms. In this endeavor, we incorporated an additional step of cross-referencing the *Opinion of the Court and Annexes of the Landmark Decision of the U.S Supreme Court Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. By aligning the glossary entries with the terminology used in this ruling, we were able to further enhance the glossary's depth, accuracy, and practical relevance to the study.

Certainly, the glossary represents a main output derived from the research and translation process. In the following lines, we will describe in detail the processes and methodology of the glossary creation:

- a. **Creation of a Foundational Information Matrix:** Upon reading the source document, we identified the technical terms and most common terms. Then, we chose parallel texts such as rulings in Colombia and the U.S. to identify more terms.
- b. **Terms extraction:** besides searching for the meaning in a specialized dictionary, we also looked for the meaning used in context, from several legal sources. It was necessary to check how the terms were used in the field.
- c. **Alphabetical organization of terms:** We found it more practical to arrange the glossary in alphabetical order. (See Figure 1.)
- d. **Updating the glossary regularly:** As we advanced in the translation, new terms emerged, so we had to update the glossary.
- e. **Revision of the Glossary:** Along the process, we had to make revisions of the glossary. There was peer review and mentor review, since we consulted Law students and a Law professor to help us reassure the glossary's accuracy.

Figure 1

Excerpt of the technical glossary, created especially for this translation

| Glossary | |
|--|--|
| English term | Spanish translation |
| To all whom these Presents may come, be seen or known | A quienes recibieren, vieren o conocieran el presente |
| To serve and avail as occasion shall or may require | Para que conste a los efectos oportunos-para que sea usado cuando la ocasión lo requiera |
| To the best of my knowledge and belief ... | Según mi leal saber y entender |
| To Whom it May Concern | A quien pueda interesarle |
| Legal implications | Trascendencia jurídica |
| Trigger laws | Leyes o legislación por circunstancias desencadenantes. |
| Trimesters | Trimestre |
| Trustee | Fideicomisario |
| Ultima ratio | Ultima ratio |
| Unconstitutional | Inconstitucional-anticonstitucional |
| Undue burden | Carga excesiva-carga indebida |
| Unica ratio | Unica ratio |
| United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (Unicef) | Fondo Internacional de Emergencia de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia |
| Unwed mother | Madre soltera |
| Upheld | Ratificado |
| Void for vagueness | Vacío (legal) por vaguedad |
| Warrant | Orden |
| We have caused our corporate seal to be here affixed | Estampamos el sello de nuestra institución en el presente documento-hemos estampado el sello de nuestra institución en el presente documento |
| Whereof | De lo cual, en testimonio/fe de lo cual |
| Will | Testamento |
| Witness my hand - Given under my hand | Mi firma y sello es testigo |
| Witnesseth | Atestigua-presencia |

Also, a section was added for the meaning of Latinisms, from both Colombian and American contexts.

Figure 2

List of Latinisms

Amicus curiae: An "amicus curiae" (also "amicus curiæ"; plural amici curiae, literally friend of the court) is someone who is not a party to a case, who offers information that bears on the case but who has not been solicited by any of the parties to assist a court.

Amicus curiae: El "amicus curiae" (amigo de la corte o amigo del tribunal) es una expresión latina utilizada para referirse a presentaciones realizadas por terceros ajenos a un litigio, que ofrecen voluntariamente su opinión frente a algún punto de derecho u otro aspecto relacionado, para colaborar con el tribunal en la resolución de la materia objeto del proceso.

Ceteris paribus: "Ceteris paribus" or "ceterus paribus" is a Latin phrase meaning "with other things the same" or "all other things being equal or held constant". A prediction or a statement about a causal, empirical, or logical relation between two states of affairs is "ceteris paribus" entails an acknowledgement that the prediction, although usually accurate in expected conditions, can fail or the relation can be abolished by intervening factors.

7.3. Main Challenges Across the Translation Process

7.3.1. *Legal Terminology and Complex-Compound Nouns*

Across the translation process, we faced multiple issues in terms of the certainty of technical terms from the legal field. As translators and undergraduate students of foreign languages, we were not completely knowledgeable of this field of study. There were technical terms that we have never come across before. Therefore, we needed to use a number of tools in order to find out the most accurate rendering for the technical terms.

The language of Law is deeply entangled in the cultural, historical, and institutional contexts of each legal system (Soriano, 2020 p. 287; Pommer, 2008, p. 18). Legal terms encapsulate nuanced meanings shaped by precedents, doctrines, and principles that are peculiar to their source legal traditions. As Trosborg (1991) describes, one of the main characteristics regarding legal language include long sentences, syntactic complexity, passive constructions,

multiple technical terms, archaic expressions and common terms with meanings specific to legal usage (p. 66).

Along these lines, there was a common mistake that may have seemed minimal, but we realized that it actually was stopping us from reaching the best result in the translation process. For instance, the English term *Brief* should not be translated literally as *Resumen* in Spanish, as the most accurate equivalent in legal language from the United States is *Memorial*. Nevertheless, this does not mean that *resumen* is an incorrect translation in other contexts, but both *briefs* and *memoriales* refers, in the legal context, to a report.

