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What is causing women to have to self induce their own abortion? Are women protected by New York abortion laws? These are questions that have caused me to become interested in this topic. Abortion is legal in all 50 states, but each state has their own regulations on the cut off on abortions. In New York, an abortion is allowed if the pregnancy hasn't passed 24 weeks. After 24 weeks, you would only be able to get an abortion if the pregnancy is at high risk. There are a lot of women who are in situations in which they want to get an abortion later in the pregnancy. Since it is not easy to do this, they resort to self-inducing their own abortion or go to fake abortion clinics. Both options can be very dangerous because it is not done by a health care professional that could monitor the woman. After researching my topic, I want to be able to find out the dangers of abortions outside a doctor's clinic. I expect to find that abortion laws that make it hard for women to get a clinical abortion. This in turn causes many negative effects that require more serious medical attention.

Engelhart, Katie. "Abortion Back-Up Plan: Some Women Are Ordering Abortion Pills Online! NBCLeftField." uploaded by NBC Left Field. 1 Jun 2019, <https://youtu.be/vNahPqviz7k>

This is a documentary on Youtube reported by Katie Engelhart that shows the dangers of abortion pills bought online. Lawyer Adams talks about how self-abortion laws are very complicated. She states that there has been about 21 people in the U.S who have been arrested and some imprisoned for self-inducing their abortion. Since the laws are complicated, it makes it easier to blame women for choosing abortion even if they had a reason to do so. This video also shows how a foreign doctor has been prescribing abortion pills to moms that have unwanted pregnancies. The amount of people that request help from her really shows how many women feel optionless when it comes to pregnancies.

I believe this video was very useful in my research because it showed women's real-life experience with abortions. Firstly, it showed how hard it was to get an abortion with Necolie. Necolie had no abortion clinic near her, so she had to drive about 3 hours to get to a clinic. After this already being a long trip, Necolie had to pay a lot of money up front and then she on her own had to submit her receipt to her insurance. I was also not aware that many insurances are not allowed to cover the full cost of abortion. Some states have only one abortion clinic for the public. This makes it hard for women to even get to an abortion clinic.

“But by selling unregulated abortion pills, these websites are breaking U.S. law, according to the FDA, which last year reportedly raided the home of a New York City woman who was mailing out abortion pills. The FDA declined to comment.”

Osborn, Corinne O'Keefe. “Abortion Home Remedies: Know Your Options.” Healthline, Healthline Media, 26 July 2019, <https://www.healthline.com/health/abortion-home-remedy>.

This article on HealthLine Media gives readers information on the dangers of at home abortions. The article also includes visual artwork by Irene Lee that clearly shows the importance of the choice women must take when it comes to abortions. The article starts off with listing the many emotions that come with an unplanned pregnancy. These emotions include anxiety, fear and panic. When these emotions strike, it is understandable why women would try to find a solution at home. It is important to know the dangers of at home abortions. Some of the dangers include incomplete abortions, infections, hemorrhage, scarring, toxicity, and contamination. With an incomplete abortion, there can be products of the pregnancy remaining in your body. This can lead to serious infections that would require medical help. Hemorrhage refers to the losing of too much blood. Since these abortion pills are not carefully prescribed, they can cause someone to get their period for longer times.

After reading and analyzing the article, I now know the effects caused by abortions done at home. Something that surprised me in the article was the information from the World Health Organization that stated that about 50,000 people die every year from unsafe abortions. This is a very high number that I did not expect.

“Home abortions, including those done with herbs, come with high risks of potentially life-threatening complications. Sure, a lot of these remedies have been used for centuries. But an untold number of people have also died or faced permanent complications as a result of them.”

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“Protection or Restriction: The Detriments of Abortion Decriminalization in New York and Proposed Feticide Law.” *Family Court Review*, vol. 59, no. 4, 2021, pp. 855–69, doi:10.1111/fcre.12614.

This article by Katie O’Leery shows how abortion and feticide laws are not protecting women but are in fact criminalizing and prosecuting them. The article starts by presenting two examples of women who were victimized for the termination of their pregnancy while they suffered both financial and physical abuse. One of the examples of how abortion laws victimize women is the case of Kenlissia Jones. After having her first son and giving her second up for adoption, Kenlissia became pregnant for a third time. She knew she wasn’t financially stable for another child and resorted to abortion pills she bought online. This caused her excruciating pain that forced her to give birth to her premature baby. Kenlissia tried to abort at home and it created a bigger problem for her. This story makes an important point of showing how dangerous self-induced abortions are and what leads women to choose to go through it.

I completely agree with this text. The reason I agree is because it is looking and investigating the issue of abortion laws targeting women. This article by Katie O’Leery supports my argument that women should receive education on sex and be shown how pregnancies could be avoided. Also, when a woman wants to have an abortion, it should not be hard to financially get one. She should also not be looked down upon by society because of her abortion. This article tries to shine light on this issue by including stories of many women. This is good because you are hearing real life stories of women who have experienced abortion. Even though this article is based in New York, I would have to look up information on feticide laws. I was unfamiliar to this term when I first read this article.

I found this article very informative because of the many examples that were given. The author gave stories of different women and even made a connection with suicide. I believe by the way the author wrote this article, they were able to gain attention and reach a large audience. The purpose is clear, and it is organized very well.

“However, while it is crucial to our society and women's reproductive health that we protect this right, we must also find a way to hold people responsible for abuse or violence against pregnant women which results in the termination of a pregnancy.” (186)

In conclusion, abortion laws in New York make it difficult for women to get an abortion passed 24 weeks. This law can only be overlooked if the woman is risking her life or the child is in serious danger. One of the reasons a woman may look for an abortion after 24 weeks is financial burden while another one could be physical abuse in the household. These situations are not protected under the “risk of life” pregnancy. This causes many women to try to end their own pregnancy by buying medication online or going to back-alley abortion clinics. We need to understand that these mothers are desperate to get help and don't usually have the finances to get a medical abortion. After analyzing different sources, self-induced abortions can have negative side effects to a woman's health. Women should have more support and resources when having to make a decision about their pregnancies. Women should not have to be prosecuted for deciding what is best for their body and future. Since every woman is different, their circumstances are also completely different. Women should always be heard and understood instead of being shamed and prosecuted by society.

