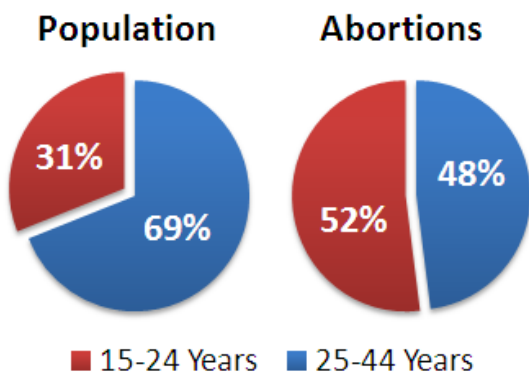




Abortion and America's Youth

Abortion's Impact

While abortion has touched all levels of American society, its effects are seen the most in teenagers and college-aged women. Women between the ages of 15 and 24 represented **31%** of the U.S. population of women of child bearing age (15-44 years) in 2000 but accounted for **52%** of all abortions performed that year in America.



Almost **one in every three pregnancies** of 15-24 year-olds ends in abortion, compared to less than one in every four pregnancies of 25-44 year-olds. The loss to the community is more than just numbers or population. Abortion means the loss of athletes, artists, political & business leaders, scientists, teachers, engineers, and friends.

Post Abortion Syndrome



Abortion can have many negative effects on a woman's life and health. There is growing evidence from research studies that an abortion can set off a complex reaction, including physical and psychological aftereffects, which can have a powerful, negative impact on a woman's entire life. More than 100 physical and psychological complications have been associated with abortion including infection, abdominal pain, damages to internal organs, depression, increased drug and alcohol abuse, the inability to have more children, and increased rates of breast cancer.

Population data: 2000 U.S. Census

Abortion data: Jones RK, Darroch JE and Henshaw SK, Patterns in the socioeconomic characteristics of women obtaining abortions in 2000-2001, Perspectives on Sexual and Reproductive Health, 2002, 34(5):226-235. – From the Guttmacher Institute

Fetal Development – The Real Facts of Life



8 Week Old Baby

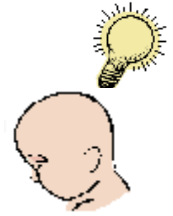
When does life begin? While birth is certainly a milestone families celebrate with joy, it is actually the culmination of an amazing process that began months earlier.

Conception: Life Begins! →



← 18 Days: Heart Begins Beating

6 Weeks: Brain Waves Begin →



← 10-11 Weeks: All Organ Systems in Place

14 Weeks: Small Details Forming →



← 16 Weeks: Mother Can Feel Baby Move



23 Weeks (or earlier): Viability →

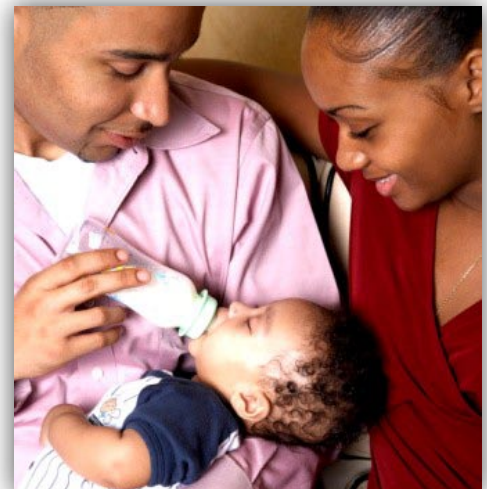


Alternatives to Abortion

If you or someone you know is facing an unplanned pregnancy, you can find people who care and practical solutions at:

- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Option Line | 1-800-395-HELP | optionline.org |
| National Life Center | 1-800-848-LOVE | nationallifecenter.com |
| Nurturing Network | 1-800-TNN-4MOM | nurturingnetwork.org |
| Birthright | 1-800-550-4900 | birthright.org |

On AOL Instant Messenger:	Option Line	AnswersatOL1
	Nurturing Network	AskTnn



National Right to Life - Outreach

512 Tenth Street N.W., Washington, DC 20004

202-626-8811 www.nrlc.org/outreach