Incorrect Translation:

| ST | TT |
|-------|---------|
| Brief | Resumen |

Correct Translation:

| ST | TT |
|-------|----------|
| Brief | Memorial |

Another illustrative example is the term *Legislature*, which cannot be directly translated as *Legislatura* in the Colombian legal context. Instead, the appropriate rendition is *Cuerpo Legislativo* (Legislative Body).

Incorrect Translation:

ST

Legislature

TT

Legislatura

Correct Translation:

ST

Legislature

TT

Cuerpo Legislativo

Along these types of terms there is also *legislator* (p. 29) as it cannot be translated as *legislador* due to the use of this word in the Colombian context, with a more appropriate translation being *congresista* as it is not referring to the actual lawmakers⁴. It was also explained to us during proofreading sessions that *legislator* and *legislador* do not mean the same due to the differences of both legal systems.

Incorrect Translation:

ST

legislator

TT

Legislador

Correct Translation:

ST

legislator

TT

Congresista

⁴ This does not particularly mean that “congresistas” cannot be “legisladores” as well.

Although being more of a medical term⁵ rather than a legal term, there was some confusion on the translation of the term *sanitary fair* (p. 13) that was first translated into *feria sanitaria*, but it proved to be inappropriate for a translation whose target readership are people that speak a Colombian Spanish, because in Colombia it is known as *feria de salud*. Then, taking into consideration the target culture, we applied an adaptation technique in this case, finally translating it as *feria de salud*.

Incorrect Translation:

ST

sanitary fair

TT

feria sanitaria

Correct Translation:

ST

sanitary fair

TT

feria de salud

One cannot rely on surface similarities when translating legal terms. The concepts and institutional structures behind the terms can be really different across legal systems, even if the words seem alike at first glance. Legal translators need a deep understanding of the meaning and

⁵ Although this is a legal translation project, the glossary may also include terms from the health field, as the Supreme Court ruling is closely related to the issue of women's health and reproductive rights.

context and actual use behind the terms in both the source and target legal traditions - not just finding word equivalents.

As it is explained in the literature, legal language implements a specialized discourse. The law translator often comes across with binomials and various complex-compound nouns (Andrades, 2016). A challenge arises from the inherent complexity and intricacy of legal texts, which often employ intricate syntactic structures, specialized vocabulary, and complex sentence constructions. Preserving the intended meaning while adhering to the linguistic and stylistic conventions of the target legal system can be a demanding task, requiring a deep understanding of both the source and target legal systems, as well as solid linguistic and translational skills. Occasionally, we found it difficult to translate complex-compound nouns in the text, because the Spanish language does not have similar uses as the English language.

Example extracted from page 61

ST

The Courts of Appeals have experienced particular difficulty in applying the *large-fraction-of-relevant-cases test*.

TT

Las Cortes de Apelación han experimentado dificultades particulares en la aplicación de *la prueba de una gran fracción de casos relevantes*.

Example extracted from page 36

| ST | TT |
|---|---|
| We have held that the “established method of <i>substantive-due-process</i> analysis” requires... | Hemos sostenido que el “método establecido de <i>análisis sustantivo del debido proceso</i> ” requiere... |

Example extracted from page 6

| ST | TT |
|---|--|
| ...only six countries besides the United States “permit[ted] nontherapeutic or elective <i>abortion-on-demand</i> after the twentieth week of gestation.” | ...sólo seis países, aparte de los Estados Unidos, “permitie[ron] el <i>derecho al aborto</i> no terapéutico o a elección después de la vigésima semana de gestación.” |

For an effective translation of complex-compound nouns, we carried out the following strategies:

- a. Analysis of compound nouns in the source text in order to identify its constituent elements and their semantic relationships between elements
- b. Consultation of specialized dictionaries, parallel texts, and language corpora in order to understand the accepted translations and usages in the target language.
- c. Assessment of contextual cues and cultural implications to ensure accurate rendering of the intended meaning.

7.3.1.1. **Terminological Consistency.** As there are different possible translations for the terminology used in legal translation, and particularly because of the translation was carried out by three team members, it has been a great challenge to keep a terminological consistency between words and it has proven to be one issue that needs to be considered on this type of translation through constant revision of the target text and the glossary, as “The consistency and accuracy of terminology are central aspects of translation quality and, therefore, key aims of translation-oriented terminology management” (Prieto, 2021, p. 128).

One example is the term *common law*, which is a frequent technical term of the source text. At times, in the translation process it was translated as *derecho común*, and other times as *derecho consuetudinario*, which is a terminological consistency issue. Then, we came to an agreement to use *derecho consuetudinario* since, according to our research, it is a more common translation of the term in Colombia. Then, choosing one translation for technical terms ensured the translation was of quality and accuracy.

Example of inconsistency extracted from page 16

ST

American law followed the *common law* until a wave of statutory restrictions in the 1800s expanded criminal liability for abortions.

At *common law*, abortion was criminal in at least some stages of pregnancy...

TT

La ley estadounidense siguió al *derecho consuetudinario* hasta que una serie de restricciones legales en los años 1800 expandieron la responsabilidad penal por aborto.

En *derecho común*, el aborto era un crimen en al menos algunas etapas del embarazo...

