

## Canadian Abortion Facts

### Law

- Canada has been without a law on abortion since 1988. Abortion is permitted throughout all 9 months of pregnancy, for any reason, up to the moment of birth.<sup>1</sup>
- In Canada, almost all abortions are funded by taxpayers – even though polls reveal that a majority disagree with their money being used to kill unborn babies out of convenience.<sup>2</sup>
- In 2012, it was discovered that a form of infanticide is becoming commonplace in Canadian hospitals and private abortion facilities, with roughly 50 cases occurring annually. These take place where a child survives an abortion and is born alive. According to Canada's Criminal Code, once born, these survivors are to be accorded all legal rights, including medical treatment. However, a government report shows that these born children are either killed or left to die. When brought to the attention of the RCMP, the apparent homicides were ignored.<sup>3</sup>

### Statistics

- Over 100,000 abortions were committed in 2015, over 39,000 in Ontario alone. 18,491 of these abortions took place in hospitals, and 27,082 of these abortions took place in private clinics.<sup>4</sup>
- Since its legalization in 1969, over 4 million Canadians have died from surgical, elective abortion. Countless more chemical abortions occur annually with drugs like RU-486 (which is now an over the counter prescription in most provinces) and the "morning-after pill".
- Today, abortion is used as a "back-up" birth control method in more than 96% of the instances.<sup>5</sup>
- Less than 1% of abortions are for the so-called "hard cases" of rape and incest. Only 3% of all abortions are committed for the alleged hard case of "health risk to the mother". Today therefore, abortion is used primarily as birth control.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Legal Abortion in Canada." National Abortion Federation - Canada. Accessed September 01, 2017.

<http://www.nafcanada.org/legal-abortion-ca.html>

<sup>2</sup> "Http://ljournal.ru/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/d-2016-154.pdf," *Canadians' Attitude Towards Abortion*, October 2011, , accessed September 1, 2017, doi:10.18411/d-2016-154.

<http://www.lifecanada.org/images/LifeCanada%20Abortion%20Report%202011%20Final.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Tristin Hopper, "Birth of a legal quandy: Live-birth abortions a perilous grey zone in Canada's criminal code," *National Post*, February 01, 2013, , accessed September 01, 2017,

[http://nationalpost.com/g00/2\\_bmf0aW9uYWxwb3N0LmNvbQ%3D%3D\\_/TU9SRVBIRVVTMjMkaHR0cDovL25hdGlVbmFscG9zdC5jb20vbmV3cy9jYW5hZGEvYm9ybi1hbGl2ZS1kZWFKLWluLW1vbWVudHMtZ3JleS16b25lLW9mLWxpdmUtYmlydGgtYWJvcnRpb25zLWVtZGVlcC1kaXZpZGUtYmV0d2Vlbi1tcHMtYW5kLXBoeXNpY2IhbnM%3D\\_/\\$/\\$/\\$/\\$](http://nationalpost.com/g00/2_bmf0aW9uYWxwb3N0LmNvbQ%3D%3D_/TU9SRVBIRVVTMjMkaHR0cDovL25hdGlVbmFscG9zdC5jb20vbmV3cy9jYW5hZGEvYm9ybi1hbGl2ZS1kZWFKLWluLW1vbWVudHMtZ3JleS16b25lLW9mLWxpdmUtYmlydGgtYWJvcnRpb25zLWVtZGVlcC1kaXZpZGUtYmV0d2Vlbi1tcHMtYW5kLXBoeXNpY2IhbnM%3D_/$/$/$/$)

<sup>4</sup> "Number of Abortion Services in Ontario for Fiscal Year 2014/15," *Abortion Data*, accessed September 01, 2017, [https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B\\_QDsYLNwO6QWs1NzAwY1NGWTg/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_QDsYLNwO6QWs1NzAwY1NGWTg/view).

<sup>5</sup> Robert Johnston, "Reasons Given For Having Abortions in the United States," *Reasons given for having abortions in the United States*, January 18, 2016, , accessed September 01, 2017, <http://www.johnstonsarchive.net/policy/abortion/abreasons.html>.

- Nearly 1 in 4 pregnancies today result in abortion.<sup>7</sup>
- About half of women with an unplanned pregnancy choose abortion. The other half keeps the child. Less than 1% offers the baby for adoption.<sup>8</sup>
- There is a desperate shortage of newborn babies available for adoption in Canada. Couples suffering infertility can wait up to 10 years for a newborn to become available. Even international adoption can take up to 5 years.<sup>9</sup>
- As of 2015, within hospitals, those between the ages of 18–24 have the most reported induced abortions. Within clinics, almost half of the abortions were unreported, but women ages 25-29 were most reported. Following this statistic, women the ages of 25–29 have the second most reported induced abortions at 12,050 procedures.<sup>10</sup>
- The most common abortion procedure method is the “aspiration and curettage” abortion, in which vacuum or suction aspiration is used to remove uterine contents through the cervix. This procedure makes up 73.7% of all induced surgical methods of abortion. Canadian hospitals reported 17,362 of these procedures done.<sup>11</sup>

#### Harm to Women

- In a study conducted by the *British Journal of Psychiatry* in 2011 of 877,181 women, of whom 163,831 had abortions, found women who **have** had an abortion have an 81 percent higher risk of subsequent mental health problems compared to women that have not.
  - higher rates of anxiety by 34%
  - an increase of 37% for feelings of depression
  - an increase of 110% in alcohol abuse
  - an increase of 155% for suicidal behavior
- An authoritative Finnish government study found that the suicide rate associated with abortion is 10 times higher than the suicide rate associated with childbirth.<sup>12</sup>
- Increased risk of infertility and ectopic pregnancy.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Smitha Mundasad, "Abortion Study: 25% of Pregnancies terminated, estimates suggest," BBC News, May 12, 2016, , accessed September 01, 2017, <http://www.bbc.com/news/health-36266873>.

<sup>8</sup> "Unintended Pregnancy in the United States," Guttmacher Institute, October 05, 2016, , accessed September 01, 2017, <https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/unintended-pregnancy-united-states> .

<sup>9</sup> Inc. American Adoptions, "American Adoptions -- America's Adoption Agency," Abortion or Adoption - Know the Facts Before Deciding, , accessed September 01, 2017, [http://www.americanadoptions.com/pregnant/deciding\\_between\\_abortion\\_or\\_adoption](http://www.americanadoptions.com/pregnant/deciding_between_abortion_or_adoption).

<sup>10</sup> Canada. Canadian Institute for Health Information. Induced Abortions Reported in Canada in 2015. [Ottawa]. <https://www.cihi.ca/en/induced-abortions-reported-in-canada-in-2015> .

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> Gissler M, Hemminki E, Lönnqvist J. Suicides after pregnancy in Finland, 1987-94: register linkage study. *BMJ* 1996 Dec 7;313(7070):1431-4. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?term=gissler%20suicide%20bmj>.

<sup>13</sup> Tharaux-Deneux C, Bouyer J, Job-Spira N, Coste J and Spira A. Risk of ectopic pregnancy and previous induced abortion. *American Journal of Public Health* 1998; 88(3): 401-5.