

Lesson 3 - Assignment

Answer the following questions in not more than 200 words.

1. Why should we advocate for a rights-based approach to abortion services and not a needs-based one?

who will define the "need"? What is needed by one person might not be the same as another person. It's a relative thing and not universal. Hence rights-based approach.

2. Explain how social and religious views on sexuality can hamper reproductive rights. According to social and religious views, sexual activities outside of marital relation is considered a sin and looked down as a characterless behaviour. Since a young age a person is told to be careful so that they are not shown as sexual being. By saying this you instil stigma around your body as if it were a commodity that could be stolen. Social views influence the person to a large extent as the individual fears labels. As for religious views, some scriptures perceive sexual activities as a sin. With all these in mind, a young person is made to think that they have no right or view on their reproductive needs. They remain unaware of their rights and depend solely on parameters set by the societal and religious views.

3. Explain how Indian society perceives motherhood.

As a blessing. As a god sent gift. Motherhood is a happy feeling. As if after marriage it is the right step to be taken. It is perceived as a check list post marriage and the society creates the pressure to enter motherhood soon. As for unmarried motherhood, it is looked down upon as if the pregnant person is devoid of any morals and is a "woman of the street".

4. How do prejudice and bias on the part of service providers affect access to safe services?

It affects a lot. Apart from the lack of service the prejudice and bias on the part of the service provider scares the person in need, traumatizes the person and can cause long term mental and physical harm.

5. What are some of the challenges facing unmarried persons while seeking abortions?

Judgement of character, moral education lessening given by society. Judgement from the service provider, bribing the facility attendants, unofficially paying extra for the procedure, the law does not protect the unmarried pregnant person completely.