Example of consistency extracted from page 16

| ST | TT |
|--|--|
| American law followed the <i>common law</i> until a wave of statutory restrictions in the 1800s expanded criminal liability for abortions. | La ley estadounidense siguió el <i>derecho consuetudinario</i> hasta una serie de restricciones legales en los años 1800 expandió la responsabilidad penal por aborto. |
| At <i>common law</i> , abortion was criminal in at least some stages of pregnancy... | En <i>derecho consuetudinario</i> , el aborto era un crimen en al menos algunas etapas del embarazo... |

Interesting enough is to note that we also found terminological inconsistency in the source text. The authors used inconsistent terms across the document, for example, both these terms *plurality opinion* and *majority opinion* actually have the same meaning. After a deeper reading of both meanings, we understood that both terms refer to the same notion in Spanish as *opinión mayoritaria*.

Example extracted from page 14

| ST | TT |
|--|--|
| “Substantive due process has at times been a treacherous field for this Court,” Moore v. East Cleveland, 431 U. S. 494, 503 (1977) (<i>plurality opinion</i>). | “El debido proceso sustantivo ha sido a veces un campo engañoso para esta Corte,” Moore v. East Cleveland, 431 EE. UU. 494, 503 (1977) (<i>opinión mayoritaria</i>). |

Example extracted from page 10

| ST | TT |
|---|--|
| Ibid; see also McDonald v. Chicago, 561 U. S. 742, 763–766 (2010) (<i>majority opinion</i>) (discussing incorporation). | Ibid; véase también McDonald v. Chicago, 561 EE. UU. 742, 763–766 (2010) (<i>opinión mayoritaria</i>) (debatiendo la incorporación). |

7.3.2. Capitalization

One prominent challenge we encountered whilst translating was capitalization. Specifically, there were two situations where we were unsure of how to capitalize, and we did it incorrectly. Frequently, we came upon the difficulty of capitalizing the word *state* in the correct form, from English to Spanish, since we thought the same would apply in both languages. However, after doing research on the matter, we learned that in the English language the capitalization of the word *state* varies and differs in some aspects in comparison to Spanish. In order to demonstrate these particularities and contrast, we present an overview of capitalization in both languages. Firstly, these are the capitalization rules of the word *state* in English, according to Allan M. Siegal et al. (1999, pp. 426) and U.S. Government Publishing Office (2016, pp. 27).

- Capitalize when:
 - a. As part of a proper noun naming a specific U.S. state: Example: *I'm from the State of California.*
 - b. In formal references to any state government. For example: *The State of Ohio brought the suit.*

- c. When *State* appears with the name of an official agency or with an official title that is capitalized: the State Education Department; State Treasurer Pat Y. Berenich.
- Lowercase when:
 - a. In reference to a geographic area. For example: They drove through the *state* of Illinois
 - b. When it stands alone. For example: The *state* sued the city.
 - c. Used in the general sense or not as part of a proper noun: Example: *Each state has its own laws.*

According to La Real Academia Española (1999, p. 21), in Spanish the capitalization of *Estado* should be the following:

- Capitalize when:
 - a. Names, when they mean entity or collectivity as a specific organism. Examples: *el Estado, Estado Mayor...*
 - b. It is a particular custom of laws, decrees and official documents to capitalize titles, positions and names of dignity. Examples: *el Rey de España, el Presidente del Gobierno, el Secretario de Estado de Comercio.*
- Lowercase when:
 - a. It refers to a non-independent political entity, such as the territories that make up a federal state: *el estado de Oklahoma.*

Example extracted from page 4

ST

The State of Mississippi

Before us now is one such state law.

TT

El estado de Mississippi

Tenemos ante nosotros dicha *ley estatal*

For this reason, the capitalization of *state* across the source text was especially challenging. As mentioned earlier, in Spanish the word *state* is in lowercase but when a U.S state is mentioned, the name of the state is capitalized, but not the word *state*.

Another similar case is the word *Court*, which appeared in two forms along the document, capitalized and in lowercase. The word *Court* is capitalized when it is part of a proper noun naming a specific court and lowercase when it is used in the generalized way and non-proper nouns cases. So, the rules are quite the same in both English and Spanish. There were no big challenges regarding the capitalization of the word *court*, but we had to ensure we were capitalizing it correctly in the target language, since the word *state* happened to have variations.

*Example of the word **Court** with capitalization extracted from page 1*

ST

Even though the Constitution makes no mention of abortion, the *Court* held that it confers a broad right to obtain one.

TT

Incluso si la Constitución no hace alusión al aborto, la *Corte* sostuvo que confiere un derecho amplio para que este se pueda practicar.

*Example of the word **Court** in lowercase extracted from page 21*

ST

And by the 19th century, *courts* frequently explained that the common law made abortion of a quick child a crime.

TT

Y para el Siglo XIX, las *cortes* frecuentemente explicaban que el derecho consuetudinario hizo del aborto de un feto perceptible un crimen.

Furthermore, while translating we learned that the capitalization of demonyms is different between English and Spanish. The term demonym is the English equivalent for the Spanish word *gentilicio* and applies to an inhabitant or a native of a particular place, and is derived from a toponym (Chesnokova, et al., 2021, p. 578). Examples include *Colombian* for Colombia. In English, demonyms are capitalized when they are derived from country names, cities, provinces, and continents, for example: *American, Colombian, Brazilian*. Additionally, when they are derived from languages, such as Francophone. Lastly, demonyms are capitalized when they are proper nouns, such as *He is a real Scotsman* or *They embrace their identity as Colombian*. Demonyms in English are not capitalized only when they are used as general adjectives. For example: spanish cuisine, japanese music, native american art, etc.

