

1. Explain why myths and misconceptions about abortions are dangerous.

Ans- myths and misconceptions about abortion not only produce misinformation around the procedure but also promote the stigma and social devaluation towards it. It also prevents people who want to seek abortion from getting a safe access to it. The myths are often sexist, uninformed and grossly incorrect, therefore it can allow the boycott of the procedure and hamper the rights of pregnant people or any person.

2. Most of the myths and misconceptions about abortion are based on which concerns?

Ans- most myths are based on infertility, pain and discomfort. It is commonly believed that after getting an abortion, the person won't be able to carry pregnancy ever in their life. This myth restricts and controls women's/person's sexuality and infringe upon their reproductive rights. Many arguments which are against abortion is rooted in granting personhood to the fetus and therefore undermining the rights of the pregnant, already existing person. Thus, infertility is not the result of an abortion, our bodies don't work like that.

3. Which misconception about abortion can cause serious physical harm?

Ans- misconception that abortion result into infertility or that the pain will be so much that one can't bear, these kinds of misconception can lead a person to seek unsafe abortion often performed at home or a shady place by a person who is not a doctor. These abortion can put the person in more harmful hands which can also lead to death. Apart from that, if the pregnancy is dangerous to be carried on and the person is stopped from getting an abortion based on the myth that it can cause infertility or making it all about the fetus, then the life of pregnant person can be in danger. And complications can lead to death as well.

4. Under what circumstances can abortion cause infertility?

Ans- unsafe and non medical abortion practices can cause serious physical harm and lead to dangerous consequences on health. Infertility can be one such outcome of this unsafe abortion as it is practiced by someone who is not a doctor or trained physician, and puts the life of the pregnant person in danger. Therefore it can also lead to infertility if the abortion practiced is not safe and regular products like hanger or sharp objects are used.

5. What are the causes of stress and trauma for people seeking abortions and how can stress and trauma be minimised?

Ans- the cause of stress is often times the stigma attached around abortion, what society will say, how will the family react and what will be the social consequences of this abortion. Apart

from health concerns these cultural and social stigmas attached to abortion can put the person into more stress. Even the regressive and insensitive doctors and nurses can cause this trauma by saying triggering things to the pregnant person or refusing to offer the procedure. This bias and unethical practice can lead to deterioration of the patient's mental health. Therefore, this can be reduced if there is a proper sex education in schools, where children are taught about sex and their bodies, consent and their rights from the initial stages. The sex positive culture and more discussion of sex can be helpful in this case. Abortion should be talked about rather than being discussed in a hush hush manner. Mindset around it should be changed if we have to improve the situation for the pregnant person.

6. Abortions are sought mostly by young and unmarried women. True or False?

Ans- false. Abortion can be sought by married woman, unmarried woman, non binary pregnant person, transman, teenagers and so on. Gender identity and sexuality doesn't restrict the anatomy of the pregnant person. One can be in their 40s, married and still seek abortion. Abortion is sought by those who have unwanted pregnancy and don't want to have a child, it doesn't depend on the label or the marital status of the person.

7. Only Cis-gendered women can become pregnant. True or False?

Ans- false. Like I mentioned, a lesbian woman, a non binary person, trans man can also get pregnant. Identities cannot stop one from getting pregnant. Because it is always assumed that a pregnant person is always a cis ended woman, the narrative is therefore shaped around them. This excludes those people who may not identify as a woman but are pregnant, and are seeking abortion. So the usage of pregnant person instead of pregnant woman is more appropriate and inclusive.