

Assignment 3

Write a reflective piece in 100-200 words on the points of contention within different acts (MTP Act, POCSO Act, and PCPNDT Act)

→ MTP, POCSO and PCPNDT

The intersection of the MTP Act, POCSO Act and PCPNDT Act creates a lot of confusion, delays and often leads to denial of safe abortion. When the laws are combined, every teenage pregnancy then is liable to be reported as sexual abuse, impeding access to these services for minors who then may have to resort to unreliable means to terminate an unwanted pregnancy.

Access to safe abortions is complicated further by - The PCPNDT Act. The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act enacted in 1994 with the purpose of curbing sex-selective abortions or 'female foeticide' and control the skewed sex ratio of the country. While the MTP Act fails to consider the rights of the pregnant person, POCSO undermines the sexual autonomy of young people. Even the PCPNDT is linked to abortions as many practitioners are apprehensive to abortions as it might be because of the family's male preference. In a society, where abortion is linked with taboo and stigmas, such barriers to abortions often hinder Safe sex abortion services.