On the contrary, demonyms in Spanish are commonly in lowercase. When it refers to people from states, provinces, or smaller geographic areas are not capitalized. For example: *santandereano* (from Santander). In addition, demonyms are not capitalized when derived from cities, towns or villages: *bumangués* (from Bucaramanga). In Spanish, demonyms are also known as *adjetivos relacionales*; “Los que expresan nacionalidad u origen, como americano o cordobés, se llaman adjetivos gentilicios” (RAE, 2024).

Example extracted from page 1

ST

Abortion presents a profound moral issue on which *Americans* hold sharply conflicting views.

TT

El aborto presenta un dilema moral profundo del cual los *estadounidenses* tienen opiniones conflictivas.

The topic of Capitalization is relevant for translational processes. In order for a translation to be professional and accurate as much as possible, there needs to be correct capitalization according to the target language. In this case, English to Spanish, we had no regard of that rule until doing further research on this topic.

7.3.3. English Language Verb Tenses

During the revisions and editing processes of the translation, we noticed that there was an issue with the translation of verb tenses. Notably, Past Perfect, Simple Past and Present Perfect in English, which we mistakenly translated into Preterito Indefinido in Spanish. The factor of tense is of utmost importance in an accurate translation, because they differ in aspects such as in terms of the time period the event occurred and the way they situate events related to each other.

When we use Past Perfect in English, we describe an event that happened before another event in the past, but in this particular case it was used to make an emphasis on the continued importance of the decision in question in the source text. Simple Past in English refers to a time event that occurred in the past time frame. We have the following two examples: in the first situation, there was a mistake since *has had* was translated to Pretérito indefinido (*tuvo*) at first, but the correct translation in Spanish is in pretérito pluscuamperfecto (*ha tenido*).

Example extracted from page 4

| ST | TT - Incorrect Translation | TT - Correct Translation |
|---|--|---|
| Its reasoning was exceptionally weak, and the decision has had damaging consequences. | Su razonamiento era excepcionalmente débil y la decisión <i>tuvo</i> consecuencias perjudiciales. | Su razonamiento era excepcionalmente débil y la decisión <i>ha tenido</i> consecuencias perjudiciales. |

In the second example, the mistake lies in translating the source text in Present Perfect (*han sido incorporadas*), when the correct translation is in Past Perfect (*habían sido ya incorporadas*).

Example extracted from page 6

| ST | TT - Incorrect Translation | TT - Correct Translation |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Another was that the right was rooted in the First, Fourth, or Fifth Amendment, or in some combination of those provisions, and that this right had been “incorporated” into the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment just as many other Bill of Rights provisions had by then been incorporated.</p> | <p>Otra fue que el derecho se arraigó en la Primera, Cuarta o Quinta Enmienda o en una combinación de esas normas, y que este derecho habría sido “incorporado” en la Cláusula del Debido Proceso de la Decimocuarta Enmienda como muchas otras disposiciones de la Declaración de derechos <i>han</i> sido incorporadas.</p> | <p>Otra fue que el derecho se arraigó en la Primera, Cuarta o Quinta Enmienda o en una combinación de esas normas, y que este derecho habría sido “incorporado” en la Cláusula del Debido Proceso de la Decimocuarta Enmienda como muchas otras disposiciones de la Declaración de derechos <i>habían</i> sido <i>ya</i> incorporadas.</p> |

7.3.4. Use of Latinisms and Square Brackets

The source text uses legal language from the Supreme Court of the United States, when defending and arguing, they make use of legal references and extensive footnotes. Specifically, we had trouble with the use of square brackets in the source text, since we were not sure what the authors meant. For example, when using the square brackets in the following excerpt:

Source Text

“*[t]he* ability of women to participate equally in the economic and social life of the Nation has been facilitated by their ability to control their reproductive lives.” Ibid.

Garner (2001, pp.188-189), suggest use of brackets as follows:

- Acceptable Use:
 - a. Use a pair of brackets in a quotation to enclose an editorial comment, correction, explanation, interpolation, substitution, or translation that was not in the original text.
 - b. Use a pair of brackets around any character that you change in or add to quoted material.
 - c. Use a pair of brackets to show the deletion of part of a word.
- Unacceptable Use
 - a. Don't use brackets in place of ellipsis dots when one or more words have been deleted without any replacement language.

For that reason, we had to make decisions regarding the positioning of the brackets in the translation. For example:

In Spanish, the suggested use of brackets according to the University Complutense of Madrid:

- When quoting another text between quotation marks, brackets are used to isolate comments and clarifications from the person reproducing the quote; that is, they indicate that the comment or clarification does not belong to the author of the quote, but to the author of the text in which the quote is reproduced.

- In the reproduction of textual quotes, three dots between brackets are used to indicate that a fragment of the original is omitted.
- To reconstruct incomplete words from the original when reproducing or transcribing texts, codices, or inscriptions. The brackets enclose the added section, from which no space separates them.
- In text transcriptions, they are used to mark any interpolation or modification in the original text, such as clarifications, additions, amendments, or the development of abbreviations.
- To complete or modify bibliographic information, following the modified element.
- In bibliographic references, any data that does not appear in the source is enclosed in brackets, whether the information is restored from a secondary source or its absence is indicated by the corresponding abbreviation.
- They should be used when, within a statement that goes in parentheses, it is necessary to introduce some clarification or explanatory note.

