

Abortion in India

Ground Realities

EDITORS

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About the Book

India was pioneer in legalizing induced abortion, or Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) in 1971. Yet, after three decades, morbidity and mortality due to unsafe abortion remain a serious problem. There is little public debate on the issue despite several national campaigns on safe motherhood.

This book fills a gap in our understanding of the ground realities

with respect to induced abortion in India to create an evidence-based body of knowledge. Among other issues, the contributors show that strong preference for sons, availability of modern techniques for diagnostics tests, widespread acceptance of the small family norm, and heavy reliance on female sterilization as the primary method of contraception lead women to abort unwanted pregnancies.

A book that goes beyond the smokescreen of data and regulations to unravel the human story behind elective abortion, it will be of interest to those studying health, public policy, and gender, apart from the general reader.

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978-0-415-42412-7/Hardback/340pp/Rs 795



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Taylor & Francis Books India Pvt Ltd

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