## Abortion: right or wrong

Sociology, Human Rights



Abortion is the most debated and contraverial topic in present. There has never been an issue which caused more disputes and conflicts within our society, than abortion. We can all agree that abortion is an incredibly complex issue. The opinion of the American people is also a lot more complex than " pro life" or " pro choice". According to one poll that was conducted by a Christian organization, seventy-five percent of Americans believe in " pro life" theory. According to another poll, which was conducted by a state medical board, concluded that the majority of Americans believe in a "pro choice" ideology. Who do we believe? There seems to be an obvious difference in the definition of the terms. I suppose it is possible to create unanimous definition of both terms, which will be approved by both sides, but until then our society will continue to fight a never-ending battle. I also believe that we would not have to fight over this issue if everybody fully understood the indisputable consequences, which would be caused by a ban on abortion. Abortion right is the most controversial issue among women. I find it disturbing that some women advocate a ban without considering the consequences. By advocating a ban on abortion women deprive themselves of some of the fundamental rights of our political system. The freedom to make individual choices and decisions should be protected at all times. If people understood this principle, we probably would not be in the situation that we are in today. Most Americans would not want the government to interfere in their personal lives but a " pro life" decision will do just that. The majority of abortions, however, are not performed in the interests of saving the mothers life, but to deter inconvenience and difficulty on either her part, or the child's. For example, the mother may feel she is unable to raise a child

in her current situation or the child may be born severely disabled. It may be acceptable to some to sacrifice the fetus in order to save the mother, but not to abort the fetus in order to please the mother. About 43% of american women have one (or occasionally more) abortions during their lifetime. Women's centers and hospitals perform more than a million abortions per year. Women have many reasons for not wanting to be pregnant, and thus to seek an abortion. Many are related to: - Age: Most abortions are done on women under the age of 25. - Marital status: Most women seeking abortions are unmarried; many are separated from their spouse. - Economic status: Many are not financially stable to raise a child. If a fetus is aborted because the mother does not view it as the potential child she had hoped for, this is effectively degrading human life. Even though the fetus is partly a product of the mother, does this give her the right to decide whether it should live, because in truth the fetus is a separate life form from the mother- whereas a different type of cell cluster (like skin cells) are part of her. Many people claim that the mother should have a right to choose what happens to her own body, but this does not take into account that she is also choosing what happens to another living being, even if it is not yet fully formed. On the other hand, the fetus is within her body and she produced it, and with right consciousness she should have the right to terminate it as she does to remove any other part of her body. Banning abortion will not solve this issue because we will be left with undeniable negatives, which will make the problem even worse than it is now. There will always be a controversy about abortion for as long as it exists. Even if we ban abortion, we will be left with such undeniable negative behaviours as rape, economic inequality and

illegal abortions. Today there are hundreds of thousands of children in foster homes partly because abortion was not available to their parents. According to one government study, unwanted number of children will more than triple thus flooding foster homes all over the country. Rich women will have an opportunity to obtain abortion in foreign countries that do not consider it to be a crime, while the poor will be left with a baby, which may not be loved or appreciated. Every time you have a law, someone will most likely break it. Abortions will not be eliminated but only moved back to the shadowsof unjustifiable acts. Unqualified doctors will perform the procedure that will possibly leave women dead or sick for the rest of their lives. Abortion should be considered a family issue and by no means should be interviened by the government. Women today are free, and should not be bound by social restrictions. A " pro life" or a " pro choice" belief should not be the deciding factor in this argument. Because of the various definitions by various groups, we cannot agree on a path for the future. When examining this issue, we should not be concerned with the definition but we have to look at the pros and cons of the topic. The reality is that a ban on abortion will cause all of the above problems; furthermore leaving the situation even worse than it is now. By eliminating abortions we are risking chaos in American families and the deprivation of the rights of American women. In the U.S., the pro-life and pro-choice movements are both powerful and active. Pro-life groups are particularly active at the state level and have successfully influenced legislators and governors into creating many laws that restrict abortion. Many of the laws have been ineffectual; they are so broadly worded that court injunctions suspend them shortly after having been signed into law.

Courts often find that these laws are so vaguely worded that physicians are unable to determine whether a specific act is allowed or prohibited. Those laws which survive court challenges are not particularly effective; they often merely have the effect of deflecting abortion seekers to nearby states. Approval of the drug RU-486 has forever change abortion in America. Doctors are now able to prescribe the pills and women may be able to take the pill at their homes. Rural women will not have to drive long distances to abortion clinics; women will not have to run the gauntlet of abortion protestors. At this time, compromise between pro-life and pro-choice supporters appears to be impossible. Cooperation by both sides to implement methods of lowering the number of unwanted pregnancies -- and thus the number of abortions -- also seems impossible. The case of Roe vs. Wade made the option of abortions legal to women across the nation. The struggle still remains on the moral ethics behind it. Is abortion the murder of an unborn child? Many argue that the rights of the mother exceed the rights of the fetus, and that while the fetus is a living organism it does not constitute for a human being. With these aspects in mind the concept of abortion is justifiable.