

BREAK the BARRIERS

**CHOICE
WEEK**

WITH FACTS!



1. **CHILDBIRTH IS MUCH RISKIER THAN ABORTION**

- According to research published in *Obstetrics & Gynecology*, childbirth is riskier than abortion, at least in the US.
- This study compared mortality rates from abortion to giving birth across seven years.
- The researchers found that giving birth resulted in an average of 8.8 maternal deaths per 100,000 births while abortion was associated with 0.6 maternal deaths per 100,000 abortions.

2. **MEDICAL AND MODERN SURGICAL ABORTIONS DON'T IMPACT FERTILITY**

- There is no evidence that either medical or modern abortion impacts future fertility.
- This claim is based on outdated abortion methods, which were replaced by much safer and effective techniques in the 1970s.
- When skilled providers follow the current WHO guidelines for surgical abortion, there is no significant risk to future fertility.

3. **THE MOST COMMONLY REPORTED EMOTION AFTER AN ABORTION IS RELIEF**

- 95% of women in the US who have had abortions do not regret the decision to terminate their pregnancies, according to a study published in the academic journal *PLOS ONE*.
- There is no "unique" regret among women who've had abortions. The incidence of regret is equal to the regret reported by women who had full-term pregnancies and delivery.

4. **INACCESSIBILITY OF QUALITY ABORTION CARE RISKS VIOLATING A RANGE OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS**

- This includes the right to life; the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; the right to benefit from scientific progress and its realization; the right to decide freely and responsibly on the number, spacing and timing of children; and the right to be free from torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment.

5. **THE MAJORITY OF ABORTIONS HAPPEN DURING THE FIRST TRIMESTER (UP TO 12 WEEKS AFTER CONCEPTION)**

- The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) looked at data from the year 2008 and found just 6.2% of abortions took place between weeks 13 and 15, which is considered the beginning of the second trimester.
- After that only 4% of abortions happened after week 16 and 1.3% after week 21. Abortions during the third trimester (after week 26) are exceedingly rare.

6. **ABORTION RATES ARE HIGHER IN COUNTRIES WHERE THERE IS LIMITED ACCESS TO CONTRACEPTION.**

- Evidence shows that abortion rates are lower where people, including adolescents have information about and can access modern contraceptive methods and where comprehensive sexual education is available and there is access to safe and legal abortion on broad grounds.