During the translation meetings, it was advised to us not to delete the brackets, because they have a purpose in the text. Additionally, the translation of the legal references and footnotes was particularly challenging, especially due to the Latinisms and specialized expressions of the legal jargon. For example, at page 3 we have:

Incorrect Translation:

ST

But the opinion concluded that *stare decisis*, which calls for prior decisions to be followed

TT

Pero, la opinión concluyó que el *stare decisis*, que dicta respetar antecedentes en la mayoría

| | |
|---|--|
| in most instances, required adherence to what it called Roe’s “central holding” ... | de los casos, requería adherencia a la “decisión central” de la decisión de Roe... |
|---|--|

Example extracted from page 25

| ST | TT |
|--|---|
| Respondents and their <i>amici</i> have no persuasive answer to this historical evidence. | Los respondientes y sus <i>amici</i> no tuvieron respuesta convincente ante esta evidencia histórica. |
| See Brief for Petitioners 12–13; see also Brief for American Historical Association et al. as <i>Amici Curiae</i> 27–28... | Véase Memorial de los solicitantes No. 12–13; véase también Memorial de la American Historical Association et al. así como <i>Amici Curiae</i> No. 27–28... |

Thus, we learned that Latinisms must not be translated to the target language and must always be in italics, as it is in the source text. In legal documents, symbols such as brackets, and square brackets are common and have a specific function.

Lastly, we discovered that the translation of titles from books, articles, etc., can vary in the following way: if the translation of the document title is available and already published, then we use that translation, but if the title does not exist yet, it is preferable to keep it in the original form, in this case English.

7.3.5. Format

Another significant challenge found during the translation process was navigating the format and presentation of the source text. We found that the document contained varied letter

formats, symbols and an unclear text structure which proved to be complex and demanding to accurately understand and therefore translate. The diverse typographical elements, coupled with the specialized nature of the content, required a heightened level of attention and care to preserve the nuances and structural integrity of the original texts throughout the translation process.

The following example encompasses almost all the characteristics found across the whole text (brackets, square brackets, double quotes, single quotes and italics).

Figure 3

Example of brackets, square brackets, double quotes, single quotes and italics (p.74)

Our subsequent cases have continued to recognize the centrality of the viability rule. See *Whole Women’s Health*, 579 U. S., at 589–590 (“[A] provision of law is constitutionally invalid, if the ‘purpose or effect’ of the provision ‘is to place a substantial obstacle in the path of a woman seeking an abortion *before the fetus attains viability*’” (emphasis deleted and added)); *id.*, at 627 (“[W]e now use ‘*viability*’ as the relevant point at which a State may begin limiting women’s access to abortion for reasons unrelated to maternal health” (emphasis added)).

Additionally, we identified three types of headings which changed through the text from regular number typographies to roman numerals to capitalized letters.

Figure 4

Example of a heading with regular number typography (p.76)

76 DOBBS *v.* JACKSON WOMEN’S HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Opinion of the Court

3

The concurrence would “leave for another day whether to reject any right to an abortion at all,” *post*, at 7, but “another day” would not be long in coming. Some States have

Figure 5

Example of a heading with roman numerals typography (p.77)

VI

We must now decide what standard will govern if state abortion regulations undergo constitutional challenge and whether the law before us satisfies the appropriate standard.

Figure 6

Example of a heading with capitalized letter typography (p.77)

A

Under our precedents, rational-basis review is the appropriate standard for such challenges. As we have explained, procuring an abortion is not a fundamental constitutional right because such a right has no basis in the Constitution's text or in our Nation's history. See *supra*, at 8–39.

7.4. The Legal System of the United States and Jurisdictional Discourse on Reproductive Rights

The United States legal system is a complex and multilayered structure that can present unique challenges when it comes to translating legal documents and judgments. This section provides an overview of the key aspects found in the source text of the United States legal system that are relevant for understanding the jurisdictional context and discourse surrounding the legal judgment being translated.

One key area were the complexities of the legal system of the United States and the jurisdictional discourse of reproductive rights. Differing ideological interpretations of when personhood begins have led to ongoing debates and legal battles, particularly around the issue of abortion. Conservative lawmakers and jurists generally align with the view that recognizes the

unborn as fully human from conception or very early in pregnancy, often before 16 weeks' gestation. This philosophical stance underpins efforts to implement stringent restrictions or outright bans on abortion procedures after a certain point in fetal development. Conversely, those with more liberal leanings tend to emphasize a woman's autonomy over her own body and definitions of fetal personhood that hinge on viability outside the womb, which generally occurs later in a pregnancy.

These starkly contrasting ideological positions on fetal rights and the moral status of the unborn have been manifested in a patchwork of state laws and conflicting court precedents across the nation. This jurisdictional patchwork has created significant challenges for the translation of legal documents related to reproductive health care and rights. Antiquated terms such as *quick child* and quickening and other concepts such as, *potential life* and *previability abortions*⁶ require nuanced understanding of the underlying philosophical views they are rooted in to accurately convey the context and profound implications any rulings or statutes may carry in this ethically fraught domain. The translation of such terms was decided thanks to the assistance of a law professor regarding the established terminology in Spanish.

