

✘ *Pro-Choice* ”♥

— *Abortion*

What is abortion? An **abortion** is a procedure to end a pregnancy. It uses **medicine** or **surgery** to remove the embryo or fetus and placenta from the uterus.

A **medical abortion** procedure is a non-surgical procedure. The procedure is performed by taking two types of medications (Mifepristone and Misoprostol). The abortion pill became legal in the US to carry out early abortions (7 weeks or less) in September 2000.

A **surgical abortion** is known as an in-clinic abortion. They are performed electively from 3 to 21 weeks gestation and further for maternal or fetal indications. This procedure has a higher success rate and less side effects than the medical abortion.

A **self-induced abortion** is an abortion caused by a woman to intentionally cause a miscarriage on her own and without any type of medical assistance. These can be extremely dangerous and cause long term health issues and even death.

Pro-choice is the belief that it's a woman's choice whether she decides to birth or abort a fetus. Pro-life is against abortion in defence of fetus rights. Many people consider pro-life “pro-birth” since it forces women to go through unwanted pregnancy.

List of self induced abortions:

- ❖ The ingesting toxic substances/herbs, which cause trauma to the uterus and physical trauma to the body. This also includes using alcohol and drugs in an attempt to end a pregnancy.

- ❖ Coat Hangers, which women used to open their uterus and cause an abortion. This type of abortion was also performed with knitting needles, crochet hooks, cut-glass salt shakers, soda bottles, etc.

— *Reasons*

Research collected from 2008 through 2010 asked women about the reasons for getting an abortion. These are the results:

- ❖ Not financially prepared: **40%**
- ❖ Bad timing, not ready, or unplanned: **36%**
- ❖ Partner-related reasons (including the relationship is bad or new, she doesn't want to be a single mother, her partner is not supportive, does not want the baby, is abusive, or is the wrong guy): **31%**
- ❖ Need to focus on her other children: **29%**
- ❖ Interferes with educational or vocational plans: **20%**
- ❖ Not emotionally or mentally prepared: **19%**
- ❖ Health-related reasons (includes concern for her own health, the health of the fetus, use of prescription or non-prescription drugs, alcohol, or tobacco): **12%**
- ❖ Want a better life for a baby than she could provide: **12%**
- ❖ Not independent or mature enough for a baby: **7%**
- ❖ Influences from family or friends: **5%**
- ❖ Doesn't want a baby or to place the baby for adoption: **4%**

— *Health & Pregnancy*

If we compare abortions and pregnancies, we can easily conclude that abortions are MUCH safer than giving birth. Many people disagree with this, but they really fail to realize the dozens of risks pregnancies bring.

Risks before delivery:

- ❖ Nausea and vomiting
- ❖ Weight gain
- ❖ Cramps
- ❖ Ectopic pregnancies
- ❖ Not being able to control one's bladder
- ❖ Mental health issues
- ❖ Eating disorders
- ❖ HIV can be passed to the child
- ❖ Headaches
- ❖ Miscarriages

Risks during delivery:

- ❖ Causing a rip from the vagina down to the anus
- ❖ Breaking your pelvic bone in half
- ❖ Death (also known as Maternal mortality)
- ❖ Painful contractions
- ❖ Passing out
- ❖ Ripping of the flesh
- ❖ Extreme Excess Bleeding
- ❖ Infections
- ❖ Trauma

Risks after delivery:

- ❖ Hair loss
- ❖ Loose skin and scars/saggy breasts
- ❖ Maternal morbidity (permanent health issues after pregnancy)
- ❖ Diabetes
- ❖ Cardiovascular problems (heart/blood issues)
- ❖ Diabetes
- ❖ High blood pressure
- ❖ Infections (especially if one has gone through a c-section)
- ❖ Bleeding
- ❖ Anemia

- ❖ Mental health issues
- ❖ Uterine issues/bleeding

Side effects of Abortion:

- ❖ Excessive uterine bleeding
- ❖ Frequent uterine pain
- ❖ Ruptured ectopic pregnancy
- ❖ Pelvic infection
- ❖ Incomplete abortion
- ❖ Vomiting
- ❖ Diarrhea
- ❖ Regret
- ❖ Death

