

Abortion



Introduction

There are number of topics which are currently under debate and are focused on global level for the discussions and arguments. Different people having different perspective have their own arguments in the favor or against these topics. Among them one of the most debatable topic is feminism. This is a concept that bring up multiple new topics into the spot light and make them the biggest issues or concerns of the world. Such as the feminism challenges the Abortion. The term Abortion is not new to anyone in this world who have an average social life with awareness of the world and is educated enough to be called sensible. The concept has become one of the key concern between the two genders where the Abortion is claimed to be a male plot and the females who are feminist and supporting the rights of the females all around the world are arguing against the right and allowance of the abortion¹. Not only women but there are many men as well who are against the concept of abortion and consider it as a non-human act as well as many people also claim it an attack on the decisions of nature. Thus this topic has become such a sensitive element in the public that people usually get hyper if the topic get discussed. Here the discussion is based on this topic to provide the understanding of both sides of the picture. Initially here the historic details of the concept that means the basic details of Abortion are included which are provided to make the reader aware of the topic if they do not know what abortion is. The discussion is mainly highlighting the logical reasons which are in favor of abortion whereas on the other hand the counter arguments are also available. In the end the concluding personal insight is also mentioned on the basis of the analysis of different aspects related to the concept of Abortion.

¹ Huq, M. E., et al. "Why Abortion is Illegal? Comparison of Legal and Illegal Abortion: A Critical Review." Mymensingh medical journal: MMJ 26.4 (2017): 944-952.

Historic Overview

If the analysis is being performed over the topic of abortion so this can be provided as per the easiest definition or explanation of the term abortion that it is mainly the termination or ending of the human pregnancy and the main medical element included in it is that for the abortion the embryo or the fetus is being removed from the uterus. All of these actions or activities are performed before the duration after which the embryo or fetus become capable to live or survive outside the uterus that means the abortion must be done within 28 weeks of the pregnancy in the humans. There are different kinds of abortion among which two of the most commonly known are when the abortion occurs automatically in a spontaneous manner which is also known as miscarriage whereas the other kind of the abortion which is commonly known is done purposely and with planned intentions². This type of planned abortion is called induced abortion and usually in the medical science as well as in the lay man terms the word abortion is used for the induced abortion which is performed with the will and intention. Whereas sometimes in some specific concerns it is also called as induced miscarriage. In both type of abortions, the process is similar whereas there are some specific differences while there are some other types of abortion as well. Another procedure which is quite similar to this process of abortion is being performed after the duration when the fetus or embryo become capable to survive potentially outside the uterus or womb; this type of abortion is commonly called as late termination of pregnancy.

There are some situations for which the abortion has declared to be legal and correct to be performed as a medical treatment similar to operation in which a non-human act (cutting or opening the skin and human body organs or burning them using rays such as in cancer treatments) are performed with the intention to save the life and to ensure the health. Whereas

² Zane, Suzanne, et al. "Abortion-Related Mortality in the United States 1998–2010." *Obstetrics and gynecology* 126.2 (2015): 258.

when the abortion is performed as per the obligations and regulations of the law using the legal and safe equipment and facility then there are no or less chances for any physical or mental problems after the surgery³. While on the other hand there are number of people who are involved in illegal and unsafe abortions and so almost 47 thousand females have been died due to this whereas 5 million get admitted into hospitals for serious treatments and medical care. The legal abortions are the abortions which have been done either after the miscarriage which occurs naturally whereas the abortion done in the case when to save the life of the mother the abortion or removal of the embryo from the uterus become necessary. Whereas the illegal abortions are being done usually in unsafe facilities and for illegal purposes; such as in India hundreds of abortions were performed just because the baby is female in gender as their culture is more supportive to have a baby boy and baby girl is considered a punishment or sin. Records provided that in a year almost 56 million abortions are performed worldwide out of which approximately 45% are done in unsafe manner⁴. Before 2003 this is analyzed that people get better access to the birth control and family planning and this is the reason that in that duration the rate of abortion was low. Whereas between 2003 to 2008 the rates fluctuated a little.

Different countries have different laws for the abortion and this is the reason that the term have different perspectives all around the world. While majority of the countries allowed abortion under specific conditions such as if any problem occurs with the fetus which resulted in extremely abnormal child's delivery so then abortion is permitted, or if the health condition of mother is not stable that she can afford to carry the baby or her life can be on stake if she carry the pregnancy anymore then abortion is allowed by the law⁵. While in cases of rape and even

³ Sedgh, Gilda, et al. "Adolescent pregnancy, birth, and abortion rates across countries: levels and recent trends." *Journal of Adolescent Health* 56.2 (2015): 223-230.