⁶ It is important to clarify that *viability* in this context refers to the possibility of the fetus to live outside the womb of the pregnant woman, with the *inviability* depending on her womb and other functions of the pregnant woman.

*Examples extracted from page 21***ST**

And by the 19th century, courts frequently explained that the common law made abortion of a *quick child* a crime.

The original ground for drawing a distinction between pre- and post-*quickening* abortions is not entirely clear, but some have attributed the rule to the difficulty of proving that a pre-*quickening* fetus was alive.

TT

Y para el Siglo XIX, las cortes frecuentemente explicaban que el derecho civil hizo del aborto de un *feto perceptible* un crimen.

La base original para trazar una distinción entre abortos antes y después de la *percepción* no es clara del todo, pero algunos han atribuido a la norma la dificultad de probar que un feto antes de la *percepción* estaba vivo.

*Example extracted from page 2***ST**

Although the Court acknowledged that States had a legitimate interest in protecting “*potential life*,”¹ it found that this interest could not justify any restriction on *previability abortions*.

TT

Aunque la Corte reconoció que los estados tienen un interés legítimo en proteger la “*vida potencial*,” determinó que este interés no justificaba ninguna restricción para *abortos de fetos previables*.

7.5. Abortion Legislation in the United States and in Colombia

As it is clearly influential to the translation process, there is a need to understand crucial differences between the legal system of the United States and the one from Colombia in order to

fully comprehend the rationale of the source text as well as the rationale of the target text readership.

One of the crucial differences and most important foundations of law in the US is the *stare decisis* which is a principle heavily focused on following what has been historically established on previous judgments to keep the Nation's tradition. It holds that courts should follow precedents established by higher courts or their own prior decisions, unless there is a compelling reason to depart from them (Garner, 2014, p. 1538). This principle promotes consistency, predictability, and stability in the legal system (Kozel, 2020, p. 63). The legal system in Colombia also acknowledges the principle of *stare decisis*, which is known as jurisprudential precedent. While in Colombian law courts can consider precedents as a guide, it is not as strict or defining as it is in the U.S., as the Colombian system is only partially based on the Common Law. Even though the Constitutional Court's decisions are obligatory and act as precedents for lower courts, rulings from other higher courts like the Supreme Court of Justice and the Council of State are not officially obligatory but do have a convincing impact (Cepeda Espinosa, 2004, p. 38). Both the United States and Colombia value the principle of *stare decisis*, which emphasizes the significance of consistency and predictability in the legal system. However, the United States has a more robust tradition of adhering to precedents, especially those established by higher courts. On the other hand, in Colombia, the binding nature of precedents is more restricted, mainly applying to the rulings of the Constitutional Court (Cepeda Espinosa, 2004, p. 39).

Another important aspect to consider is the viewpoint regarding the concept of 'liberty'. The United States values individual freedom and is committed to limiting government intervention. The Bill of Rights, established in 1791, protects essential civil liberties including freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, and the right to bear arms. The American belief in

liberty is based on Enlightenment principles and the concept of inherent rights, championed by thinkers such as John Locke and Thomas Jefferson (Do & Valco, 2022, pp. 64-72). While Colombia, as a democracy, has legal safeguards in place to protect civil liberties. However, the understanding of freedom in the country has been shaped by its history and current struggles. While the 1991 Constitution of Colombia ensures basic rights and freedoms, various factors like the prolonged armed conflict, political unrest, and the power of drug cartels have limited their full implementation (Beittel, 2012, pp. 1-35). The United States has a rich history of valuing individual freedoms, with robust legal systems and institutions in place to safeguard them. In Colombia, civil liberties have faced obstacles due to ongoing conflicts, social disparities, and the presence of illegal armed groups (Tate, 2015, pp. 73-96). However, both countries recognize the importance of liberty and have constitutional safeguards in place, although they may vary in effectiveness and face unique challenges.

