

June 4, 2018

Statement on today's U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*.

Today, the Supreme Court issued a narrow decision in <u>Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission</u>. While the Bazelon Center is disappointed that the Court ruled against the plaintiffs based on the specific facts of this case, we are reassured that the Court has affirmed that religious and philosophical objections "do not allow business owners and other actors in the economy and in society to deny protected persons equal access to goods and services under a neutral and generally applicable public accommodations law." We will continue our work to ensure that businesses remain open and accessible to all, including LGBTQ persons, people of color, and people with disabilities.

You can read the full opinion here: <a href="https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/17pdf/16-111\_j4el.pdf">https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/17pdf/16-111\_j4el.pdf</a>. And you can read the brief submitted in this case by the Bazelon Center and other disability rights organizations here: <a href="http://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Masterpiece-Brief.pdf">http://www.bazelon.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Masterpiece-Brief.pdf</a>.