

# Forced Abortion ... in America?

**Studies show that most abortions are unwanted or coerced.<sup>1</sup> Many are forced.<sup>2</sup>** Coercion comes in many forms, often from all sides, and can escalate to violence. Studies have found that homicide is the leading killer of pregnant women in the U.S.<sup>2</sup>

Pregnant women or teens may be verbally or physically abused or threatened with losing their homes, jobs or families if they don't abort. Clinics, school counselors, social workers or even pastors may offer deceptive counseling or pressure to abort.

For example, one school district took students on a bus to an abortion clinic every week, keeping parents in the dark. A disabled woman coerced by a medical professional died during an abortion that was based on what turned out to be deceptive information about her unborn child.

**Teens and women have been restrained, beaten and tortured,** or even held hostage or taken to clinics by force. One mother took her daughter to a clinic at gunpoint. One girl fought off an abortionist called in by her father only to have another brought in who ordered three nurses to hold her down during the abortion. Other cases have involved women and girls being assaulted to causes a miscarriage, or being attacked or killed when they refused to abort.<sup>2</sup>

Coercion is common. A security guard testified that husbands and boyfriends often stand outside to make sure her appointment is kept. Other women respond to professionally-marketed offers for free or low-cost health care services, only to be rushed or coerced into abortions by staff.

Research indicates most women felt rushed or uncertain, yet 67 percent received no counseling.<sup>1</sup> If counseling does take place, it is often hurried, deceptive, coercive or insufficient to help women make a free or fully-informed choice. After abortion, many women are left to sort out profound heartbreak and physical aftereffects, too. Many woke up bleeding, in severe pain and traumatized, only to be silenced yet again. Others who sought help months or even years after abortion are yet again marginalized or dismissed.

**Most states do not require clinics to screen for unwanted abortions.** This includes cases where sexual predators have posed as parents or used abortion to conceal their crimes and continue the abuse. In other cases, those who should have supported the girl or woman used pressure, threats, blackmail, coercion or even force to bring about the abortion.

When counselors or others in positions of authority fail to screen for unwanted abortion, or even sell or push the abortion themselves to further their own profit or ideology, it only adds to the pressure the woman or girl may already be facing. Experts note that decisions made under duress are compromised, and individuals in crisis are more susceptible to influence from others.

**After abortion,** it is no surprise that approximately 65 percent of women and girls suffer trauma. There are significant rates of physical injury, higher risk of clinical depression and many other issues, too. Women's rate of death from all causes is nearly 4 times higher following abortion. Suicide rates are 6 times higher.<sup>1</sup> Many women and girls are left to struggle with trauma and grieve the loss of their children alone.

**Learn more at TheUnChoice.com. Find user-friendly, evidence-based resources, help and healing.** Our web site includes educational and outreach resources that can be downloaded and shared freely with others. You will also find information on resources and support groups to help those facing pregnancy-related challenges — including unwanted abortions — or help after abortion.

**TheUnChoice.com**  
new facts, new hope

**Abortion is the <sup>un</sup>choice.**  
Unwanted. Unsafe. Unfair.



1. See [www.theunchoice.com/whateveramerican.htm](http://www.theunchoice.com/whateveramerican.htm)

2. See [www.theunchoice.com/coerced.htm](http://www.theunchoice.com/coerced.htm)