

# ABORTION

## FAST FACTS

### CONSEQUENCES OF ABORTION

1. Our children are our future. Society is made up of people of all ages, living together and helping each other to achieve a higher standard of living. By destroying a large part of our next generation, we are destroying our own future.
2. Women are not the only ones who feel the pain and suffering brought about by abortion. Studies show that abortion leaves families heartbroken. Fathers, grandparents, aunts, uncles and siblings also feel the residual undesirable impact of abortion.
3. Research continues to accrue showing the unborn child not only feels pain at 20 weeks, but that she may well have the necessary physical “wiring” at 13 weeks to feel the excruciating pain of being ripped apart during an abortion.

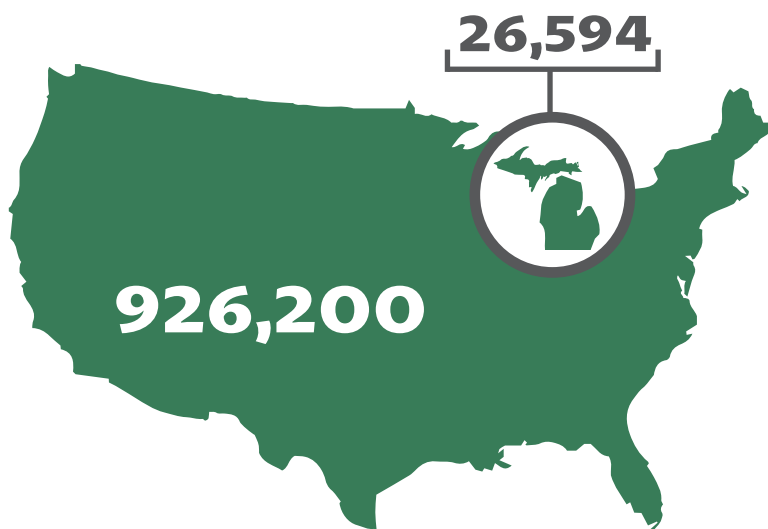
### ABORTION IN THE UNITED STATES

1. In 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court’s *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions superseded all state laws prohibiting abortion. Because of the broad health definition in *Doe v. Bolton*, abortion was made legal through all nine months of pregnancy for any “health” reason a woman can think of and her abortionist will agree to.
2. Abortion providers argue that second and third trimester abortions are only allowed when a mother’s life and health are in danger. What they don’t tell you is that according to *Doe v. Bolton*, health is defined in very broad terms, e.g. social well-being, as to make it virtually impossible for a state to protect the unborn child even after the sixth or seventh month of pregnancy.
3. *Doe v. Bolton*, 410 U.S. 179 stated “. . . the medical judgment may be exercised in the light of all factors—physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the woman’s age relevant to the well-being of the patient. All these factors may relate to health.”
4. Since the 1973 decisions, it is estimated that there have been more than 59 million abortions performed in the United States.
5. Abortion is one of the least regulated industries in our country. Reported complications and deaths from abortions are often far lower than the actual numbers.

### FETAL DEVELOPMENT

- When the sperm joins the ovum (egg) to form one cell. This one cell contains the complex genetic blueprint for every detail of human development—sex, hair and eye color, height, skin tone, etc.
- Genetically, everything a person is and will ever be is present at the time of conception. All that is added is nutrition, an appropriate environment, and time.
- Abortion stops a beating heart—21 days after conception a baby’s heart starts beating.
- At 8 weeks the brain develops 250,000 new neurons each minute.
- Facial features, including the ears, nose, lips and tongue form with clarity during the second month.
- By eight weeks all body systems are present, and from that point on changes will be primarily in size and refinement of body parts already formed.

# ABORTION STATISTICS



According to estimates from the Alan Guttmacher Institute, there were 926,200 abortions performed during 2014 in the United States.

According to the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, 26,594 abortions were reported in 2017. Of those, 3,461 were performed after 12 weeks in the second and third trimesters.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), 45 percent of the women who had abortions in 2014 had obtained an abortion previously in their life. More than 20 percent of women who aborted had at least two previous abortions.

1. The number of abortions in Michigan has dropped 45.8 percent since 1987, when there were 49,098 abortions reported in Michigan. The number of abortions committed on teens in Michigan has dropped 81.6 percent since 1985.
2. According to the 2014 statistics from the CDC, non-Hispanic White women had the lowest abortion rates (7.0 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years) and ratios (113 abortions per 1,000 live births); in contrast, non-Hispanic Black women had the highest abortion rates (26.6 abortions per 1,000 women aged 15–44 years) and ratios (417 abortions per 1,000 live births).
3. It is estimated that there are 30 to 40 couples waiting to adopt for every one infant who is being placed for adoption according to Allan Hazlett, then president of the American Academy of Adoption Attorneys.
4. In 1970, there were 89,200 American children placed in permanent homes to unrelated couples through adoption, but by 1975, only two years after the legalization of abortion, that number was down to 47,700 (NCFA, Adoption Factbook, p. 99.)
5. Abortion advocates often use a coathanger to symbolize the “age of back-alley abortions” where women were forced to seek abortions from “unqualified butchers.” The number of women who died from illegal “back-alley” abortions was often said to be in the thousands. However, according to the U.S. Bureau of Vital Statistics, there were only 39 women who died from illegal abortions in 1972.
6. To describe illegal abortion providers as unqualified is hardly accurate. Former medical director of Planned Parenthood, Dr. Mary Calderone, described in a 1960 American Journal of Health article that a study in 1958 showed that 84 percent to 87 percent of all illegal abortions were performed by licensed physicians in good standing. Dr. Calderone concluded that “90 percent of all illegal abortions are presently done by physicians.” So it seems that the “back-alley butchers” of January 21, 1973, became “caring doctors who believe in a woman’s right to choose” on January 22, 1973.