

LifeFacts

Coerced Abortion in the U.S.

64 percent of abortions are coerced

Eight out of ten women would have given birth if given support

Coercion often comes from parents (including the boyfriend's parents), husbands, boyfriends, doctors, counselors, and others. They may beg, threaten, or blackmail a woman until she agrees to the abortion. In some cases, an abusive partner or a molestor will force her to have an abortion.

Reasons Women Give for Having Abortions:

- Forced by mother
- Husband or boyfriend persuaded me
- Would have been kicked out
- Lack of support from society
- Father opposed
- No other option given
- Loss of family's support
- Clinic persuaded me

Threats Often Escalate to Violence

Once others demand that she have an abortion, the pressure and abuse often escalate. Many pregnant women have been killed by partners trying to prevent the birth.

Simply being pregnant places women at higher risk of being attacked.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

It is illegal to coerce a woman to have an abortion in Pennsylvania. If you're being forced into an abortion by a parent, boyfriend, or someone else, get help. You can call 1-888-LIFE-AID and receive the comprehensive support you need for yourself and your baby.

Nearly half of voters surveyed say coerced abortion is common. Voters will support a candidate who advocates legislation that would hold abortionists liable for failing to screen patients for evidence of coercion.

All facts courtesy of the Elliot Institute, an organization that studies the after-effects of abortion. www.afterabortion.org.

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