

# Should abortion be legalized?

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Abortion is the deliberate termination of pregnancy through the removal of the embryo or fetus. It is quite a sensitive issue which is constantly being debated by many people worldwide, whether it should be legalized or not. Some people think that abortion is immoral and should not be legalized at all, while others feel that mothers should have the rights to choose whether to keep the baby or kill it.

Various researches have shown that restrictions on abortion have resulted in increased numbers of unwanted children, who turn out to be abused by their parents simply because their presence constantly remind them about the mistake they have done. Researches have also shown that if abortion becomes legal, it will reduce the number of unwanted and abused children. In addition, baby dumping has been found to be the main result of illegal abortion. Almost every after two days in countries where abortion is not legal including Namibia, there are always news about a baby being dumped, and this is quite on a rapid increase. Most of the baby dumping victims who were approached for comments stressed that they are being forced into this situation by the law, which does not want to legalize abortion.

From pro-choice point of view, there are women that were victims of rape, who do not want to keep the babies. They believe that it is not the woman's fault that she fell pregnant, thus if a woman chooses not to keep the baby in this situation, she must be understood because this could be because of the emotional trauma or simply because she does not want to be constantly reminded of the fact that she was a rape victim when she sees the child. Moreover, it has also been discovered that there are some women who fall pregnant, but cannot afford to keep the baby. It is true they should have used birth control methods, but there are just some women who just don't or they use them but prove unsuccessful. Therefore, some people believe that if a woman cannot afford to take care of the baby, it would be best to have an abortion because if she chooses to have the unplanned baby, that is just going to make life much harder for her and her baby.

On the contrary, some people believe that if abortion is legalized, it will promote unsafe sex and some women may even use it as an easy way out and will not make use of other forms of protection, which might increase the rates of HIV infections. Teenagers will take sex too lightly if they know that they can have abortion should anything go wrong. It was also discovered that women who undergo abortion tend to live a traumatic life which affects them emotionally and psychologically. Abortion has also proven to cause infertility in some women. The pro-choice people have also condemned abortion for rape victims. They feel that it is not the child's fault that it was conceived and it is just too cruel to abort the fetus. In cases of financial reasons, they believe that if the victim cannot afford to raise the child, she should give the child up for adoption. They however agree that the only time abortion should be employed is only when the mother's or baby's life is in danger where doctors should do what is necessary to save the life of the strongest person. Some people believe that abortion is very bad and immoral and should not be legalized. Others believe that anyone who is not ready to become pregnant should either abstain or make use of other birth control methods such as pills, condoms, diaphragm or a combination of any of the above.

In my opinion, abortion should be legalized in all countries to reduce the number of unwanted children and to minimize baby dumping. Furthermore, the choice of abortion should be left in the hands of a pregnant woman to decide whether to keep the baby or not, since she is the host and she knows best about her condition. Some people feel that if abortion is legalized, women will be running to get it right and left. However, I believe that this is not true, because even where abortion is legal, the number of women who have abortion is actually small. Therefore, I strongly believe that legalizing abortion will not motivate women to get abortions, but rather to prevent them from practicing riskier illegal methods which may cause them harm or even death.

## References

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