The research concluded:

- Abortion has **no impact** on a woman’s future fertility, breast cancer risk or likelihood to experience mental health issues.

- Abortion **rarely** involves serious complications.

- Abortion has a **lower risk** of death associated with the procedure than other common medical procedures including colonoscopies, plastic surgery, dental procedures and adult tonsillectomies.

Many state and local **regulations on abortion** providers and clinics **are medically unnecessary and harm patients.**

**Abortion can be performed safely in an office setting, with no special equipment or emergency arrangements.**

17: The number of states with laws that contradict science.

**Impact:** A Texas law forced 20 clinics to close.

**Abortion can be performed safely by a physician assistant, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner or physician.**

34: The number of states with laws that contradict science.

**Impact:** In Maine, the number of abortion clinics would increase from 3 to 18, if the law was overturned.

**Abortion can be performed safely by clinicians without access to a local hospital.**

10: The number of states with laws that contradict science.

**Impact:** The Ohio law forced 7 of its 18 clinics to close.

**Medication abortion doesn’t need to be administered in the physical presence of a physician and can be administered via telemedicine.**

19: The number of states with laws that contradict science.

**Impact:** In Arkansas, a restrictive law requires medication abortion to only be administered at a facility that has an agreement with a local hospital, despite the medication being very safe.

The content in this fact sheet is from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) report titled *The Safety and Quality of Abortion Care in the United States* (2018). The fact sheet was not created, developed or endorsed by NASEM.
GET THE FACTS:
Abortion in All Forms is Safe

According to a new scientific report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine.

Medically unnecessary regulations are purely political attacks to limit abortion.

Onerous state laws are making it increasingly harder for patients to access reproductive care and could pave the way for patients in some states to be denied their right to abortion in the future.

53% of women in the Midwest live in a county without an abortion clinic.¹

49% of women in the South live in a county without an abortion clinic. ¹

Women travel an average of 15 miles for an abortion, while 17% of women travel more than 50 miles and a third of women who live in rural areas traveled more than 100 miles.²

Average Distance Traveled
15 miles

17% of Women Travel
50+ miles

33% of Women in Rural Areas Travel
100+ miles


To learn more about the report, visit AbortionIsSafe.com

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