⁴ Norman, Ishmael D., Margaret Kweku, and Fred N. Binka. "Critical Review of the Legal Framework on Abortion in Ghana." *Don. J. Law Conflict. Resolut* 1.2 (2015): 10-17.

⁵ Gerds, Caitlin, et al. "Denial of abortion in legal settings." *J Fam PlannReprod Health Care* (2014): jfprhc-2014.

in cases of extreme poverty some countries make abortion legal. There are number of ways for abortion such as medical in which herbal or non-herbal medicines are used, surgical in which surgeries or sharp tools can be used for abortion while there are some traditional ways as well for abortion.

Argument in Favor of Abortion Restriction

There are many people who are in support of abortion restriction and they state that this is a completely illegal act to be performed regardless of any reasoning. They focus more on ethical and moral concepts and claim that the fetus who survived 28 weeks successfully is a life and a human body and to abort that fetus is basically equivalent to murder of a person who is innocent. Moreover they also claim that this is challenging and disturbing the phenomena and procedures of nature and God. Further few also claim is the interference with the God's actions and rights; claiming that the authority to life and death are all belonged to God and in case of abortion the human tries to challenge that authority⁶. Plus, in the areas like India where abortions are performed for unnecessary purposes such as just to get a baby boy every time the female get pregnant with baby girl then that fetus is aborted. So in such areas the restrictions on abortion are accepted and supported as well. Furthermore there are number of medical specifications and health related elements which make the people support the restrictions of the abortion as the mother have to face complications if she undergo an abortion and that is nothing but a sort of punishment or torture to the mother and her body and this is the reason abortion is considered as illegal and its restrictions are supported extensively⁷.

⁶ DePiñeres, Teresa, et al. "I felt the world crash down on me': Women's experiences being denied legal abortion in Colombia." *Reproductive health* 14.1 (2017): 133.

⁷ Puri, Mahesh, et al. "Abortion incidence and unintended pregnancy in Nepal." *International perspectives on sexual and reproductive health* 42.4 (2016): 197.

Argument against the Abortion Restriction

Contrary to this there are number of people as well who support the idea that the abortion should not be restricted completely. One of the major reason is that the pregnancy is not always accurate for the female body and there are some conditions when if the pregnancy will be continued then the mother and baby both can die. In the same manner if the natural miscarriage occurred then abortion become necessary or else the female may die. Moreover multiple people have the concept that females are having all the rights of their body and so according to this concept they should be provided with all the rights to make the decision about their life and body⁸. The pain and complications that the mother have to bear as the results of abortion are another reason that is used against this discussion but if abortion is not performed in some situations then that may lead to more severe conditions for the baby and mother both so the abortions should not be directly restricted. Similarly if the female is not ready for the pregnancy then she should have the right to abort. As well as if the pregnancy occurred as a result of any forceful action then she should have the right to abort the unwanted child. If the female know that if this baby get delivered then he/she may suffer worst possible things in life and she wanted to end his/her life before the embryo grow enough then this is also not wrong on some grounds and thus she should not be restricted for abortion.

Personal Viewpoint and Conclusion

On the basis of the discussion it is provided that there are number of claims made in favor to the fact that abortion should be restricted but on the other hand only one claim weight all of them out. That is "Female have right on her body"; this make is evident that she has all right

⁸ Weitz, Rose, and R. Weitz. "A history of women's bodies." (2015).

and authority to decide what she want and what she does not want⁹. Here the claims are considered wrong or void as no one can take away the rights of a person. Whereas the life which is not being initiated to the level that it can survive on own; cannot be considered as a human more than the person who is living (mother). So in my viewpoint the abortion should not be restricted.

In the end it can be provided that this paper is focused on the discussion in favor of the restrictions of abortion and then the counter argument is presented. While the details of historic background are also provided. On the basis of these discussions it is analyzed that world should think broader and consider mother as more important and righteous person as compare to the embryo; so she should provide the right to decide if she need to abort or not.



⁹ Wright, Matthew, Morris Levy, and Jack Citrin. "Public attitudes toward immigration policy across the legal/illegal divide: The role of categorical and attribute-based decision-making." *Political Behavior* 38.1 (2016): 229-253.

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