

10 Fast Facts

About Abortion's Injustice and Injury to Women

60% said, "part of me died."¹

Before abortion: Most abortions are unwanted or coerced. Many—even in America and other free nations—are forced. Coercion comes from all sides and in many forms, often from more than one source. It may involve pressure, threats or force from family or friends, as well as deceptive counseling or other abuses of power by those in authority. Coercion can escalate to violence. Homicide is the number one killer of pregnant women.²

After abortion: Women are dying, too. In addition to significantly higher rates of physical injury, clinical depression and psychological trauma, maternal death rates are nearly 4 times higher.

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1. **64% of women having abortions felt pressured by others.¹ Coercion can escalate to violence or even murder.^{1, 3}**
2. **52% felt rushed and 54% were not sure about the decision at the time, yet an astounding 67% received *no* counseling beforehand.¹**
3. **84% reported that they did not receive adequate counseling.¹**
4. **79% were not informed about available alternatives.¹**
5. **31% of women suffered health complications after abortion.¹ 10% suffer immediate complications, one-fifth of which are life-threatening.⁴**
6. **Women have a 65% higher risk of clinical depression after abortion compared to women who give birth.⁵**
7. **65% suffer multiple symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder after abortion.¹**
8. **Death rates from all causes are 3.5 times higher among women who abort, compared to women who give birth.⁶**
9. **60% said "part of me died," according to a survey of women who aborted.¹**
10. **Suicide rates are 6 times higher compared to women who give birth.⁷**

1. VM Rue et. al., "Induced abortion and traumatic stress: A preliminary comparison of American and Russian women," *Medical Science Monitor* 10(10): SR5-16 (2004). 2. I.L. Horton and D. Cheng, "Enhanced Surveillance for Pregnancy-Associated Mortality-Maryland, 1993-1998," *JAMA* 285(11): 1455-1459 (2001); and J. McFarlane et. al., "Abuse During Pregnancy and Femicide: Urgent Implications for Women's Health," *Obstetrics & Gynecology* 100: 27-36 (2002). 3. See "Forced Abortion in America," at www.theunchoice.com/ForcedAbortions.pdf. 4. Frank, et.al., "Induced Abortion Operations and Their Early Sequelae," *Journal of the Royal College of General Practitioners* 35(73):175-180 (April 1985); Grimes and Cates, "Abortion: Methods and Complications", in *Human Reproduction*, 2nd ed., 796-813; and M.A. Freedman, "Comparison of complication rates in first trimester abortions performed by physician assistants and physicians," *Am. J. Public Health* 76(5):550-554 (1986). 5. JR Cogle, DC Reardon & PK Coleman, "Depression Associated With Abortion and Childbirth: A Long-Term Analysis of the NLSY Cohort," *Medical Science Monitor* 9(4): CR105-112 (2003). 6. M Gissler et. al., "Pregnancy Associated Deaths in Finland 1987-1994 -- definition problems and benefits of record linkage," *Acta Obstetrica et Gynecologica Scandinavica* 76:651-657 (1997). 7. Mika Gissler, Elina Hemminki, Jouko Lonnqvist, "Suicides after pregnancy in Finland: 1987-94: register linkage study," *British Medical Journal* 313:1431-4, 1996; and M. Gissler, "Injury deaths, suicides and homicides associated with pregnancy, Finland 1987-2000," *European Journal of Public Health* 15(5):459-63 (2005).