— *Scientific Facts*

- ❖ The fetus cannot feel pain until 24 weeks because they do not yet have brain connections to do so.
- ❖ Seventy-three percent of women seeking abortions do so because they're financially unready to have a child. Legal abortions are considerably safer than childbirth.
- ❖ According to an article in the Irish Times, the co-ordinated brain activity required for consciousness does not occur until 24-25 weeks of pregnancy. We cannot say when consciousness first emerges, but it cannot rationally be called before the end of the second trimester at 24 weeks of pregnancy.
- ❖ Over 700 women a year die of complications related to pregnancy each year in the United States

— *Morals & Religion*

Religion shouldn't have a place in medicine, as it allows people to manipulate someone's choices and risking their health.

The Bible does not specifically address abortion but we can infer different things if we read the scriptures:

[**Jeremiah 1:5**] tells us that God knows us before He forms us in the womb. In a religious point of view, this would prove that life starts **BEFORE** the sperm meets the egg. This also means that he considers a fetus a life just like any other adult human being.

Does this mean that masturbation is also a form of abortion, since you're knowingly preventing the sperm cells to meet the egg? Does that mean birth control/sterilization should be banned since they prevent pregnancy? If abortions were to become illegal, does that mean that masturbation should put people in jail for killing potential life?

[**Numbers 5:11-31**] Many people think that this scripture talks about a priest causing an intentional miscarriage on a woman. They feed the woman accused of cheating a liquid that she must drink. If the taste is bitter, it will prove her infidelity and abort the potential life in her womb.

Does that mean that abortion is wrong, unless it's to punish women for a wrong doing? Does that mean there are exceptions to abortions (like adultery)?

Bonus: Jewish tradition doesn't view babies as having a soul until they are a week old (after birth). If Jesus was Jewish, why would he have an issue with abortion?

— *Laws*

The **Universal Declaration of Human Rights** states that "All human beings are BORN free and equal in dignity and rights." we can see that people are not entitled to these rights until they are born and not when they are conceived. Also the declaration uses the words everybody. Since fetuses are part of the womens body, the fetus is not included.

Hypothetically, if we were to make abortion illegal, this would cause many problems. Here's is a list:

- ❖ Abortion rates are not going to decrease
- ❖ You will have more deaths since you replaced safe, legal abortions with unsafe, illegal abortions.
- ❖ You will have an increase of women and doctors thrown in jail
- ❖ Women no longer have the right to life and body integrity the moment they become pregnant, they are treated like incubators
- ❖ Women's lives are considered to be less important than cells growing in their bodies, they are like secondary citizens
- ❖ Fetuses will not be granted a peaceful death
- ❖ Women who have had miscarriages, which is traumatic enough as it is, will be accused of having an abortion. Women will be jailed unjustly for having had a miscarriage.
- ❖ More pregnant women will result to self harm to self-induce abortions (see abortion section for more info)
- ❖ invasion of privacy of women

(if abortion rates DO decrease)

- ❖ you will have an increase in poverty rates (if a person cannot afford a child, they cannot afford the medical bills of bringing a child to the world and the complications that can arise from that, nor can they afford leave without pay or to lose their job).
- ❖ you will have an increase in single parent family structure.
- ❖ you will have an increase in children in foster care
- ❖ you will have an increase in children and adults afflicted with (serious) mental illnesses (children feeling unwanted, child raised by unfit parent, child raised by a person not ready to be a parent or still a child themselves, mother suffering from postpartum depression, etc..)

— *Foster Care & Economy*

Raising a child these days cost up to over \$300,000+ to raise them from birth up to the age of 17. And the costs of raising a son/daughter doesn't even end there, since you never stop being a parent. It is most likely you will still be paying for their costs even after they turn 20+.

If we force birth on women, overpopulation will increase and more children will most likely end up in the foster system.

Also, if we put women in jail for abortion, we will have more unnecessary people in jail and we as a society will have to pay for their "crimes", since prisons jails are funded by federal taxes.