8. Translation Techniques Implemented

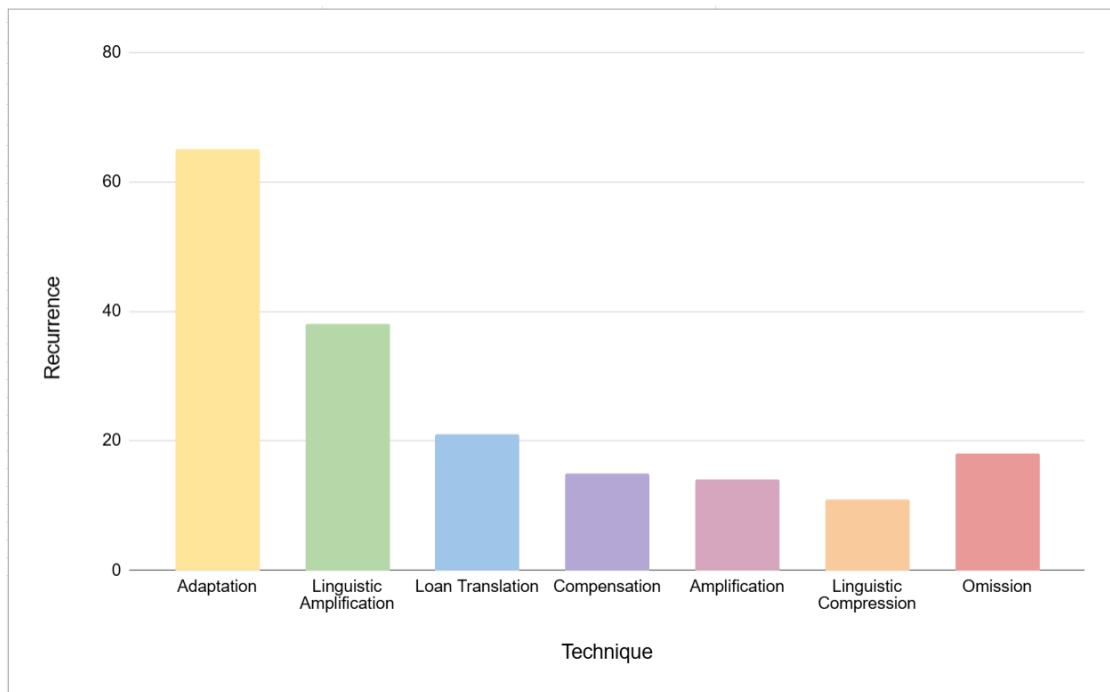
In the process of translating the legal ruling from its source language to the target language, we used eight distinct translation techniques, with a total number of 7 Techniques in 108 pages. To illustrate the application of these techniques and provide a quantitative analysis, the usage of each technique was listed and subsequently ranked in descending order according to their frequency of occurrence (See Fig. 3).

This not only elucidates the specific strategies employed during the translation process but also offers insights into the relative prominence and prevalence of each technique within the context of this particular legal document. The forthcoming sections will delve into the nuances of these eight techniques, substantiating their implementation with pertinent examples extracted from

the translated text, thereby fostering a profound understanding of the intricacies inherent in legal translation.

Figure 7

Recurrence of the translation techniques



Adaptation: It was used a total of 65 times

Linguistic Amplification: It was used a total of 38 times

Loan Translation: It was used a total of 21 times

Compensation: It was used a total of 15 times

Amplification: It was used a total of 14 times

Linguistic Compression: It was used a total of 11 times

Omission: It was used a total of 18 times

8.1. Adaptation

In the process of translating the court opinion, the adaptation technique was the one that was used the most times with a total of 65 times. According to Molina and Hurtado Albir (2002)

adaptation is “to replace a ST cultural element with one from the target culture” (p. 510). This way, the target audience will be able to understand the translation naturally.

The court opinion contained many culture-specific references, legal terminologies, and idiomatic expressions that needed to be adapted for accurate meaning communication in one language and cultural context. For instance, changing the word *issue* as shown in the following examples would be aligned with the readership.

Example extracted from page 1

ST

Abortion presents a profound moral *issue* on which Americans hold sharply conflicting views.

TT

El aborto presenta un *dilema* moral profundo del cual los estadounidenses tienen opiniones notablemente divisivas.

Example extracted from page 2-3

ST

As Justice Byron White *aptly put it* in his dissent, the decision represented the “exercise of raw judicial power,” 410 U. S., at 222, and it sparked a national controversy that has embittered our political culture for a half century.

TT

Como *expresó oportunamente* el juez Byron White en su disenso, la decisión representaba “el ejercicio del poder judicial en bruto,” 222 del 410 EE. UU., lo cual provocó una controversia nacional que ha amargado nuestra cultura política por medio siglo.

Example extracted from page 3

| ST | TT |
|---|---|
| Four others wanted to overrule the <i>decision</i> in its entirety. | Cuatro de los demás querían derogar la <i>sentencia</i> por completo. |

The translation group would be able to bridge over linguistic and cultural differences that exist between the source and target texts with the help of adaptation methods. This would mean ensuring that the view is still understandable and relevant to the audience in mind. In accordance with dynamic equivalence and functional translation strategies, the above approach centers on the maintenance of meaning and effectiveness in communication above anything else concerning the exact wording.

8.2. Other Techniques

Apart from the earlier discussed technique of adaptation, a number of strategies also contribute greatly to accurately representing the nuanced court opinions. They involve diverse techniques targeted at solving specific language problems presented by the text but at the same time keeping its integrity and core. Among these techniques are linguistic amplification, loan translation, compensation, amplification, linguistic compression and omission.

8.2.1. Linguistic Amplification

The second most often used translation technique was linguistic amplification, with 38 examples found. As Molina and Hurtado Albir (2002) explain, linguistic amplification involves "add[ing] linguistic elements" (p. 511) to the target text. To clarify, here is an example:

Example extracted from page 1

| ST | TT |
|---|--|
| Then, in 1973, this Court decided <i>Roe v. Wade</i> , 410 U. S. 113. | Luego, en 1973, esta Corte decidió <i>el caso Roe v. Wade</i> , 410 EE. UU. 113. |

8.2.2. Loan Translation

The technique of calque, or loan translation, was employed 21 times in the translation process of the court opinion. As described by Molina and Hurtado Albir (2002), calque involves "literal translation of a foreign word or phrase; it can be lexical or structural" (p. 511). To illustrate this, there is an example below:

