

Abortion directly increases healthcare costs and harms women's health

As early as the late 70's the Bradgley Commission appointed by the federal government, conducted two background papers that found women who had abortions were more likely to experience physical and mental health problems than women who carried their babies to term.



The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario sponsored a study of 41,039 women during the three-month period after abortion in 2001. The study revealed, "hospital patients had a four times higher rate of hospitalization for infections, a five

times higher rate of 'surgical events' and a nearly five times higher rate of hospitalization for psychiatric problems than the matching group of women who had not had abortions!"

More recently, 29 of 38 studies conducted around the world have found a link between breast cancer and abortion.²

Scientific data also reveals an increased risk of depression³ and suicide⁴ after undergoing an abortion as well as an increased risk of subsequent premature and/or low birth weight births.⁵

Polls reveal Canadians want restrictions on abortion



Public policy is out of step with public opinion. Annual polls conducted by Leger Marketing, Environics Research Group and Baseline from 2002 to present have consistently shown that Canadians do not support current policy. A large majority of Canadians (64%) are opposed to funding abortion on demand. Sixty-two percent favour legal protection for human life before birth, while 67% favour informed consent legislation.

Abortion was legalized over thirty years ago, before its effects on women's health were properly understood and before medical advances and ultrasound technology introduced us to babies in the womb. Today, in Canada abortion is unrestricted throughout the entire nine months of pregnancy. It would appear women are not fully informed regarding facts of fetal development and the risks and complications inherent in induced abortion. One study indicated that 88% of women who had undergone abortion felt they did not have the necessary information to make the decision.⁸ Moreover, Ontario taxpayers are forced to pay over 30 million public dollars annually for private choice abortion.

As governments look to the future of health care, they should know that the majority of Canadians want protection for the unborn, greater importance placed on the harmful effects on women's health and a review of its policy on funding abortion.



You can make a difference! Call your MPP or Minister of Health today!

In 2004, 35,183 abortions were performed in Ontario, all paid for by taxpayers at a cost of 30 million dollars.

The people of Ontario are being asked to consider alternative forms of healthcare delivery due to escalating costs. Public healthcare funds should go towards treatments for cancer patients, life-saving surgery or long-term care for the aged.

The Ontario Provincial Government has the legal ability to remove abortion from public funding. Contact Premier McGuinty, your MPP and the Minister of Health and tell them you do not support tax-funded abortions. To find your MPP, call 1.800.267.8097 or go to www.gov.on.ca.

If they say that the Canada Health Act requires provinces to pay for abortions - ask them where it says that?

Tell them that abortion is almost never done for medical reasons and it should be de-insured. If they say that the courts have said abortion must be covered, ask them to cite the case. There is no such decision.



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As an
Ontario taxpayer,
you pay over
30 million dollars
on abortion
every year...

Why spend
millions of public
dollars on a
personal
choice?



Know the facts about tax-funded abortions

Why are Ontarians paying for abortion on demand?

Every year, Ontario taxpayers spend millions of dollars on abortion services. Politicians say that the Canada Health Act requires it. But the fact is, the Act says that provinces must pay for medically necessary services and abortion is not even listed in the Canada Health Act.

Former Justice Minister, Kim Campbell, stated that it was entirely the prerogative of the provincial government "... to draw a distinction between abortions which are medically necessary and those which are not, and to fund only those which are medically necessary drawing on their own criteria."

The Senate standing committee on Social Affairs, stated in a 2001 report that, "the determination of what services meet the requirement of medical necessity is made in each province by the provincial government in conjunction with the medical profession."

What does the College of Physicians and Surgeons say?

Director of Communications of the Canadian Medical Association, Dr. Doug Geekie, said in an interview, "It is the responsibility and the authority of the province exclusively to determine what services will be insured."

Abortion is not medically necessary

Politicians say that abortion is "medically necessary." However, 95-98% of abortions are at the woman's personal request not at the recommendation of her doctor. It's a personal choice.

Abortion advocates admit most are done for personal reasons

On October 31, 2001, Canadian Abortion Rights Action League, executive director, Marilyn Wilson, told the Commons Finance Committee that women seek their abortions "...for socio-economic reasons. Sometimes it's a desire to complete their education and become financially independent. In many cases, couples with children wish to restrict their family size in order to provide adequate financial support." In 1998, Dr. Henry Morgentaler stated that "fewer than one-tenth of 1% of abortions are done for serious health emergencies."

In a 1994, Abortion Funding psychiatric Brief, Dr. R.M. Ferri, (C) (Psychiatry) stated "...numerous studies confirm that abortion performed on psychiatric patients or for eugenic reasons worsen a woman's mental health. As the procedure is not therapeutic, and there is mounting evidence that it is harmful to women's health, funding by government under a health care plan cannot be justified."

No Court has ever ordered taxpayers to pay for abortion

Provincial governments decide what will be funded. Our provincial government has decided to pay for all the abortions performed in Ontario and "out of the country" late-term abortions (after 20 weeks gestation). In the fiscal year 2003-2004, Ontario paid for 56 "out of country" late-term abortions at a cost of \$397,514 to Ontario taxpayers.⁷ Contact our office for a compiled summary of case law divulging no legal impediment to de-insure all induced abortion services.

Just how many abortions are we paying for?

In 2004, 35,183⁶ abortions were performed in 2004 in Ontario. One-third (10,837)⁶ of them were performed on women who have already had one or more abortion. Seventeen percent (5,981)⁶ of abortions were performed on girls between 10 and 19 years of age⁶ and 54% (18,999)⁶ of abortions were performed on women between 20 and 29 years old.⁶

- 1 College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
- 2 Brind J, Chinchilli VM, Severs WB, Summy-Long J, "Induced Abortion as an Independent Risk Factor for Breast Cancer. A comprehensive review and meta-analysis." UK College of Obstetrics and Gynecologists 2001 Worlds Congress on Women's Health
- 3 J Brind, Ph D, Professor, Early Reproductive Events and Breast Cancer: A Minority Report. 10th. 2002
- 4 Reardon DC, Cogle Jr, Depression an unintended pregnancy in the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth; a cohort study British Medical Journal, 324:151-152 January 2002
- 5 Russo NF, Ziek K. Abortion, childbearing and women's well-being. Professional Psychology: Research and Practice 1992; 23:269-280
- 6 The Post-Abortion Review, Vol. 8(4), Oct.-Dec. 2000. Copyright 2000 Brent Rooney "Is Cerebral Palsy ever a choice?"
- 7 Statistics Canada
- 8 Dan Strasbourg, Media spokesperson for the Ontario Ministry of Health
- 9 Appendix 2 of Aborted Women, Silent No More David C. Reardon, Loyola Press 1987

Removing public funding will not promote illegal abortion

Conclusive studies by the US Government Centers for Disease Control, show that in 39 states that have removed public funding, 80% of women who wanted abortions were able to obtain them through private funds. No state saw an increase in illegal abortion rates.

US studies have shown that where public funding for abortion has been removed, both the pregnancy rate and abortion rate have dropped significantly.

According to the economist, Jacqueline Kausun Ph.D, of the Wall Street Journal this is because "people respond to the availability of (abortion) at the public expense by using it as another means of birth control."

What happens if you make abortion illegal?

Poland did it! Removal of public funding will not promote illegal abortion. Poland is a nation of 40 million people. Under four decades of communist rule, the state paid for abortion on demand up to three months gestation. At the time, the abortion rate averaged 150,000 per year. In 1993, Poland made abortion illegal.

Pro-abortion proponents objected, claiming abortion would be driven underground, leaving women injured and left to die. By 2000, the abortion rate dropped to 138.

64% of Canadians oppose paying for abortion on demand