Example extracted from page 3

| ST | TT |
|---|---|
| But the opinion concluded that <i>stare decisis</i> , which calls for prior decisions to be followed in most instances, required adherence to what it called <i>Roe's</i> "central holding"—that a State may not constitutionally protect fetal life before "viability"—even if that holding was wrong. | Pero, la opinión concluyó que el <i>stare decisis</i> , que dicta respetar antecedentes en la mayoría de los casos, requería adherencia a la "decisión central" de la decisión de <i>Roe</i> -que un Estado no podría proteger constitucionalmente vida fetal antes de su "viabilidad"-incluso si esa decisión estaba errada. |

8.2.3. Compensation

During the translation process of court opinion, the technique of compensation was used 15 times. Compensation involves "introduc[ing] a ST element of information or stylistic effect in

another place in the TT because it cannot be reflected in the same place as in the ST” according to Molina and Hurtado Albir (2002, p. 510).

Example extracted from page 40

| ST | TT |
|--|--|
| In <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> , 347 U. S. 483 (1954), the Court repudiated the “separate but equal” doctrine, which had allowed States <i>to maintain racially segregated schools and other facilities</i> . | En <i>Brown v. Board of Education</i> , 347 EE. UU. 483 (1954), la Corte repudió la doctrina "separados pero iguales", que había permitido a los Estados <i>mantener escuelas y otras instalaciones segregadas racialmente</i> . |

8.2.4. Amplification

The technique of amplification was employed 14 times throughout the translation process of the court opinion. As defined by Molina and Hurtado Albir (2002), amplification involves "introduc[ing] details that are not formulated in the ST: information, explicative paraphrasing" (p. 510).

Example extracted from page 2

| ST | TT |
|--|---|
| After cataloging a wealth of other information having no bearing on the meaning of the Constitution, the opinion concluded with a numbered set of rules much like those that | Después de catalogar una gran cantidad de información sin relación con la postura de la Constitución <i>respecto al aborto</i> , la opinión concluyó con un número definido de reglas |

| | |
|---|--|
| might be found in a statute enacted by a legislature. | similares a aquellas encontradas en los estatutos aprobados por el Congreso. |
|---|--|

8.2.5. *Linguistic Compression*

The technique of linguistic compression was employed 11 times throughout the translation process of the court opinion. As defined by Molina and Hurtado Albir (2002), linguistic compression involves "synthesiz[ing] linguistic elements in the TT" (p. 511). This technique is commonly used in simultaneous interpreting and subtitling.

Example extracted from page 17

| ST | TT |
|---|--|
| English cases <i>dating all the way back</i> to the 13th century corroborate the treatises' statements that abortion was a crime. | Los casos ingleses que <i>remontan</i> hasta el Siglo XIII corroboran las declaraciones de los tratados sobre que el aborto fue un crimen. |

8.2.6. *Omission*

The technique of omission, or reduction, was employed 18 times throughout the translation process of the court opinion. As defined by Molina and Hurtado Albir (2002), omission involves "suppress[ing] a ST information item in the TT" (p. 511). Legal texts occasionally contain redundancies, repetitive information, or cultural references that may be superfluous or confusing for the target audience.

Example extracted from page 4

ST

The State of Mississippi asks *us* to uphold the constitutionality of a law that generally prohibits an abortion after the 15th week of pregnancy—several weeks before the point at which a fetus is now regarded as “viable” outside the womb.

TT

El estado de Mississippi ~~nos~~ solicitó mantener la constitucionalidad de una ley que prohibiera generalmente el aborto después de la semana 15 de embarazo—varias semanas antes del momento en el que el feto es considerado como “viable” fuera del útero.

9. Conclusions

This translation research project was conducted with the purpose of bringing the information of an important case such as *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization* to the Colombian legal community. This has been a very influential and controversial ruling regarding the particular topic of abortion, triggering heated discussions in the United States and around the world.

This was a greatly challenging and ambitious translation project because up to now, there is not an available official translation of the ruling with its respective analysis. It was a demanding but rewarding task to adapt the source text to the target readership, because of factors such as the complexity of the legal language and discourse, syntactic structures, complex-compound nouns, and capitalization matters. As we progressed in the translation, we were able to understand the different ideological and legal positions regarding abortion.

We ensured to apply the correct and most appropriate techniques in order to preserve the essence, nuance and structure of the source text. These translation techniques were 7: adaptation,

linguistic amplification, loan translation, compensation, amplification, linguistic compression and omission. Adaptation was our most used technique as it was very important to consider and diminish the cultural gap between two countries such as the United States and Colombia regarding legal terminology. This was done through the use of color coding for differentiating the use of each technique, as well as the use of a matrix to collect legal terminology and information from both languages.

Furthermore, one of the most important purposes was to contribute to the field of legal translation with the main results. The glossary created for this project has proven to be a fundamental tool for the legal translation of this opinion of the court and as such, it is to be considered a useful tool for further translation of similar texts in the legal field. We also consider the complete translation of the opinion of the court and annexes of the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* one key legal contribution.

To conclude, we consider that this research provides a background to translation projects in the legal field. It brings the opportunity to be considered in further legal translations as well as in other topic-related investigations, such as the sexual and reproductive rights of women, translation techniques, among others.

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